

Basic Detail Report



Title Powder Horn

Date 1781-1785

Primary Maker Henry Mason

Medium Horn, wood

Description Carved powder horn featuring a tapered spout with chip carved decoration continuing into the scribe decorated body showing a chip carved edge surrounding the fitted wooden plug. The inscriptions on the powder horn include the owner's name, "HENRY MASON" in block letters with flourishes, over the location and date, "Groton Hts: 1781", [sic] flanked by geometric decoration. Below the owner's name is a scene featuring a landscape with 18th century houses over a scene of two Connecticut militia men, one with his sword raised and the other firing a musket, while a cannon fires a cannon ball at two retreating English soldiers. The scene is over the inscription "Groton Hill, Sept. Ye 6t." Below the battle scene and near the tapered pout is an early Federal eagle with spread wings and surrounded by the inscription "America, Libertas, Jusititia", opposite the eagle and near the wooden plug end is a large sun with face flanked by flowers. The horn is marked "HENRY MASON / GROTON HTS

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1781" [sic] and bears an engraved battle scene featuring an artillery piece as

well as British infantry, the scene captioned "GROTON HILL Sept Ye 6th". Other

imagery includes a Rising Sun design titled "AMERICA" and a variety of animal

and vine imagery typically found on horns of the period, and also the words

"LIBERTY" and "JUSTICE".