

II. Individual Records

Department: Redoubt Fortress Military Museum, Eastbourne

Collection Type: North American Collection

Accession number: CHCRS.0867

No. of items: 1

Category

Weapons

Tools

Object name:

Knife and sheath





Description

Knife and sheath. The knife has a Sheffield steel[?] blade with makers mark on one side, and a wooden handle wrapped in dyed porcupine quills, the majority of which is red/orange in colour with strips of black and white around the centre. Attached to the end of the handle are two strips with a metal cone filled with dyed red moose hair [?] attached to the end of both. The knife fits inside a sheath made from animal hide/leather which is also decorated with dyed porcupine quills on the front side, with white glass[?] beads attached to the outer edge of the sheath. There are also eight metal cones (four down either edge and two at the bottom) filled with dyed red hair attached to the outer edge of the sheath. There is a strap for suspension around the neck attached to the top of the sheath, which is comprised of strands of vegetable fibre[?] wrapped in porcupine quills dyed red, black and yellow/white.

Original description

Greenwich Hospital and Royal United Service Museum. 1896: 'Other American War relics are Nos. 227, 229, 230-1: the first a paper note for one shilling, current in America during the war; and the others two powder-horns and an Indian scalping-knife, the latter being taken from the body of a "Red Indian" on the battlefield.' [Illust. caption] 'Indian Scalping-knife and Powder-flask'.

RUSI Catalogue 1924: 229-230. Powder Horn and Scalping Knife taken from the body of an Indian, killed in the American War of Independence. 1775-83, by Major William Gaull, 35th Regiment. Given by G. P. S. Camden, Esq.

ACCESSION REGISTER: 3-8-63 867 Scalping knife taken from the body of an Indian who was killed by Major William Guall 35th Regiment during American War of Independence 1775-83 RUSI RUSI Ref 101/2 knife and sheath

Production information:

Place: Bunker Hill, Charlestown, Massachusetts, USA, North America

School/style: Eastern Woodlands, Great Lakes [?]

Date: 1775-1783

Materials: Porcupine quill
Beads
Dye
Animal hide
Metal
Wood
Vegetable fibre

Techniques: Quilled
Dyed

Dimensions:

Part	Dimension	Value	Unit	Precision	Notes
Knife	Length	300	mm		
Knife	Width	38	mm		
Sheath	Length	222	mm		
Sheath	Width	42	mm		
	Length	570	mm		including strap

Condition assessment

Purpose: curatorial comment

Condition: Good

Date: 2014-07-17

Location

On display : 2014-07-17 :

Name Associations

35th Regiment of Foot (Royal
Sussex Regiment)

Gaull, William, Major (fl. 1765-
1776)

Type

regiment/service

personal name

Note

Associations

American War of
Independence (1775-83)

Battle of Bunker Hill (1775)

Type

event

event

Note

Other numbers:

Number

230

Originator

Royal United Services
Institute

Date

Exhibitions

Name of exhibition: *Redoubt Fortress Military Museum*

Exhibition area: 1701-1800

Notes:

DISPLAY LABEL: Native American Weapons Scalping Knife and Powder Horn taken from the body of a native American by Major William Gaull of the Regiment in 1775 during the American War of Independence. (867, 868)

Bibliographic references

Official Catalogue of the Royal United Services Museum, Whitehall, S.W. Compiled by Lieut.-Colonel Sir Arthur Leetham (Curator). 7th Edition, 1924, cat. no. 229-230

Greenwich Hospital and Royal United Service Museum. By Edward Fraser, 1896, p.219, illustrated.

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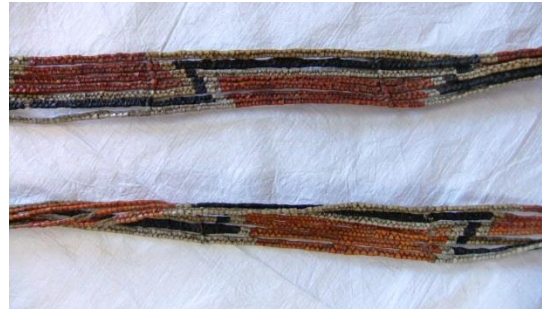
Collection Type: North American Collection

Accession number: CHCRS.0868

No. of items: 1

Category
Equipment

Object name:
Powder horn





Description

Powder horn and quillwork strap. The powder horn is a tear-drop or pear-shaped flask made from horn, green and white in colour with a brass metal tip/spout and strip around the edge. The flask is flat on the back side and convex on the front. There are two suspension loops on the metal edging on both sides of the flask, which the strap is attached to with an animal hide cord threaded through both loops and tied off at the bottom. The strap itself is comprised of seven individual strands of vegetable fibre[?] wrapped in porcupine quills dyed orange, black and white/yellow. This forms a pattern comprised of a zigzag line or thunderbolt-shape of blue colour outlined in white against an orange background. These strands are secured together at regular intervals to prevent them from spreading out. At each end of the strap the strands are tied with animal hide and the middle strand turns into a leather cord which attaches to the horn flask as above. The other six become tassels also of porcupine quill and each has a metal cone suspended from the end of it.

Notes

An identical strap is attached to a different style of powder horn in the Warnock Collection [ref. number WC8908007] which is dated to 1750-1775, see the PDF catalogue for more details, available online here:

<http://www.splendidheritage.com/CollectionDocuments/SHWarnockOb.pdf>

Original description

Greenwich Hospital and Royal United Service Museum. 1896: 'Other American War relics are Nos. 227, 229, 230-1: the first a paper note for one shilling, current in America during the war; and the others two powder-horns and an Indian scalping-knife, the latter being taken from the body of a "Red Indian" on the battlefield.' [Illust. caption] 'Indian Scalping-knife and Powder-flask'.

RUSI Catalogue 1924: 229-230. Powder Horn and Scalping Knife taken from the body of an Indian, killed in the American War of Independence. 1775-83, by Major William Gaull, 35th Regiment. Given by G. P. S. Camden, Esq.

ACCESSION REGISTER: 3-8-63 868 Indian powder horn taken from the body of an Indian details as above RUSI RUSI Ref. 101/3

Production information:

Place: Bunker Hill, Charlestown, Massachusetts, USA, North America
School/style: Eastern Woodlands, Great Lakes [?]
Date: 1775-1783

Materials: Porcupine quill
Dye
Animal hide
Metal
Vegetable fibre
Horn

Techniques: Quilled
Dyed

Dimensions:

Part	Dimension	Value	Unit	Precision	Notes
Powder Horn	Height	195	mm		
	Width	140	mm		
	Depth	40	mm	approx.	
Strap	Width	27	mm		
Strap	Length	1340	mm	approx.	
	Height	710	mm		including strap

Condition assessment

Purpose: curatorial comment

Condition: Good

Date: 2014-07-17

Location

On display : 2014-07-17 :

Name Associations

Name Associations	Type	Note
35th Regiment of Foot (Royal Sussex Regiment)	regiment/service	
Gaull, William, Major (fl. 1765-1776)	personal name	

Associations

Associations	Type	Note
American War of Independence (1775-83)	event	
Battle of Bunker Hill (1775)	event	

Other numbers:

Number	Originator	Date
229	Royal United Services Institute	

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