



Seven combs (one of seven)

On display

Title/Description: Seven combs (one of seven)

Born: 1800 c. - 1980

Object Type: Implement

Materials: Fibre, Gum, Shell, Wood

Measurements: l. 298 x w. 90 x d. 7 mm

Accession Number: 426a

Historic Period: 19th century, 20th century

Production Place: Oceania, Pacific, San Cristobal, Solomon Islands

Combs from the Solomon Islands are notable for their variety and colourful appearance. They were worn as hair ornaments by both men and women, and are in most cases made from slivers of wood which are shaped, bound and gummed together. Those decorated on one side with pearl shell segments set into *Parinari* 'putty nut' gum were made on San Cristobal or one of the smaller neighbouring islands. The coloured examples, bound in natural yellow and dyed red fibres, are from the interior of Malaita, whence they circulated by exchange to other parts of the group.

Steven Hooper, 1997

Entry taken from *Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Collection, Vol. 2: Pacific, African and Native North American Art*, edited by Steven Hooper (Yale University Press, 1997) p. 67.
