Artifact Manual for Docents/Volunteers

Guide to Artifacts in Areas 3 - 12

Area 3A: Boyhood



Artifact: Independence High School Pennant, 1901

Additional info: High School Pennant from Harry and Bess' graduation year, 1901.



Artifact: Pin, 1901

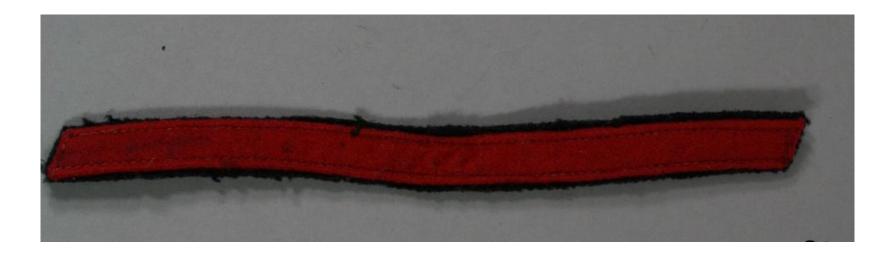
Additional info: Graduating class pin for Independence High School, 1901. Triangular pin with enameled letters I, H, S in corners (Independence High School) and "01" in center for the graduating class year.



Artifact: Strich & Zeidler upright piano, 1910

Additional info: Purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Noland, 216 North Delaware, Independence, Missouri in 1910. This piano was often played by Mrs. Noland's nephew, Harry S. Truman, during visits by him to the Noland home while he was courting Bess Truman.

*Piano bench belonged to Independence Missouri Public Schools and was like a gift rather than the original bench used by Truman and family.



Artifact: Service chevron, U.S. Army, 1908.

Additional info: Worn by Corporal Harry S. Truman, Light Battery B, Missouri National Guard from June 1908 thru June 1911. The single stripe represented Truman's three-year enlistment period. Service stripes were worn on both, lower sleeves of the blue uniform.



Artifact: Double-barreled shotgun, ca. 1870

Additional info: This 12 gauge, double-barreled, muzzle loading shotgun was used on the Grandview Farm by John Anderson Truman, Harry's father, and Harrison Young, Harry's uncle. It has suffered some damage but family stories differ on who was at fault. One story says John Truman fell off his horse, dropping the shotgun; another says Uncle Harrison's horse, Mr. Anderson, fell on the gun and broke it.



Artifact: Pitchfork, ca. 1910

Additional info: This pitchfork was received by J. Carnie Jones (deceased husband of donor) from his father, Quincy Theran Jones (born 1870). Mr. Jones said that the pitchfork fell off of Harry S. Truman's wagon as he was leaving the Jones farm. Truman had been there helping pitch hay. Mr. Jones intended to return the pitchfork but never got around to it. His son, likewise, failed to return it and Mrs. Jones said that she had intended to do so over the years since her husband's death in 1974. Apparently, she was motivated by the death of Mrs. Truman in 1982 and called the Truman Library offering it as a gift. The initials H.T. are carved into the upper end of the handle.



Artifact: Fraternal hat, ca. 1920

Additional info: Presumably one of Truman's first fezzes.



Artifact: Lapel pin, date unknown

Additional info: Pin with Masonic symbol (crescent with sword), "ARARAT" in sword blade. "50 YEARS" in banner under symbol.



Artifact: Miter square, date unknown

Additional Info: Object used on Truman family farm in Grandview, Missouri. This device was used for measuring and ruling angles to be cut into wood and other materials. In his oral history interview, Fred Truman (Harry Truman's nephew) refers to it as a "trisquare."



Artifact: Branding Iron, ca. 1860

Additional info: Branding iron owned and used by Solomon Young, Harry Truman's grandfather. The cast block at the end of the iron has the letters "S.Y."



Artifact: Flour bag, ca. 1920s

Additional info: Bag that originally contained 10 lbs. of "Queen of the Pantry" flour produced by the Waggoner-Gates Milling Co., Independence, Missouri.



Artifact: Masonic lapel pin, date unknown

Additional info: Masonic lapel pin found in Truman's top dresser drawer.



Artifact: Masonic Badge, 1914

Additional info: Brooch engraved "Harry S. Truman." Back of pendant is engraved, "Presented January 16, 1914/From Coldwater Lodge No.485, Drexel, Mo."



