

A

253060

CHICAGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM—ETHNOLOGY 51-26

Field No.

Provenience: POLYNESIA (Hawaiian Islands)

ENT

People or Culture: Hawaiian

Object: necklace (lei niho palaoa)

Material: ivory (whale tooth or walrus tusk), human hair, and cord

Description: Typical necklace of this type: ivory hook (slight separation at top), hair braids in good condition and cord bindings and ties. Old handwritten label stuck to specimen reads: "Necklace of human hair from the Sandwich Islands." History provided by seller is on the reverse.

Neg. No.

Dimensions:
(in cm.)

Hook length: 11.2

Acc.

2708

Collection: Purchased from Mrs. Thomas D. Rambaut of Wyckoff, New Jersey in whose family the object had been for three generations.

Information provided by Mrs. Thomas D. Rambaut:

"This was given to my grandmother, Helen Elizabeth Brown (1819-1894) by one of our missionary relatives from the Sandwich Islands, now Hawaii. The story as I remember it is that this relative named Judd was 'chamberlain to the king' who gave this treasure to Mr. Judd because he thought so highly of him. As grandmother entertained all the missionary children of our relatives when they were sent to the 'States' for their schooling . . . this Judd relative gave the 'lei paloa' /sic/ to Grandmother in appreciation of her attentions to all the missionary relatives when they came to the States. . . Grandmother gave the lei paloa to my mother and my mother gave it to me. . . ."

253060