

Since all textiles have fibers as their beginnings, the entire collection shows the variety of fibers used through out the world. Presented here are some highlights of the major or common fibers (wool, silk, cotton, linen) as well as some of the more unusual or culturally specific examples. See the fiber notebook for an outline of fiber types as well as actual fiber samples, and see specific cultures for examples of what was specific to any given culture and/or locally available for use.

Fibers are largely divided into the following categories:

Proteins (from animals)

Cellulose (from plants)

Synthetics (man made, including rayon)

PROTEIN FIBERS

Among the earliest were probably “opportunity” fibers, possibly Pelts, Furs, and hides; or fibers caught on bushes or from moltings

“Fleece” or Wool comes from sheep,
originally from molting, eventually by shearing

various raw wool fibers



one of the original uses was as felt.
Shown here, piece of *Numdah* felt rug
from Afghanistan / Pakistan / India.
Lolli rescued from the garbage can at
a laundry mat. Fell apart when washed
because it was so lightly felted



Several examples of
handwoven wool Tweed
Lolli purchased on Harris
in the 1990's



DOWN & HAIR FIBERS

CAMELOIDS or CAMELIDS

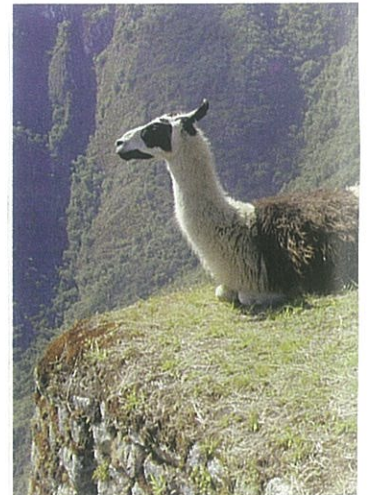
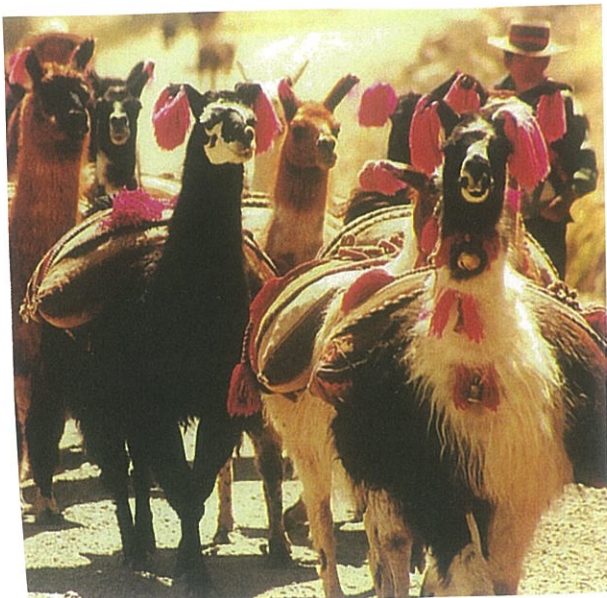
BACTRIAN CAMEL (Asian 2 Hump. Both down and hair)



SOUTH AMERICAN CAMELIDS
Vicuna, Guanaco, llama and alpaca

LLAMA more often used as beasts of burden, sometimes fiber is spun and braided into pack/cargo ropes, and 'potato' bags like these from Acha Alta, Peru. Lolli collected while on tour in Peru for the first Tinkuy conference of handweavers sponsored by The Center for Traditional Textiles (Nilda Calanaupa) 2009

Llama at Machu Picchu



ALPACA

smaller and "furry" all the way to the top of the head

Alpaca 'doll'

