

# Anaktuvuk Pass's Simon Paneak Fashions Traditional Horn Ladle

One of the new objects on exhibit at the University Museum is a sheep horn ladle carved by Simon Paneak of Anaktuvuk Pass.

The ladle, which was made recently, is a good example of one of the beautiful and useful utensils developed by the Eskimos. It is a good illustration of the use made of available natural materials.

Mr. Paneak worked for several weeks on the ladle. The heavy horn had to be cut, steamed, bent, shaved, and carved to achieve the final graceful form.

Several years ago, Mr. Paneak made a complete Anaktuvuk Pass house of willow poles and caribou hides for the University Museum and the Institute of Arctic Biology at the University of Alaska.

The house has been used for experiments at the Institute and will be placed on exhibit when these experiments are finished.

This house, which is authentic in all its details, is probably the only one of its kind in Alaska, although similar houses were once commonly used by many people.

Mr. Paneak has also made other objects for the University Museum collection ranging from snares and fish hooks to stone hammers, bone drills, and other objects which were once commonly used.

Most of these old objects are no longer found in use, but throughout Alaska there are older people who have used them and remember how to make them.

The objects that can still be made by people who remember their use are perhaps more meaningful to young Alaskans in showing the success of the native peoples of Alaska in living with

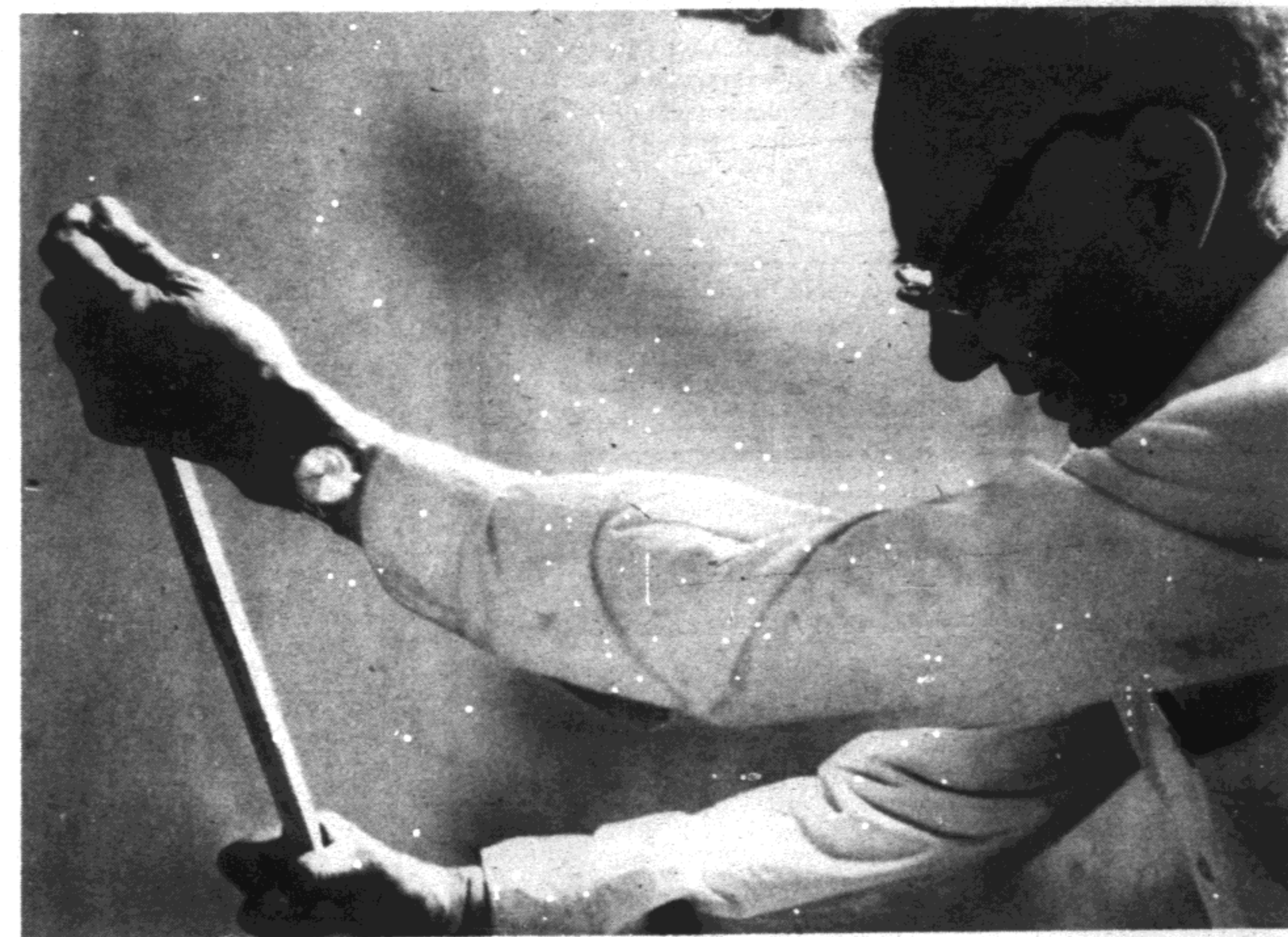
their environment than are older objects that do not have such a close relationship to an individual.

Although the University Museum budget for purchases is small, there is hope that this program will be expanded to take advantage of the wisdom and knowledge of older Alaskans.

"The University of Alaska Museum is very interested in finding out who these people are and working with them so that examples of the tools, utensils, toys, and other objects, are not lost from memory," commented L.J. Rowinski, director of the University of Alaska Museum.



**SHEEP HORN LADLE**—The sheep horn ladle is a light and handsomely shaped utensil. The end of the handle shows just a bit of the natural texture of the horn and ends with a small portrait of a bear. The ladle is now on exhibit at the University of Alaska Museum.  
—UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA MUSEUM Photo



**SIMON PANEAK** of Anaktuvuk Pass is carving a ladle from the horn of a Dall sheep. He made the tool which takes off fine layers of horn to smooth

and thin it.

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