



North Ayrshire Council Museums Papua New Guinea Collection



COLLECTIONS LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Data Entry form

Title of the Collection	Papua New Guinea collection, North Ayrshire Council Museums
Author(s)	Eve Haddow
Curator responsible for collection (if different from author)	Museums Officer, North Ayrshire Heritage Centre
Date Completed	20 th November 2014
<p>There are twenty-nine artefacts from Papua New Guinea in the collection.</p> <p>These were all collected by plant-hunter and trader Andrew Goldie (d. 1891). He grew up on the Scottish island of Great Cumbrae where his father was a gardener for the Earl of Glasgow at Garrison House, Millport. Goldie was in South East Papua New Guinea between 1875 and 1890 with some visits out of the country in this period. He was networked with a number of Europeans in the area including missionaries from the London Missionary Society and other collectors. Some of this material was gifted to the museum by Goldie's nephew in 1978 with further items found at the old family home in 2013, and a photograph album gifted by his family in 2014.</p> <p>There are nine items of clothing and personal ornament including a head ornament of a hornbill beak and feathers, a crescentic breast ornament of cut gold lip shell, and another two breast ornaments of cut coconut and <i>spondylus</i> shell discs, one with a large central piece of shell, and the other with boars tusks. There is a fighting ornament (<i>musikaka</i>) of wood adorned with <i>abrus</i> seeds, cut boars tusk and a suspension of barkcloth, Job's tears, and red feathers.</p> <p>The collection includes a Massim style lime spatula and the handle part of another. There is also a gourd used as a lime container. There are five tobacco pipes of bamboo decorated with burnt patterns. One of the pipes has depictions of figures resembling European sailors, ships, and mythical creatures. There are also four stone headed clubs, a waisted shield covered in rattan with feather attachments, and a dagger of cassowary bone. A small wooden implement is likely to be a sago stirrer and there is an adze with stone head.</p> <p>Andrew Goldie gave collections to Queensland Museum, Brisbane, and the Australian Museum, Sydney. National Museums Scotland also have a collection bought through the London taxidermists Edward Gerrards and sons.</p> <p><u>Related archives:</u> The museum holds Goldie's diary from a voyage from London to Auckland (1863) and another written in Millport (1869), as well as loose photographs, newspaper cuttings and other documents. An album of around 50 photographs documents Goldie's time around Port Moresby and several images are attributable to Reverend Lawes of the London Missionary Society.</p>	
Have any aspects of the collection been published? Please provide bibliographic references if available.	
Mullins et al (eds) (2012), <i>Andrew Goldie in New Guinea 1875 - 1879: Memoir of a Natural history collector</i> . Memoirs of the Queensland Museum, Volume 6 [see chapter 6 by Susie Davis for catalogue]	