



Perth Museum & Art Gallery New Guinea Collection



COLLECTIONS LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Data Entry form

Title of the Collection	New Guinea 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	5 th September 2014
<p>There are thirty-six items from Papua New Guinea (not including Admiralty Islands) and one item from West Papua.</p> <p>Three items were purchased from W D Webster in 1921 including a dagger of cassowary bone with nut husk attachments, a mortar for preparing betel from the Trobriand Islands, and a stone disc headed club from Mambara River. There are two other clubs in the collection both acquired from Sir William Carmichael-Anstruther. One is a stone headed club with stone in a multi-pointed shape and feather attachments and the other is a wooden sword club from the Trobriand Islands. Sir Carmichael-Anstruther donated a face ornament worn in fighting (<i>gibigibi</i>) and two lime spatula, one of which has a figurative carving with a local repair.</p> <p>The collection includes three axe heads and four adze heads. There are fifteen arrows dating from the 19th and early 20th century. Acquired around 1946 is a Gulf province shield of wood carved with a stylised face and pigmented with red, black and white.</p> <p>From Oro province is a piece of decorated barkcloth dating from around the early 20th century. An arm or leg ornament which would have been worn in dance was acquired from John Dixon in 1917. It consists of a number of seed husks each on a twisted plant fibre cord ending in pieces of red trade cloth. The seeds are strung together with twisted plant fibre and 3 lengths of cut cane.</p> <p>Also from Dixon is a small figure of wood from West Papua of the style of a <i>korwar</i>. It may have previously sat on top of a wooden pole.</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>	