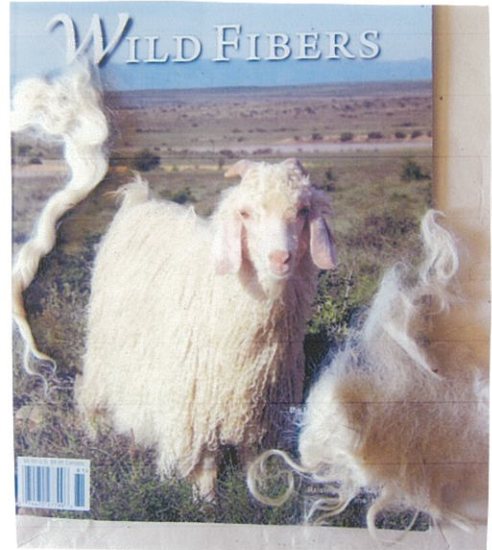


GOATS – Common goat, Mountain Goat (Chilkat Blankets)

CASHMERE GOAT



ANGORA GOAT / MOHAIR

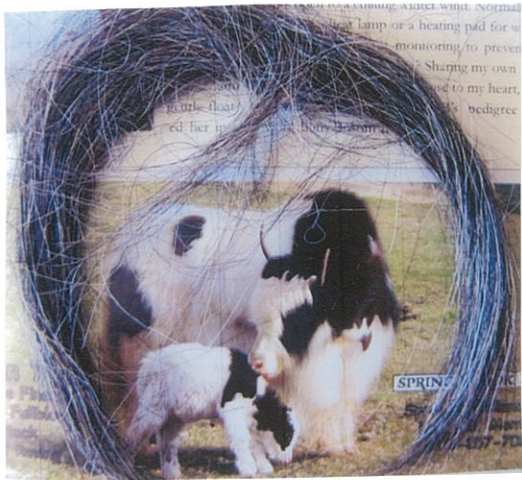


RABBITS - common (rabbit hair blankets of the American Southwest)
ANGORA

Yarn sample from Vicki Fraser's bunny MacKenzie and postcard of The California Rug by Vicki with angora rabbit in foreground



MUSK OX 'QIVIUT' Oomingmak
Post card and small skein of yarn and
bit of fiber Lolli bought at the Palmer,
Alaska Musk Ox Project 1990's
(near Anchorage)



