

Spike-Style Impaling Spring Loaded Fish Hook

By William Blausen

This trap was found about 40 years ago behind the inner wall of a boat house in Germany which was being torn down and which dated to about the 1880's.

It is a hand-forged spring hook which employs a single "tack sharp" striking hook and is empowered by a flat spring and has a copper pivotal line-tie, which also acts as the "dog" of this trap, made from a German coin which of course pre-dated the boat-house.

A fish trap nearly identical in design and construction to this one (down to having a similarly shaped, but unmarked, copper line-tie) was found in upstate New York some 15 years ago and can be most likely attributed to a German blacksmith who had emigrated to the area and had the knowledge and skill to make a fish trap of this style.....(from the collection of William Blausen).

Shown here in the sprung position.



In the sprung position with 2.5" Chap Stick for scale.



Another view.



Detail of the copper line-tie.

