

Basic Detail Report



Armband Currency

Date

mid 19th - early 20th Century

Medium

Trochus shell

Description

Armlets of trochus shell are found in various locations throughout Oceania. These bands are made from the cross section of a trochus, a genus of medium to large sized sea snails that have conic shaped shells. Their pearly inner edge and narrow form differentiate them from the also commonly used conus shells. These bands

were typically worn in sets extending up one's arm. Examples of similar armbands can be found in many collections with various attributions. This is so because trochus shell armbands were a popular trade item throughout parts of Oceania. Some bands are noted to have been made in the Solomon Islands, but attributed to Fiji. This particular piece is attributed to Papua New Guinea.

Dimensions

4 7/8 × 4 1/2 × 3/4 in. (12.4 × 11.4 × 1.9 cm)