YAK

HORSE TAIL HAIR
Horsehair key chain

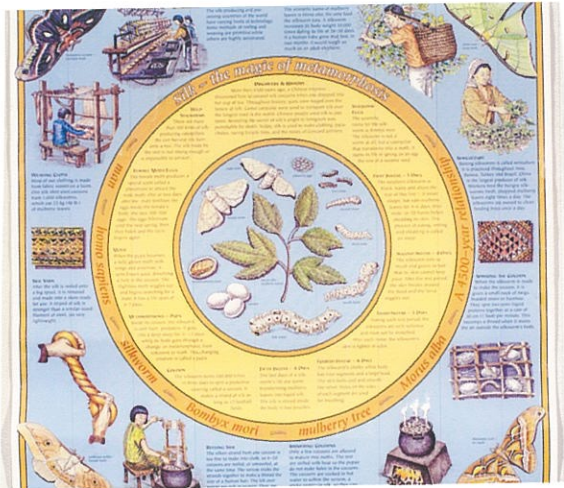


Miniature tassel by Peter Collingwood
Miniature weaving with horsehair insert

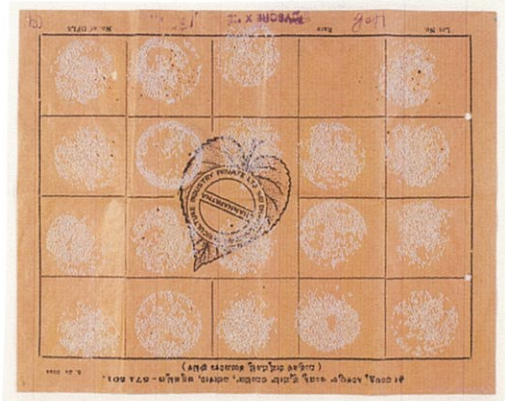


PROTEIN FIBERS - SILK
ANIMAL SECRETION - SILK

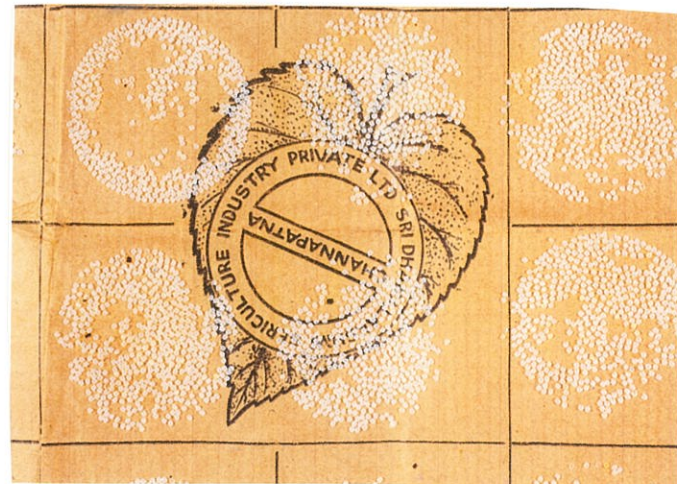
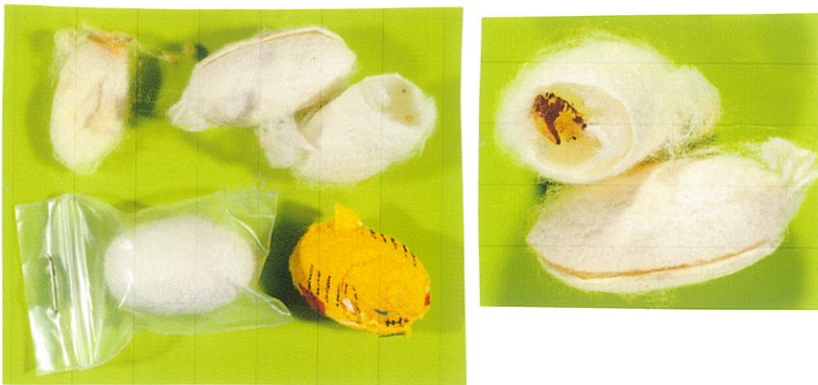
Poster about sericulture



Paper with several circles of silk worm eggs. From Mysore, India. Barbara Woodward estate



Silk cocoons and one squashed cocoon painted to look like a dragon, China



"Peace Silk" willow wreath with silk cocoons. Cheryl Kolander



GRASSES, RUSHES, REEDS, CANE, BAMBOO, ETC.
(See also Baskets, Fans, etc)

Large Bag “Nasau”, Bahamas
for storing fiber collection



Twined tubular bag with 2 handles
Fiber Unknown



2 small plaited containers.
Mexico Fiber unknown



Twined bag
Fiber unknown



TREE BARK AND BAST (inner) FIBERS

Pine Needles and “How to Make a Pine Needle Basket” brochure



Round Plaque 8 – 10 inch diameter with coiled pine needle edge, **bark center** with porcupine quill stitchery. Lolli bought at a thrift shop. Probably Native American



Redwood inner bast fiber cord
Spun by Mason McKinley

TREE BARK AND BAST FIBERS (cont.)

Japanese “pilgrimage” sandals. Tree bast fiber unknown



BAST / STEM FIBERS

FLAX (the plant and fiber) and **LINEN** (the fabric)

Linum usitatissimum

'Stricks' (fiber bundles for spinning) of
'line' flax (full stem length)

From Erda Kaeppler



Doug Smith's Grannies handspun
handwoven linen sheet

BAST / STEM FIBERS (cont.)

