



Perth Museum & Art Gallery Vanuatu Collection



COLLECTIONS LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Data Entry form

Title of the Collection	Vanuatu 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	20 th March 2014
<p>There is a collection of fifty artefacts from Vanuatu.</p> <p>Forty items were acquired from Reverend Adam Wilson, a missionary based at Tangoa on the island of Santo, Vanuatu from 1937-45. Rev Wilson gave the material when home on furlough in 1940. His donation includes: five pottery vessels for cooking; food bowls and dishes of wood; two coconut cups; a canoe baler of wood with some decoration; and a woven pandanus mat with pattern in purple dye. Wilson also donated items of male and female dress including a woman's skirt of shredded grasses which has been dyed with bright colours, a man's barkcloth belt with painted black and red pattern and a large wood block on a woven belt which would be worn at the base of a man's back. There is a pair of European style swimming goggles of balsa wood and string made for Wilson locally on Santo. The Wilson donation also includes 4 musical instruments: a shell trumpet; pipes; bamboo flute; and a small slit gong.</p> <p>Also from Vanuatu is a fishing spear with bone barbs acquired from Sir Windham Carmichael-Anstruther in 1935. There is one pudding knife with carved openwork handle of the style found on Torres Islands.</p> <p>Associated Archives: Wilson, Adam (1909-1988) and Christina Wilson (1904-1969), Correspondence from the Presbyterian Mission at Tangoa, Santo, New Hebrides (Vanuatu), 1935-1947 (PMB 1311) at Pacific Manuscript Bureau, Canberra, Australia.</p>	
Have any aspects of the collection been published? Please provide bibliographic references if available.	
<p>Published collections: 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: 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>	