

William H. Guthman Papers (1942-2006)

S 736.6 G984dr, Manuscript

15 boxes + oversize material

Biographical Note

William H. Guthman (1924-2005), a museum consultant and dealer in colonial and Federal period Americana, was an exhibitor at the Winter Antiques Show for 32 years, and a regular on *Antiques Roadshow* for 5 seasons. His large collection of militaria sold at Sotheby's in 2003-2005. Seventy-five powder horns from his collection came to Historic Deerfield as a partial gift.

William, the son of Harold and Ethel Goodman Guthman, served in China during World War II. Upon returning to the United States, he attended and graduated from Northwestern University in 1966. He and his first wife, Patricia, had two children, Scott and Pamela. He later married Elizabeth Stillinger. He lived most of his adult life in Westport, Connecticut. He first worked with his father in Chicago in a photography business. After moving to New York, he worked for a clothing company, but in 1966 gave up that job to write his book, *March to Massacre*, and to begin selling antiques full time. He became an authority on powder horns, early American military accoutrements and weapons.

He was the author of 6 books and numerous articles on colonial weapons and accoutrements, as well as a Pulitzer Prize nominee for *March to Massacre: A History of the First Seven Years of the United States Army*. Guthman was also a member of the American Society of Arms Collectors, the Company of Military Historians, a past president and member of the Board of Directors of the Kentucky Rifle Association and an overseer of Old Sturbridge Village.

Organization of the Collection

The majority of the collection was a gift of Elizabeth Stillinger. It joins a small, already existing collection of Guthman material. This previous collection deals primarily with William Guthman's book, *Drums A'beating, Trumpets Sounding: Artistically Carved Powder Horns in the Provincial Manner 1746-1781* and the accompanying exhibition. This material was incorporated into the larger collection.

This collection deals with all aspects of Guthman's life—his personal and business dealings, as well as hobbies. All three of these areas run together in different ways. His business of buying and selling Americana relates to his interests in researching and collecting the same. For many years, his first wife, Pat, was his partner/associate in his business. Both of his children have worked with him at different antique shows. His uncle served as his insurance agent for his business. As a result of these blurred lines, the Guthman collection has a complex structure. Records that could be determined as solely personal are marked as such; records that appear to relate to Guthman Americana are marked as business records. Items relating to one of the organizations he belonged to are separate. The majority of the collection falls into the blurred category of business/personal/hobby, with no distinction made. This includes correspondence, loans (from either his personal collection or business stock), research into objects, and some of his publications.

The collection is sorted by type. Each box listed below has a description of what materials are found there, followed by a folder listing for each box.

Description of Boxes

Box 1-4 contain general correspondence sorted by year.

Box 5 contains correspondence sorted by name, and undated; legal correspondence, loans, donations/gifts, invitations to speak, and miscellaneous material.

Box 6 contains correspondence, newsletters, meeting minutes, etc. of the Kentucky Rifle Association, and some paperwork on the American Association of Arms Collectors. This box also contains appraisals conducted by Guthman as a licensed appraiser.

Box 7-8 contain records related solely to Guthman Americana. These records include inventories, sales records, receipts, tax records, expense reports, insurance, advertising, and paperwork for various antique shows.

Box 9 contains drafts and paperwork relating to his *March to Massacre* book

Box 10 contains other publications and research conducted by Guthman, including the Orcutt Memorial, *U.S. Army Weapons*, *Drums A'beating*, *Trumpets Sounding* and periodical articles. Also found here are drafts, lectures and miscellaneous research notes. The exhibition accompanying the powder horn book is represented here with plans for the exhibit, a scrapbook and miscellaneous material.

Box 11 contains research on powder horns, both in general and sorted by name of owner.

Box 12-13 contain six notebooks full of photographs of the Rufus Grider collection of powder horn drawings from the New York State Historical Association.

Box 14 contains the personal papers of William Guthman, including his Chicago photography business, his novel on China, correspondence, obituaries, estate settlement, memorial service, awards, and miscellaneous papers.

Box 15 contains assorted medals received as an award or participant in various antique shows and well as various pins, cufflinks and other jewelry owned by Guthman.

There are also five oversize scrapbooks not in boxes. See items description on folder list.