RAMIE (Boehmeria Nivea) aka 'China Grass'

Three different preparations – Ramie fiber;
Ramie yarn 'natural green. Hand tied' Lolli bought from Habu
Ramie top, bleached white



"INDIAN HEMP" Apocynum

Stems and fibers from plants growing near the Luther Burbank Center,
Santa Rosa, CA. From a class with Tamara Wilder at the Mendocino Art
Center, 1980's



Pacific Textile Arts Textile Study Collection
FIBER SPECIFIC page 11
CELLULOSE – plant fibers page 5
BAST / STEM FIBERS (cont.)
HEMP – Cannabis sativa or indica

Several Hemp items
Hemp canvas fabric sample
Raw hemp with bark, fabrics



2 Hemp bags, from S.E. Asia (Meo? Hmong? Other ?) The small one dyed with indigo. The larger: hemp body with cotton stitchery and appliqué. Gift to Lolli from Eleanor Adams from the Hospice Thrift Shop



Raw hemp with bark, Lolli bought from Habu Co., NY

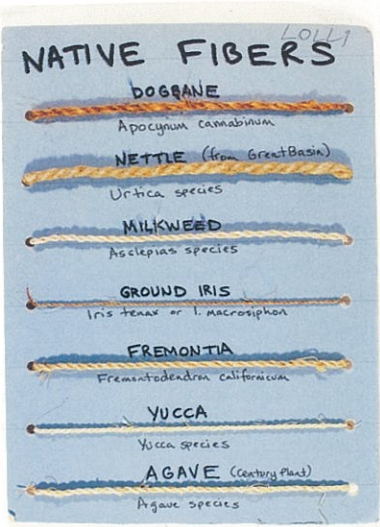


Hemp fiber, natural color



Hemp roving, bleached





Card with examples of several different fiber cords
 Hand processed and handspun
 by Tamara Wilder.

“Dogbane” Indian Hemp / Apocynum bast / stem;
 Stinging Nettle bast / stem; Milkweed bast/stem;
 Ground Iris leaf fiber; Fremontia leaf fiber;
 Yucca leaf fiber; Agave leaf fiber

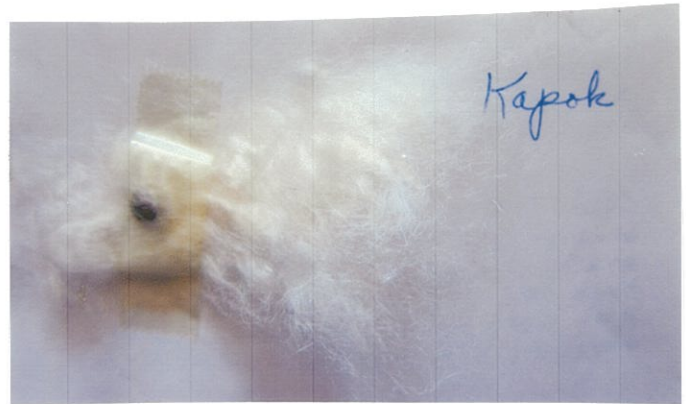
SEED HAIR FIBERS

COTTON (Gossypium)

2 postcards with **cotton bolls** (seed heads)
 Lolli bought in New Orleans in the 1980's

KAPOK

Seed hair fiber of
 Ceiba pentandra



Natural Brown Cotton - cuyuscate or coyuchi or ixchaque



Natural brown cotton with seeds
Lolli bought in the Solola, Guatemala Market Feb. 1976 just before the earthquake
Small (4 X 6 inch?) **Natural brown** cotton weaving (discontinuous supplementary weft) Handspun, handwoven. Oaxaca, Mexico
Spindle from Jamiltepec, Coastal Oaxaca, with **handspun natural brown cotton** spun in San Juan Colorado. Lolli bought on tour with Eric Mindling, Traditions Mexico. winter 2013

2 Handspun cotton “Khadi” cloth

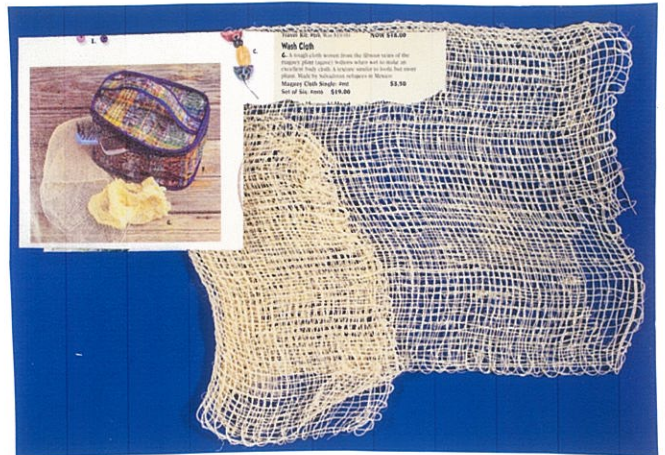
Shirts from India. Woven in a/the Gandhi Ashram, India.
One Lolli bought at a Thrift Shop
The blue one Holly Brackmann Bought in India and gave to Lolli. *Khadi* is the handspun, handwoven cotton cloth famous for its role in the Indian Independence movement led by Gandhi.
See Indian collection