Artifact: Fraternal ring, ca. 1920s

Additional info: Harry S. Truman was elected in the Lodge of Perfection, No.2, Western Missouri Consistory and received the 32nd Degree, March 31, 1917. Ring has "32" engraved on side.



Artifact: Fraternal ring, 1945

Additional info: Inside surface of ring is hand engraved, "Harry S. Truman (33rd Degree insignia) Washington, D.C. Oct. 19, 1945.



Artifact: Political badge, 1900

Additional info: Harry S. Truman served as a page at this convention. History: William Jennings Bryan was the presidential nominee of the Democratic Party in 1900.



Artifact: Novelty, ca. 1904

Additional info: In the center of the donkey's chest is a circular hole, with a campaign button portrait of William Jennings Bryan. Item may have been used as a bookend.



Artifact: Curio, 1900

Additional info: Miniature stoneware souvenir jug from the 1900 Democratic convention.



Artifact: Political badge, 1900

Additional info: Presented to HST at the White House on July 8, 1948 by former Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson. According to Anderson, this badge was pinned on Thomas Price at the 1900 Democratic National Convention by a young Harry S. Truman. Truman was serving as an usher at the convention.



Artifact: Medicine bottle, ca. 1900

Additional info: Clear, pressed glass medicine bottle with raised text, "CLINTON'S/GOLDEN EYE WATER/INDEPENDENCE, MO."
Object was discovered during excavations at the site of the old Clinton Drug Store in Independence, MO. Truman worked at the drug store in his early years.



Artifact: Medicine bottle, ca. 1900

Additional info: Clear, pressed glass medicine bottle with raised text, "CLINTON'S/ONE HOUR COUGH CURE/INDEPENDENCE, MO." Object was discovered during excavations at the site of the old Clinton Drug Store in Independence, MO. Truman worked at the drug store in his early years.



Artifact: Medicine bottle, ca. 1900

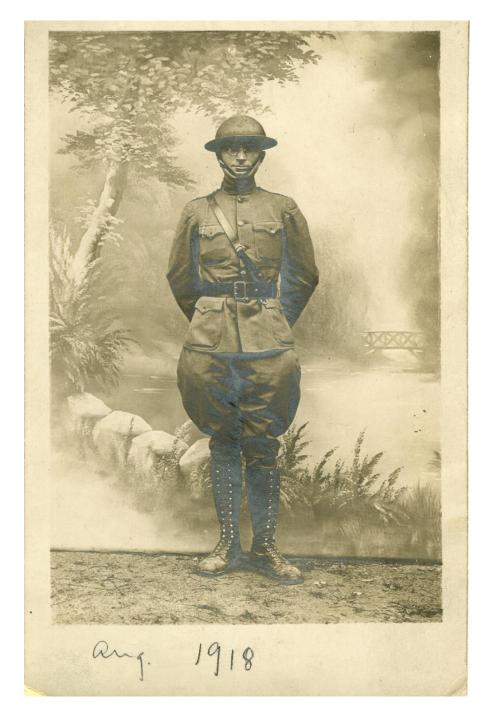
Additional info: Clear, pressed glass medicine bottle with raised text,
"CLINTON'S/GOLDEN EYE WATER/INDEPENDENCE,
MO." Object was discovered during excavations at the site of the old Clinton Drug Store in Independence, MO. Truman worked at the drug store in his early years.

Area 3B: World War I



Artifact: Photographic print, 1917

Additional info: In 1917, Bess Wallace gave a copy of this picture to Harry as he went off to war. The attached card read: "I'm depending on this to take you to France and back—all safe and sound." Captain Truman carried it throughout the war and President Truman displayed it on his desk for the rest of his life.



Artifact: Photographic print, 1918

Additional info: Photograph showing Truman in field uniform. Back of post card contains handwritten message. "Here I am in some of my armor, trench boots, Sam Browne belt etc. and clothes that do not fit. This is the way I usually go around. The tin hat is uncomfortable but very pleasant to have under certain conditions. Sometimes I wish it was about the size of an umbrella. August 1918".



Artifact: Drafting set, 1917-18

Additional info: Truman used this drafting set to plan artillery firing locations on a map. This set includes the leather covered case, compass with articulated legs, small compass and accessory legs for compass.



Artifact: I.D. card, 1918

Additional info: I.D. card No.50873, American Expeditionary Forces, for "Harry S. Truman, Captain 129 FA." Rare photo of Truman without glasses.



