

I. Collections Level Description

Department: The Black Watch Castle and Museum, Perth

Collection Type: North American Collection

Reference: BWRM.COLLECTION

No. of items: 4

Notes

Date of research visit: 21st April 2014 Contact: Emma Halford-Forbes, Museum Manager



Display relating to North America in the Black Museum and Castle



Private Munro's powder horn with strap
© National Army Museum

Category

Equipment
Archival

Description

INTRODUCTION: The Black Watch Museum originally began in two in rooms in the

officer's mess and then in 1934 an official museum opened. This is the date when an official Accession Register was begun, everything acquired between the early 1920s and 1934 was then entered simply under 'Original Museum' so there is no information relating to the provenance of objects that entered the collection during this period.

The Black Watch fought in both the Seven Years' War and the American War of Independence, both campaigns are represented in a display area titled 'North America'.

OBJECTS: 3 Powder Horns, two are on display [A.1077.1-2] and one is in storage [A.2361].

ARCHIVES: Orderly book of Captain James Stewart's Company, 5 volumes [A.758.1-5] 1759-1761.

OTHER ARCHIVAL MATERIAL:

Correspondence relating to powder horns, 1950-1960s. This includes:

- Correspondence between the museum's curator and other museums such as Fort Ticonderoga Museum, New York Historical Society, Scottish United Service Museum, and McCord Museum, McGill University establishing whether they hold any powder horns linked to the 42nd Highlanders/Black Watch.

- Correspondence with General Regnault, who offered to sell a powder horn in his possession to the museum as it which bears the name of 'Donald Munro 42nd Regiment' and is alleged to date from 1756. There is a letter in French from General Regnault which provides details of his own research on powder horns. This letter includes a description of the Munro powder horn as being engraved with images of towns and forts, and a coat of arms as well as Munro's name; and 'The shoulder strap is woven with red wool with embroidery of blue and yellow silk and adorned with small white beads' [translation] similar to the one depicted in the painting of the death of General Wolfe by West. The National Army Museum have a black and white photograph of the Donald Munro powder horn in their collection [1960-08-194], and it is also illustrated in The Red Hackle (January 1960, p. 6) in an article titled 'Powder Horns' written by the museum's curator Major A.V. Chapman.

- 'Engraved Powder Horns', 10 Jan 1952, by Sgd D. Campbell of Inverneill. It mentioned that there was also a powder horn at Inverneill, Argyle which bears the inscription 'James Campbell, Leuit the 42nd Regt., 1758'.

Production information:

Place: North America

Date: 1758-1761

Name Associations	Type	Note
The Black Watch (42nd Royal Highlanders)	regiment/service	

Associations	Type	Note
Seven Years' War (1754-1763)	event	

Bibliographic references

The Red Hackle (January 1960, p. 6) article 'Powder Horns' written by the museum's curator Major A.V. Chapman.

“When shall we have so fine a regiment again?” The Early officers of the Black Watch 1739-1765 by Ruari Halford-MacLeod, November 2000.

R. R. Gale. 2007. “A Solider-Like Way”: The Material Culture of the British Infantry 1751-1768. Track the Wolfe, Inc. See p.97-98.

Grancsay, Stephen V. 1945. American Engraved Powder Horns: A study Based on the J. H. Grenville Gilbert Collection. Metropolitan Museum of Art.