



Perth Museum & Art Gallery Marquesas Islands Collection



COLLECTIONS LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Data Entry form

Title of the Collection	Marquesas Islands collection, Perth Museum & Art Gallery
Author(s)	Eve Haddow
Curator responsible for collection (if different from author)	History Officer, Perth and Kinross Council
Date Completed	4 th June 2014
<p>There are two objects from the Marquesas Islands.</p> <p>There is a staff of wood (<i>tokotoko pio'o</i>) ornamented with curled human hair and a binding of coconut fibre woven to form a geometric design featuring elongated lizards. This is a status object and would have been carried by a chief whether male or female. The staff was given to the Perth Literary and Antiquarian Society in 1843 by General Lindsay who acquired it from a Dr L MacLean. It was originally described as a 'Ladies walking stick' which may imply it was owned by a female of status.</p> <p>There is also a wooden stilt step (<i>tapuvae</i>) which was used in competitions held as part of the funeral ceremony for people of importance. The front of the stilt step is carved to form a <i>tiki</i> figure with both hands resting on the stomach. This was acquired from Dr David Ramsay in 1843.</p>	
Have any aspects of the collection been published? Please provide bibliographic references if available.	
<p>Published collections:</p> <p>Idiens, D (nd), <i>Perth Museum & Art Gallery Catalogue of the Ethnographic Collection: Oceania, America, Africa</i>. Perth</p> <p>Idiens, D (1990), 'The Pacific Collections in Perth Museum and Art Gallery', in <i>Pacific Arts</i> no.'s 1 & 2 (January/July 1990), pp58-59.</p> <p>Related Publications:</p> <p>Gathercole, P & A. Clarke (eds) (1979), <i>Survey of Oceania Collections in Museum in the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic</i>. Paris: UNESCO</p>	