

material, to complement the comprehensive verbal record compiled by John Beaglehole.

Cook's instructions certainly required him to make natural history drawings. 'You are . . . carefully to observe the nature of the Soil', they read, '& the produce thereof; the Animals and Fowls that inhabit or frequent it; the Fishes that are to be found in the rivers or upon the Coast, and in what plenty; and, in case there are any, peculiar to such places, to described them as minutely, and to make accurate drawings of them, as you can'.⁷

Cook carried out these instructions with the assistance of his surgeons on the *Resolution*, William Anderson and David Samwell, and William Ellis, surgeon's second mate on the *Discovery*. The Print Room of the British Museum holds sixty-five drawings by Webber, mostly of birds and fishes. The British Museum of Natural History holds an album of drawings mostly of fish by William Ellis, and the Alexander Turnbull includes eight folios of natural history drawings by Ellis.

What is of more than passing interest is that neither on the second or third voyage was Cook required by his instructions to make drawings of plants. Instead he was told to collect specimens of the seeds of 'Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Fruits and Grains peculiar to those Places' visited.⁸ Nevertheless, the Forsters who to some extent were a law unto themselves carried on Banks's excellent botanical work, George Forster making over 300 plant drawings now in the British Museum (National History). But on the third voyage few drawings of plants were made. Perhaps the Admiralty felt that it would be quicker to bring home specimens than spend an inordinate amount of time on the voyage producing drawings of plants. Not that they were entirely neglected; Webber made a fine drawing of the Kerguelan cabbage (British Library, London) but his general practice was to incorporate curious plants within landscape settings.

For on the third voyage the emphasis had moved firmly from drawing plants and animals towards drawing peoples and places. This was not because Cook's instructions had changed. As to people they had remained constant for all three voyages:

You are likewise to observe the Genius, Temper, Disposition, and Number of the Natives and Inhabitants, where you find any; and to endeavour, by all proper means to cultivate a friendship with them; making them Presents of such Trinkets as you may have on board, and they may like best; inviting them to Traffick; and shewing them every Civility and Regard; but taking care nevertheless not to suffer yourself to be surprised by them⁹

There is no requirement here or anywhere else that the native peoples should be drawn, and if the instructions are taken literally Genius, Temper and Disposition would have been difficult to render graphically, except by the most talented of artists and in conditions different from