



Glasgow Museums Marquesas Islands Collection



COLLECTIONS LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Data Entry form

Title of the Collection	Marquesas Islands collection, Glasgow Museums
Author(s)	Eve Haddow
Curator responsible for collection (if different from author)	Curator of World Cultures
Date Completed	30 th July 2014
<p>There are sixteen items from Marquesas Islands.</p> <p>The entire of this small illustrative collection was donated by C M Stuart in 1880. There are four tattooing implements for body decoration, composed of wood and bone. The body adornments include an <i>uhikana</i> headdress of pearl shell with turtle shell filigree depicting six anthropomorphic figures mounted on to a headband of woven coconut fibre. These headdresses were worn by important chiefs in the southern Marquesas. There is a pair of black feather arm ornaments and a pair of ankle ornaments of human hair tied with calico trade cloth. There are also two bone ornaments (<i>tiki ivi po'o</i>) which would be used as personal ornaments and adornments for other items.</p> <p>The collection includes a wooden club with carved head (<i>u'u</i>) and a staff with curled human hair and woven coconut fibre binding with lizard designs at the top which would have signified status. These staffs could be owned by men or women and according to the original donor this one was owned by a female.</p> <p>A tool for piercing ears has been recorded as missing since a missionary exhibition held in Glasgow in 1899.</p>	
<p>Have any aspects of the collection been published? Please provide bibliographic references if available.</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> <p>Lovelace, A (1992), 'The Pacific Collections at Glasgow Art Gallery and Museum', <i>Pacific Arts, The Journal of the Pacific Arts Association: 19-23</i></p>	