Artifact: Ruler (Alidade), 1917

Additional info: Drafting tool used to help Captain Truman plan firing locations.



Artifact: Ruler (Alidade), 1917

Additional info: Drafting tool used to help Captain Truman plan firing locations.



Artifact: Ruler, 1917

Additional info: Map reading scale. Drafting tool used to help Captain Truman plan firing locations.



Artifact: Ruler, 1917

Additional info: Engineer's scale.



Artifact: Slide rule, 1917

Additional info: Field artillery rule.



Artifact: Footlocker, 1918

Additional info: This trunk locker was part of the personal luggage used by 1st Lieutenant Harry S. Truman at Camp Doniphan, Oklahoma. The trunk was carried aboard the S.S. George Washington on March 30, 1918 and accompanied Truman to France. Truman used this footlocker during the course of the war until his discharge on May 6, 1919.



Artifact: Service hat, 1917

Additional info: 1st Lieutenant Harry S. Truman's campaign hat was purchased while stationed at Camp Doniphan, Fort Sill, Oklahoma. The officer's hat cord and braided leather neck strap is installed on this hat.



Artifact: U.S. Officer's Uniform, 1917





Additional info: Harry S. Truman purchased this U.S. Officers uniform (1912 pattern) from local Kansas City Tailor William Marks in June 1917 shortly after he was commissioned a First Lieutenant. Truman took the uniform to Camp Doniphan in Fort Sill, Oklahoma and finally to France where he likely wore it in combat.



Artifact: Shoes, 1917

Additional info: Russet leather shoes, approx. size 9. Found in Truman's footlocker.



Artifact: Lapel pin, 1920's

Additional info: All recipients of the U.S. WWI Victory Medal were entitled to wear this lapel button.



Artifact: Whistle, 1917

Additional info: Brass whistle, U.S. Army regulation. "Thunderer" pattern for use at platoon and field artillery battery level.



Artifact: Helmet, 1918

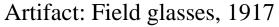
Additional info: Steel helmet with stenciled insignia of the 129th Field Artillery, 35th Division on both sides. This helmet belonged to 1st Lieutenant L. Curtis Tiernan who served with Truman. Truman's helmet was likely the same.



Artifact: Card deck, 1935

Additional info: Found inside Truman's military footlocker.





Additional info: These field glasses were first acquired by Truman when he was a 1st Lieutenant. He would have used them overseas in France during the war to spot artillery movements.



Artifact: Revolver, U.S. Model, 1917

Additional info: Manufactured by Colt Patent Firearms. Captain Harry S. Truman acquired this revolver during WWI and kept it after the war.



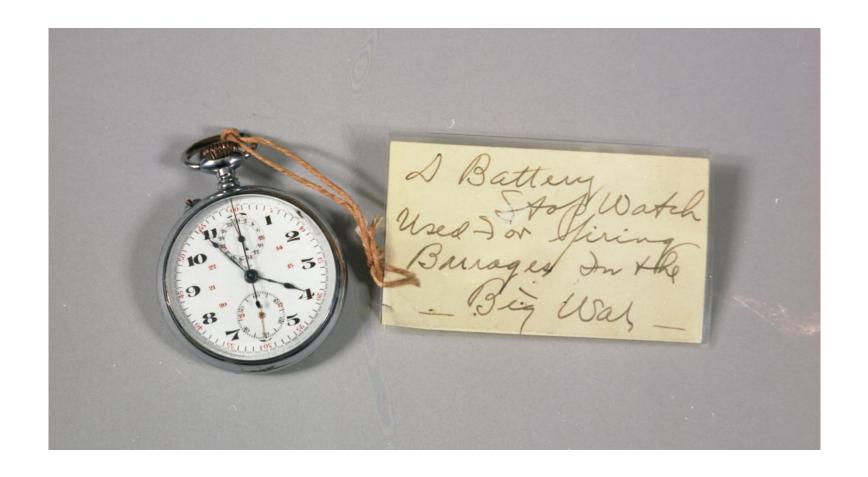
Artifact: Belt, ca. 1908-18

Additional info: Waist belt for breeches, U.S. Army issue. Found in Truman's footlocker.



Artifact: Sewing kit, 1917

Additional info: This U.S. Army issued sewing kit belonged to Harry S. Truman. In a letter to Bess Wallace dated March 25, 1918, Truman documents a spare lens kept in the kit for his glasses.



