



University of Aberdeen Museums Society Islands Collection



COLLECTIONS LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Data Entry form

| | |
|--|---|
| Title of the Collection | Society Islands collection, Aberdeen University Museums |
| Author(s) | Eve Haddow |
| Curator responsible for collection (if different from author) | Head of Museums, Library, Special Collections & Museums |
| Date Completed | 26 th August 2014 |
| <p>There are four items from the Society Islands.</p> <p>In the collection is a fly whisk handle (ABDUA: 4024) of whale ivory composed of three sections tied with coconut fibre. This object signifying high status is elaborately carved in a form resembling a spine, terminating in anthropomorphic faces. One of the end pieces is thought to come from another artefact. The piece is of the style associated with carvers from the Austral Islands. It presented by Mr Christopher W Nockells in the early 19th century. Nockells is known to have travelled in the Pacific from 1816-23.</p> <p>There are two pieces of barkcloth. Both are decorated with a red fern pattern and were collected in the early 19th century. There is also an adze in this collection.</p> | |
| <p>Have any aspects of the collection been published? Please provide bibliographic references if available.</p> <p>Michie, C (1887), <i>Catalogue of Antiquities in the Archaeological Museum of King's College, University of Aberdeen</i>, p20 (ABDUA:4024; ABDUA:4031)</p> <p>Reid, RW (1912), <i>Illustrated Catalogue of the Anthropological Museum, University of Aberdeen</i> (ABDUA:4024; ABDUA:4005; ABDUA:4009; ABDUA: 4010; ABDUA:4031)</p> <p>Hunt, C (1981), <i>Shark Tooth & Stone Blade: Pacific Island Art from the University of Aberdeen</i>, University of Aberdeen (ABDUA:4024)</p> <p>Hooper, S (2006), <i>Pacific Encounters: Art and Divinity in Polynesia 1760-1860</i>. British Museum Press: London (ABDUA:4024)</p> <p>Gathercole, P & A. Clarke (1979), <i>Survey of the Oceanian Collections in Museums in the United Kingdom and Ireland</i>. UNESCO.</p> <p>Kwasnik, Elizabeth (ed.) (1994), <i>A Wider World: Collections of Foreign Ethnography in Scotland</i>. National Museums of Scotland</p> | |