Container List

Box 1 Correspondence by Year

Folder	Item
1	1955
2	January-May 1956
3	June-December 1956
4	January-November 1957
5	January-June 1958
6	July-December 1958
7	1960
8	1961
9	1963
10	1964
11	January-March 1965
12	April-August 1965
13	September-December 1965
14	January-June 1966
15	July-December 1966
16	January-April 1967
17	May-September 1967
18	October-December 1967
19	January-March 1968
20	April-June 1968
21	July-September 1968
22	October-December 1968
23	January-March 1969
24	April-June 1969

Box 2 Correspondence by Year

Folder	Item
1	June-September 1969
2	October-December 1969
3	January-April 1970
4	May-August 1970
5	September-December 1970
6	January-April 1971
7	May-August 1971
8	September-December 1971
9	1972
10	1973
11	January-August 1974
12	September-December 1974
13	January-March 1975
14	April-June 1975
15	July-September 1975
16	October-December 1975

Box 3 Correspondence by Year

Folder	Item
1	January-March 1976
2	April-June 1976
3	July-September 1976
4	October-December 1976
5	January-March 1977
6	April-June 1977
7	July-September 1977
8	October-December 1977
9	January-March 1978
10	April-June 1978
11	July-September 1978
12	October-December 1978
13	January-June 1979
14	July-December 1979
15	1980
16	1981
17	1982
18	1983

Box 4 Correspondence by Year

Folder	Item
1	1984
2	1985
3	January-July 1986
4	August-December 1986
5	1987
6	1988
7	January-June 1989
8	July-December 1989
9	1990
10	1991
11	1992
12	1993
13	1994
14	1995
15	1996
16	1997
17	1998
18	1999
19	2000-2001
20	2002-2003
21	2004-2006

Box 5 Correspondence by Person/Misc. Files

Folder	Item
1	Correspondence, undated
2	Correspondence, undated (con't)
3	Correspondence, ABA Ethics Complaint-Goldman, 1994-1995
4	Correspondence, Paul Barnes
5	Correspondence, Carl Baldwin
6	Correspondence, Clements Library, University of Michigan
7	Correspondence, Colonial Williamsburg
8	Correspondence, Fort Ticonderoga
9	Correspondence, Georgia Museum of Art
10	Correspondence, Old Sturbridge Village
11	Correspondence, Robert Reilly
12	Correspondence, Tom Segal
13	Correspondence, Smithsonian Institution
14	Correspondence, David Stewart
15	Correspondence, Nathan Swayze
16	Correspondence, Tennessee State Museum
17	Correspondence, Susi Weitzel
18	Correspondence, West Point
19	Correspondence, Winterthur
20	Correspondence, Yale University
21	Legal Correspondence
22	Vestunis vs Guthman, 2004-2005
23	Loans—Jamestown/Yorktown
24	Loans—National Portrait Gallery, 1975
25	Loans—New York State Historical Association
26	Loans of Guthman Collection-Misc.
27	Donations/Gifts
28	Invitations to Speak
29	Misc. Material
30	Newspaper Clippings-Misc.

Box 6 Organizations and Appraisals

Folder	Item
1	Kentucky Rifle Association (KRA) Correspondence, 1970-1987
2	Kentucky Rifle Association (KRA) Correspondence, 1988-2003
3	Kentucky Rifle Association (KRA) Correspondence, undated
4	Kentucky Rifle Association (KRA) Foundation, 1999
5	KRA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes & Agendas, 1975-1985
6	KRA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes & Agendas, 1986-1996
7	KRA Annual Meeting Minutes & Agendas, 1971-1996
8	KRA Articles for Newsletter, Drafts
9	KRA Notes, Drafts, etc.
10	KRA Publications Policy Committee
11	KRA Membership Questionnaire, 1995
12	KRA Bulletin, 1970-1989

13	KRA Bulletin, 1990-2006
14	KRA Misc. material
15	American Society of Arms Collectors—Misc.
16	Appraisals—Appraisers Association of America-Misc. material
17	Appraisals—Cuneo Estate
18	Appraisals—Pennsylvania Sons of the Revolution
19	Appraisals—Nathan L. Swayze Collection
20	Appraisals—A-B
21	Appraisals—C
22	Appraisals—D
23	Appraisals—E-H
24	Appraisals—I-M
25	Appraisals—N-R
26	Appraisals—S-T
27	Appraisals—U-Z