Artifact: Stopwatch, 1917

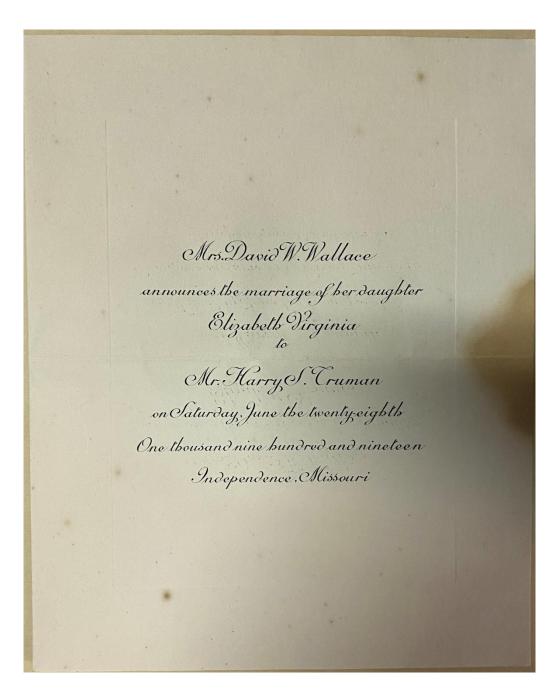
Additional info: Combination military watch/time-interval recorder. Truman has written in ink on back side, "D Battery Stop Watch Used For firing Barrages In the Big War." Watch was probably given to President Truman by William F. Tierney who served as a Sergeant in Battery D, 129th Field Artillery.



Artifact: Tack box, 1918

Additional info: Made from a standard size, wood crate, this tack box belonged to Harry S. Truman. On the front of the box ornate, red and orange lettering that reads, "Capt. Harry S. Truman Bat. D, 129th F.A.," has been applied over black lettering that reads, "Lt. Harry S. Truman, Detachment, 35th Division, 129 F.A. U.S.A. These World War I era tack boxes held saddles, harnesses, blankets, and other equestrian equipment.

Area 3C: Judge to VP



Artifact: Wedding announcement, 1919

Additional info: Engraved announcement informed the recipient. 1st Lt. Lorain H. Cunningham, about the wedding of Bess Wallace to Harry S. Truman, June 28, 1919. Cunningham served as a line officer of the 129th Field Artillery, 35th Division. Like most Lieutenants, Cunningham served at times with different batteries in the 129th FA, including Battery D. According to his son, Dr. Gordon R. Cunningham, 1st Lt. Cunningham served as Truman's executive officer and was responsible for computing firing data for D Battery's guns.



Artifact: Shoes, 1919

Additional info: Shoes Bess wore on her wedding day, June 28, 1919. The shoes are an off-white with a pointed toe and Louis XV heels. Made by Emery, Bird, Thayer.

eral hospital. Ed T. Orear, former city auditor, died June 22. mled From the Files of June 29, 1919: The marriage of Miss Bess Wallace, daughter of Mr. and ne-Mrs. David Wallace, to Capt. Harry S. Truman took place at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon, June 28, at the Trinity Episcoam pal church in Independence. The service was read by the ces Louise Wells of Platte City and Miss Helen Wallace for Kansas City, cousins of the her attendants. bride, Theodore Marks groomsman.

Artifact: Newspaper clipping, 1919

Additional info: Square newspaper clipping with three edges torn/cut. The text is a brief announcement of Mr. and Mrs. Truman's wedding. Blue ink squiggle in right margin marks lines mentioning event, date, time and place.



Artifact: Trade card, 1919

Additional info: Business card for Truman and Jacobson's Haberdashery. The date printed on the card has been marked through and a new date, "Nov. 15," written in black ink.



Artifact: Marking stamp, 1919

Additional info: This special die was made for Truman and Jacobson in July, 1919. It is designed to be mounted in a label embossing machine that produced small silk labels which were then sewn onto ties. Presumably, ties with these labels were sold at the Truman and Jacobson haberdashery. On July 14, 1949, Mr. B. Wolff of Henry A. Jacobs & Co. wrote to President Truman offering the die to him. The President responded and the die was sent to the White House.