LEAF FIBERS

THE AGAVE FAMILY - Yucca (narrow leaf = glauca, broad leaf = baccata. Used in early American Southwest); Henequen; Maguey; New Zealand Flax (Phormium tenax) and **SISAL**

Ixtle (maguey/sisal) wash cloth from Guatemala. Lolli bought from Deborah Chandler, Pueblo to People.



Ixtle (maguey/sisal) bag
Lolli bought from the maker San Pedro Cojonos, Oaxaca, Mexico on tour with Linda Hanna through Traditions Mexico, 2013

Several other Mexican and Guatemalan ixtle / sisal bags



Ixtle (maguey / sisal)
Linked bag from
Chiapas ?, Mexico



Shigra looped bag from Ecuador. *Cabuya* fiber
(a large leaved member of the agave family),
or *Furcraea* (indigenous to Ecuador)



Sisal mat (set of two). East Africa
From Jennifer Harris

Back and Front



'Abaca' Banana Leaf or Sheath Fiber (*musa textilae*)
aka Manila Hemp, 'Basho' in southern Japan (Ryukyu Islands)

Wallet. Tiboli Culture, Mindinao, the Philippines



Abaca "doily" banana fiber center
and cotton flowers
Philippines?
From Holly Brackmann, 1980's



Pineapple Leaf fiber. 'pina' Traditional man's shirt, '*barong*' with
Embroidery. Philippines. From Doug Elliot



Palm Leaf / Raffia

Kuba Cloth, Congo, Africa



HUSK FIBERS

Coir / coconut fiber Basket. Oceania?



Coir / coconut fiber Oceania?
Pounded or stripped into paper-like
circle, 5 inch diameter
With applique and couching.

POUNDED CELLULOSE FIBERS into paper-like substrates

Lao placemat. Weft of 'Shifu' handspun paper
On a cotton warp. Gift to Lolli from
Holly Brackmann. 2000's



Papyrus (Cyperus p.) Egypt
Lolli bought at a thrift store

'Amate' Mexican handmade paper with painted scenes (birds, villages....)

See also Mexico for
additional examples



POUNDED CELLULOSE FIBERS into paper-like substrates

Pounded Fig? fiber paper
From Uganda
From Jennifer Harris

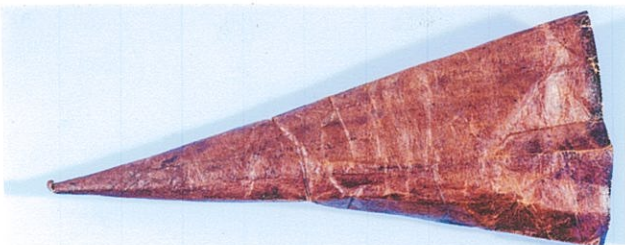


2 inch strip of pounded paper Bark Cloth
From Malaysian Borneo / Sarawak
Lolli got on a bag for the Natural Dye
Conference in Kuching, 2012



Indonesian cut-paper
puppet

Japanese 'tsutsugaki' cones made of mulberry paper water proofed with
Green persimmon juice. For applying rice paste resist



POUNDED CELLULOSE FIBERS
into paper-like substrates

Bark Cloth fragments. Oceania.
Samoa? Fiji? See Bark Cloth
Collection for complete examples



4 **Tapa** placemats, Fiji. (see also Bark Cloth collection)
From Marta MacKenzie 2005

