

A

CHICAGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM—ETHNOLOGY

51-7

ENT

252857

A and B

Field No.

Provenience: Polynesia (probably Tahiti)

People or Culture: (probably Tahiti)

Object: poncho and sash

Material: tapa cloth

Description: poncho of tapa cloth with fern-leaf decoration (probably hymenophyllum). Color of design is red-brown to brown. Some additional designs in center. Cloth tabs sewn on bottom and at stress points around collar. Woven sash with tassels. (over)

Neg. No.

Dimensions:

(in cm.)

(in wearing position)

length: 96 cm. width: 100cm.

Collection: Presented by Mrs. Carl F. von Gunten of Wheaton, Illinois

Acc. 2592

The Swedish naturalist and physician, Anders Sparrman, who accompanied Cook on his 2nd voyage, says in Part II of his account that the Tahitians "occasionally don a garment called 'Tiputa', which has an opening in the centre, by means of which it is slipped over the head and neck". (Cited in "A. Sparrman's Ethnographical Collection from James Cook's 2nd Expedition," by J. Soderstrom. Statens Etnografiska Museum, New Series, Publication No. 6, p. 15).

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