



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

MS 2956 Ethnographic Data about Samoa

National Anthropological Archives  
Museum Support Center  
4210 Silver Hill Road  
Suitland, Maryland 20746  
Business Number: Phone: 301.238.1310  
Fax Number: Fax: 301.238.2883  
naa@si.edu  
<http://www.anthropology.si.edu/naa/>

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	
Administrative Information .....	1
Scope and Contents .....	1
Names and Subjects .....	

---

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	MS 2956 Ethnographic Data about Samoa
<b>Date:</b>	n.d
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.MS2956
<b>Creator:</b>	Safford, William Edwin, 1859-1926 (Collector) Rieman, George B. (Author) Steinberger, A. B. (Albert Barnes) (Author) Field, Isobel, 1858-1953 (Author)
<b>Extent:</b>	250 Pages
<b>Language:</b>	Undetermined .

---

## Administrative Information

### Citation

Manuscript 2956, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

---

## Scope and Contents

Ethnographic data, principally on Samoa including: I. Samoa. geographical outline, III. History and Discovery. Arrival of missionaries. U.S. Exploring Expedition. An Episode in Samoan History, IV Regulative organization, the family, the clan, caste, division of labor, rights of property, V. Clothing, ornaments, ceremonial paraphernalia, VI. Food and its preparation, VII. Procurement of food, hunting and fishing, rearing and cultivation, VIII. Houses and villages, household utensils, pets, IX. Method of transportation, roads and bridges, canoes, X. Ornamental arts, tapa painting, wood carving, tattooing, necklace making, combs, XI. Useful arts, raw materials, mats and tapa-making, house building, canoe making, dyes, paints, perfumes and gums, XII. War and peace, XIII. Feasts and fonos, ceremonies attending birth, circumcision, tattooing, marriage, etc, Ceremonies of welcome, mortuary customs, XIV. Religion, ancient superstitions, the Taboo, Totemism, modern religion of the Samoans, Strict observance of Sunday, XV. Myths and traditions, the origin of Samoa and its people, animal myths, XVI. Grammatical structure of Polynesian languages, ceremonial language, comparative vocabularies, XVII. Amusements, games, music, XVIII. Samoa fauna, reptiles and fishes, XIX. Vocabulary of vernacular names of samoan fishes

---

## Scope and Contents

"Papalangee, or Uncle Sam in Samoa" by G. B. Rieman, U.S. Navy (Printed, n.d. (ca. 1872)), "Report upon Samoa, or the Navigator's Islands, Made to the Secretary of State," by A.B. Steinberger Washington, 1874, "In Samoa with Stevenson! by Isobel Osbourne Strong, from Century Magazine, March 1902.

---

## Local Numbers

NAA MS 2956

---

## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Agriculture -- Samoa
- Amusements -- Samoa
- Art -- Samoa
- Birth customs -- Samoa
- Bridges -- Samoa
- Canoes -- Samoan
- Canoes and canoeing -- Samoa
- Circumcision -- Samoa
- Clothing and dress -- Samoa
- Dancing -- Samoa
- Decoration and ornament -- Samoa
- Dyes and dyeing -- Samoa
- Fishing -- Samoa
- Folklore -- Samoa
- Food -- Samoa
- Funeral rites and ceremonies -- Samoa
- Games -- Samoa
- Handicraft -- Samoa
- History -- Samoa
- Housing -- Samo
- Hunting -- Samoa
- Kinship -- Samoa
- Language and languages -- Documentation
- Marriage customs and rites -- Samoa
- Matting -- Samoa
- Missionaries -- Samoa
- Music -- Samoa
- Mythology -- Samoa
- Perfumes -- Samoa
- Pets -- Samoa
- Polynesian
- Religion -- Samoa
- Roads -- Samoa
- Samoan language
- Subsistence -- Samoa
- Superstition -- Samoa
- Tapa -- Samoa
- Tattooing -- Samoa
- Tools -- Samoa
- Transportation -- Samoa

Villages -- Samoa  
War -- Samoa  
Weapons systems -- Samoa  
Wood-carving -- Samoa

Cultures:

Polynesian