



# Perth Museum & Art Gallery New Guinea Collection



# COLLECTIONS LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Data Entry form

<b>Title of the Collection</b>	New Guinea collection, Perth Museum & Art Gallery
<b>Author(s)</b>	Eve Haddow
<b>Curator responsible for collection (if different from author)</b>	History Officer, Perth and Kinross Council
<b>Date Completed</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 &amp; 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 &amp; 2 (January/July 1990), pp58-59.</p> <p>Related Publications:</p> <p>Gathercole, P &amp; A. Clarke (eds) (1979), <i>Survey of Oceania Collections in Museum in the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic</i>. Paris: UNESCO</p>	