Artifact: Hat stretcher, 1919

Additional info: Wording on hat stretcher reads, "For use of customers and friends." Additional wording reads, "From Truman-Jacobson Inc./104 W. 12th St./K.C. Mo/Haberdashers."



Artifact: Loving cup, 1919

Additional info: According to Battery D legend, the cup was paid for with proceeds from a craps game played while on the ship back from France. Battery D members presented its commander, Captain Truman, with this engraved silver loving cup as a token of deeply earned respect.



Artifact: Shoes, 1924

Additional info: A pair of Margaret's baby shoes. Found in a box marked "Margaret" in the Truman home.



Artifact: Necklace, 1934

Additional info: Add-A-Pearl necklace. Belated birthday gift from Harry Truman to Margaret. He tells her, "You are getting it for Easter." April 1, 1934.



Artifact: Dress, late 1920s – early 1930s

Additional info: Peach voile dress with white collar trimmed in peach. Removed from box marked "Margaret's clothes, etc."



Artifact: Christening bottle, 1944

Additional info: Custom-made champagne "Christening" bottle cover is hand engraved and silver plated copper. Wood chest designed to hold bottle cover is made of walnut with maple trim. Used by Margaret Truman to christen the battleship U.S.S. Missouri.



Artifact: Baby carriage, 1924

Additional info: Used by Margaret as a baby. None of the wheels on the carriage are steering wheels, they are all stationary.



Artifact: Baby blanket, date unknown

Additional info: Crib blanket for Margaret

Truman



Artifact: Pedal car, ca. 1926

Additional info: This pedal car was placed beneath the Truman's Christmas tree at their home in December 1926 as a gift for Margaret. The pedal car resembles a Packard automobile. It has a wooden frame with iron body, axels, wheels and steering wheel.



Artifact: Tricycle, late 1920s

Additional info: A childhood toy of Margaret's. Manufactured by the Gendron Wheel Co.



Artifact: Silhouette, ca. 1931

Additional info: Silhouette of Margaret Truman, approx. age 7. Silhouette is facing left. Margaret has a pageboy haircut.



Artifact: Dress, 1938

Additional info: White and black striped taffeta dress worn by Margaret Truman singing on a broadcast made of children of members of the U.S. Congress. Margaret received the dress as a Christmas gift in 1938.

SAMPLE BALLOT Special County Bond Election MAY 8, 1928.

PROPOSAL No. 1:

To incur an indebtedness in excess of the income and revenue provided for in one year, and to issue bonds of the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, therefor, in the sum of \$6.500,000.00 ,00 for the purpose of paving, grading, constructing and maintaining paved, graveled, macadamized and rock roads and the necessary bridges and culverts in said County.

FOR......incurring of county indebtedness for road and bridge purposes \$6,500,000.00

ness for road and bridge pur-

(Scratch One of the above)

PROPOSAL No. 2:

To incur an indebtedness in excess of the income and revenue provided for in one year, for the purpose of acquiring real estate for a court house site, and building couipping and furnishing a new and suitable court house and jail building in the City of Kansas City, Missouri, and to issue bonds of said County therefor in the sum of \$5,000,000,000.

PROPOSAL No. 3:

To incur an indebtedness in excess of the income and revenue provided for in one year, for the purpose of building in the City of Independence in said Jackson County, Missouri, oquipping and turnishing a new and suitable court house and jail building, and to issue bonds of said Jackson County therefor in the sum of \$500,000.00.

For incurring indebtedness......YES
For incurring indebtedness......YES

(Seratch One of the above)

PROPOSAL No. 4:

To incur an indebtedness in excess of the income and revenue provided for in one year, for the purpose of erecting, equipping and furnishing on land now owned by Jackson County, Missouri, a county hospital for the poor of Jackson County, Missouri, and to issue bonds of said County therefor in the sum of \$500,000,00.

For incurring debt of \$500,000.00 for county hospital for the poor.

YES

For incurring debt of \$500,000.00 for county hospital for the poor.