Box 7 Guthman Americana Business Records

Folder	Item
1	Business Inventory, 1960-1969
2	Business Inventory, 1970-1976
3	Business Inventory, 1977-1986
4	Business Inventory, 1987-1999
5	Business Inventory, 2000-2005
6	Item Inventory, 1980
7	Tax Forms, Misc. 1976-1978
8	Cash Disbursements, 1976
9	Cash Receipts, 1976
10	Accounting Records, 1977
11	Cash Receipts, 1978
12	Cash Disbursements, 1978
13	Petty Cash, 1978
14	New York State Sales Tax
15	New York State Endangered Species License—Ivory
16	Insurance Policies
17	Insurance Correspondence, 1957-2005
18	Sales Invoices & Receipts
19	Sales Invoices & Receipts (con't)
20	Sales Invoices & Receipts (con't)
21	Receipts for Guthman purchases
22	Sotheby's Consignment Receipts
23	Textile Conservation Workshop Reports, 1988-1996
24	Textile Conservation Workshop Reports, 1997-1999
25	Textile Conservation Workshop Reports, 2000-2005
26	American Primitive Art & Bases Receipts
27	Conservation, Misc.

Box 8 Guthman Americana—Antiques Shows and Advertising

Folder	Item
1	Winter Antiques Show, 1978-1982
2	Winter Antiques Show, 1983-1984
3	Winter Antiques Show, 1985-1986
4	Winter Antiques Show, 1987
5	Winter Antiques Show, 1988-1989
6	Winter Antiques Show, 1990-1992
7	Winter Antiques Show, 1993-1996
8	Winter Antiques Show, 1997-1999
9	Winter Antiques Show, 2000-2002
10	Winter Antiques Show, 2004-2005
11	Winter Antiques Show, undated
12	Southport & Westport Antiques Show, 1960s-1970s
13	Essex Antiques Show
14	Advertisements
--	5 photo albums filled with <i>Magazine Antiques</i> advertisements: Album with no covers, 1973-1979 Red album, 1979-1984 Red vinyl album, 1984-1991 Green album, 1967-1973 Blue album, 1991-2004

Box 9 March to Massacre

Folder	Item
1	Drafts and notes
2	Reviews
3	Uncorrected proof (2 copies)
4	Galley
5	Correspondence, 1968-1974
6	Correspondence, 1975-1980
7	Correspondence, undated
8	Copyright
9	Misc. materials
--	Complete book (manuscript form) bound
--	2 volume version of book bound

Box 10 Writings/Publications and Powder Horns

Folder	Item
1	Jeffrey Orcutt Memorial
2	Correspondence of Nathan Peters typescript
3	Correspondence of Nathan Peters, photocopies of originals
4	<i>United States Army Weapons</i> --Galley
5	<i>United States Army Weapons</i> —Misc. papers.
6	Published articles
7	Drum Article Research & Drafts
8	Colonial Swords of New England Drafts

9	Drafts of Writing, Misc.
10	Lectures
11	Helmet & Hat Research—Misc. documents
12	Research Notes, Misc.
13	Powder Horns, Writing Drafts
14	Powder Horns—Book, Calligraphy examples
15	Powder Horns—Book, Publisher Rejection letters
16	Powder Horns—Book, Plates (photocopies)
17	Powder Horns—Book, Misc. Material
18	Powder Horns—Book, Complete Draft
19	Powder Horns—Exhibition, Opening
20	Powder Horns—Exhibition, Plans
21	Powder Horns—Exhibition, Planning
22	Powder Horns—Exhibition, Scrapbook
23	Powder Horns—Misc. Material

Box 11 Powder Horn Research—General and by name

Folder	Item
1	Powder Horns—Research, Hartley sketches
2	Powder Horns—Research, Grider Collection
3	Powder Horns—Research, Misc.
4	Powder Horns—Research, Misc. (con't)
5	Powder Horns—Research, Misc. (con't)
--	Powder Horn Research by name
6	Abbott, John
7	Abercrombie, James
8	Andrus, Christopher
9	Baird, Robert
10	Baldwin, Aaron
11	Batterson, George
12	Bennett, Thadeus
13	Bradbury, Elijah
14	Bunker, Phillip
15	Cave, Titus
16	Cleaveland, Aaron
17	Cooper, Enoch
18	Cotton, William
19	Courtney, Edward
20	Crosby, Samuel
21	Fletcher, David
22	French, Ichabod
23	Gardner, Jonathan
24	Goldthwait, Michael
25	Gooddel, Jabez
26	Hall, Caleb Johnson
27	Hitchcock, Ebenezer
28	Hosmer, Reuben

