

I. Collections Level Description

Department: The Royal Green Jackets (Rifles) Museum, Winchester

Collection Type: North American Collection

Reference: WINGJ.COLLECTION

No. of items: 1

Notes

Date of research visit: 10th April 2014 Contact: Christine Pullen, Curator



Category

Equipment
Diplomatic Gift
Loot
Souvenir

Description

INTRODUCTION: The Royal Green Jackets (Rifles) Museum opened in 1989, but the origins of its collections date back to the aftermath of the First World War when the antecedent regiments of the museum starting collecting war artefacts and archival material in the 1920s. The museum contains material relating to three different regiments and their predecessors - The Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, The King's Royal Rifle Corps and The Rifle Brigade.

The 60th Royal American (formerly the 62nd) Regiment of Foot was involved in the Seven Years' War in North America, and later the American War of Independence as the Kings Royal Rifles Corps.

The museum has a substantial amount of non-European or ethnographic objects on display predominantly dated between 1850 and 1950 which could be categorised as loot and souvenirs, such as a necklace said to have been taken from the body of one of Tipu Sultan's family, Pathan weapons, a sculpture of the Buddha brought back from Burma in 1886, a Maori figure and two spears dating to the 1860s, objects from Egypt and the

Sudan from 1880-90s, and Africa (Ashante and Zulu Wars). There are also items from the 1950s which were diplomatic gifts, for example, objects from Fiji and New Zealand.

The displays are arranged chronologically by campaign, and therefore the section relating to 'North America in the Seven Years War 1756-63' is at the beginning. The events and topics covered include: 'Forming of the 60th Royal Americans, 1755'; 'General Braddock's Defeat 1755', 'Rivalry in the Forests', 'The Taking of Quebec', 'The Battle of Busby Run 1763' and 'Chief Pontiac's War'. There was extensive supporting text and illustrative material used in the display cases relating to North America.

OBJECTS:

Powder horn [WINGJ:2006.1761] with carved inscriptions and a plan of Fort Edward, and a Native American porcupine quill strap, dated 1757

Stone arrow head [WINGJ:2010.6694] said to be Native North American and found at one of the forts [Archaeology] and presented to the museum by Lt. Col. F. C. Curry.

In addition, there is a framed letter [WINGJ:2006:280] on display dated 27th August 1764 to Governor Penn from Col. Henry Bouquet which talks about granting peace to the 'Indians'.

GENERAL INFORMATION: All of the regimental journals have been digitised and can be searched.

Production information:

Place: Fort Edward, Washington
County, New York, USA, North
America
Date: 1756-1764

| Name Associations | Type | Note |
|-------------------------|------------------|---|
| The Royal Green Jackets | regiment/service | The 60th Royal American (formerly the 62nd) Regiment of Foot was involved in the Seven Years' War in North America, and later the American War of Independence as the Kings Royal Rifles Corps. |

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

Exhibitions

Name of exhibition: *Royal Green Jackets Museum Permanent Display*
Exhibition area: North America in the Seven Years War 1756-63: Forming of the 60th Royal Americans , 1755

Notes:

The text panel includes a sub-section on 'Clothing' which reads: 'The clothing of a soldier for a campaign should consist of a short jacket of brown cloth, a strong tanned shirt, short trousers, leggings, mocassins, a sailor's hat, a knapsack for provisions and an oil surtout against the rain. ... ' [quote from Colonel Henry Bouquet, Swiss Commanding Officer of the

1st Battalion of the 60th Royal Americans]

Bibliographic references

The Royal American's by Sir Philip Goodhart, Wilton 65, 2005.