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FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY—ETHNOLOGY

51-7

300269.

Provenience: Polynesia, Tonga

Field No.

People or Culture: Tongans**Object:** TONGA**Material:** Paper/mulberry bark (*Broussonetia papyripera*)
natural dyes**Description:**

Tapa cloth has 4 rows of designs contained in rectangular blocks. The number 34 appears at each lower edge, the number 32 at each end of the third row. At the top (4th row), 3 squares are cut off and missing.

Neg. No.

KOESISIHEILAP OMUPOUMOA is written twice on each side of the central design. Rust-brown designs outlined in dark brown on a natural background. Designs are of

Dimensions:

(in cm.)

L. = 437.5 W = 188.5

(over)

Acc.

3739

Collection: Gift of Mrs. Alvera Bocchieri

octagonal stars, crescents with sawtooth edges and bows, triangles, loops, etc. Cloth is possibly part of a larger tapa. Designs are freehand. Tapa is torn at one center edge and the felted layers are loose.

(9/23/88, L.S.)