29	Lands, ---
30	Lawrence, Elijah
31	Lounsbury, Samuel
32	Martin, James
33	Miles, John
34	Miller & Tribble
35	Mills, John
36	Miner, Richardson
37	Moore, Ephraim
38	Newell, Stephen
39	Noyes, John
40	Page, Aaron
41	Palmer, Christopher
42	Patterson, William
43	Peck, Stephen
44	Pemberton, John
45	Richmond, Samuel
46	Robbins, Frederick
47	Rockwell, John
48	Sargent, Simeon
49	Selden, Samuel
50	Selkirk, Nathaniel
51	Smith, Eleazer
52	Smith, Joseph
53	Smith, William
54	Spalding, Asa
55	Tambling, Stephen
56	Warner, Andrew
57	Watums, ---
58	Whitaker, Samuel
59	Whiting, Nathan
60	Willson, George
61	Yale, Amasa
62	Unidentified
--	Powder Horn card file

Box 12 Rufus Grider Drawings of Powder Horns

	Photographs of drawings by Grider from the New York Historical Society
Vol. 1	French War, No. 1-120
Vol. 2	French War, Book Two, No. 121-212
Vol. 3	Revolutionary War , No. 1-102

Box 13 Rufus Grider Drawings of Powder Horns

	Photographs of drawings by Grider from the New York Historical Society
Vol. 4	Revolutionary War, Book Two, No. 103-159
Vol. 5	War of 1812-Mexican, Hunting, Indian Horns
Vol. 6	Foreign

Box 14 Personal Papers

Folder	Item
1	Death of Parents, 1984, 1988-1989
1a	Photography Business Notebook
2	Personal Correspondence, 1965
3	Personal Correspondence, 1966
4	Personal Correspondence, George Fu, 1980-1989
5	Personal Correspondence, George Fu, 1990-1997
6	Awards & Certificates
6a	"Prolonged Journey" Novel, 1945
7	Capital Gains Tax, 1980
8	Personal Collection Inventories
9	Sotheby's 2003 Sale—Promotion
10	Sotheby's 2003 Sale—Paperwork
11	Sotheby's 2003 Sale—Catalog Draft
12	Guthman Collection Appraisal
13	Obituaries of William Guthman
14	Memorial Service, Guest Book
15	Memorial Service, Pictures
16	Memorial Service, Misc.
17	Guthman Estate
18	Misc. Material

Box 15 Assorted Medals and Pins

Hartford Antique Gun Show plate, 1969

William Guthman Collection sign, no date

American Association of Arms Collectors Medals: 1981 (2); 1982; 1983; 1984; 1985 (2); 1989; 1992; 1994; 1995; 1996; 1997 (2); 1999 (2); 2002 (2)

Kentucky Rifle Association Medal, 1986

Ye Connecticut Gun Guild Medal, no date

NRA Medal, no date

William Guthman Dog Tags

Harold Guthman Dog Tags

"WHG" initialed Jewelry Box

"WHG" Tie Clip and Cuff Links

"WHG" Pin

Eagle Pin

3 Gun Pins

"2CR" button

ASAC Pin and Company of Military Historians Pin

Oversize Items (No Box)

"Powder Horn Art" by William Guthman—Blue binder with photographs and a draft of an essay on powder horns found in his book—possibly used as a promotion or sample for his project

Large brown scrapbook containing news clippings, letters and photos related to powder horn exhibit and book

Large red scrapbook containing photos from Guthman's years (1942-1945) in China during World War II. Some are loose.

Large blue scrapbook with white ribbon and button closure containing pictures and news clippings displayed at Guthman's memorial service in 2006.

"Native American Guthman Collection" in a large black binder. The binder contains color photographs of items in Guthman's Native American collection. The collection was for an auction 2006 by Trotta-Bono