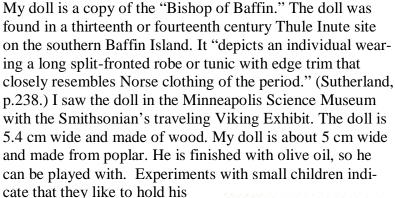
Viking Doll



head and chew on his feet. He also makes a very satisfying sound when he walks.

The Gotland Tool Chest was found while plowing a field in Mastermyr in October 1936. The

contents have been kept intact. Scholars feel the tool chest belonged to a blacksmith who had carpentry skills. It is even possible that the owner may have been a boat-builder. The tools which interested me were the ones related to carpentry. They include 2 axes, 2 adzes (used to smooth planking), 2 saws (one of which is an unusual hand saw) a large collection of spoon-augers (used to drill holes), gouge (used with mortise and tenon joints), chisel, 2 rasps and 4 files (generally considered smithing tools), and a small whetstone. It is difficult to date the find because carpentry tools do not tend to have stylistic characteristics. "However, cer-

tain tool types and technical features in the Mastermyr find to suggest a date in the late Viking Age or possibly the early medieval period, although a later date cannot definitely be ruled out." (Arwidsson and Berg, p.37.)

I took a roughly square block of wood and shaped it with a (band) saw. I then attacked

the rough shape with files, a knife and finally my dremel tool. Once the shape had begun to take human form I used a pocket knife to do the final carving and smoothing. I did not realize that if you just use a knife to carve with it is unnecessary to use sandpaper. The next time I make a toy I will do it this way. The detailing lines were applied with a knife.