(Scratch One of the above)

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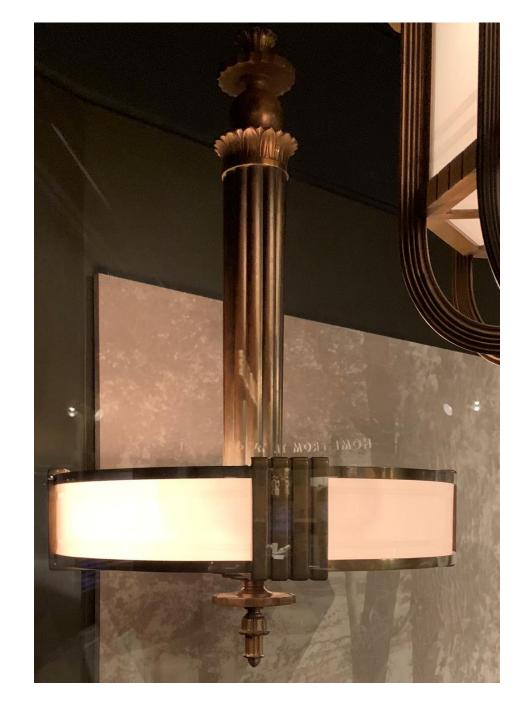
Artifact: Sample ballot, 1928

Additional info: Sample ballot for the Special County Bond Election, May 8, 1928. Ballot is marked against all four proposals: incurring county indebtedness for road/bridge construction; incurring indebtedness for acquiring real estate and building new court house/jail site in Kansas City, Missouri; incurring indebtedness for building a court house and jail building in Independence, Missouri; and for incurring indebtedness for the construction of a poor hospital in Jackson County, Missouri.



Artifact: Road sign, ca. late teens and 1920s

Additional info: Road sign made of cast concrete. This sign is an original example of the road signs that were used as early as 1910-15 in Jackson County, Missouri. The sign came to the library broken. In 1997, it was restored by the Truman Library museum specialist, mounted on a base and painted with the name, "SNI-A-BAR ROAD" because he remembered seeing one of these signs as a child. The name "Sni-a-Bar" refers to a creek that runs through eastern Jackson County. The creek was explored by a frontiersman by the name of Abar who first thought that he had found a slough or "sni."



Artifact: Electric lamp, 1934

Additional info: Bronze and glass ceiling mount light fixture. Removed from Jackson County Courthouse, Kansas City, Missouri.



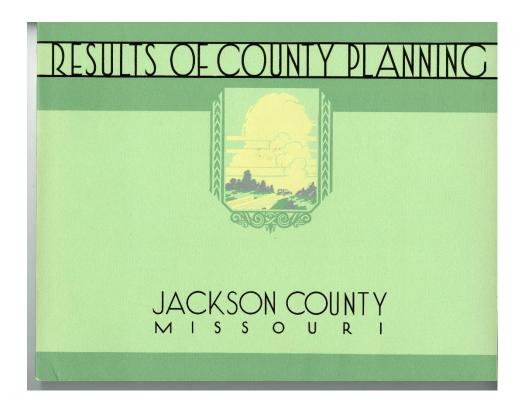
Artifact: Admittance card, 1934

Additional info: Printed in black ink: "ADMIT ONE to DEDICATION CEREMONIES of the JACKSON COUNTY COURT HOUSE at Kansas City, Missouri December 27, 1934 Eleven o'clock a.m.". Printed in red ink: "PLATFORM". Written in pencil on back: "Mrs. H S Truman Claridge Hotel-"



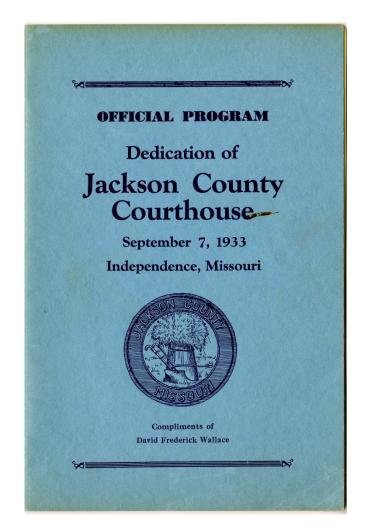
Artifact: Business card, ca. 1926

Additional info: Truman was elected president of the National Old Trails Road Association on July 23, 1926 at its convention at the Hotel Muehlebach in Kansas City. The NOTA was founded to maintain the identity of America's historic trail systems, to correct the haphazard numbering of the nation's highways, and to promote paving of major routes west of Missouri. Established in 1912.



Artifact: Book, 1932

Additional info: Book, "Results of County Planning, Jackson County, Missouri." 122 pages with two foldout maps at back. In July 1963, several hundred copies of these books were found in surplus stock at the Holland Engraving Company. Garratt Holland transferred a few copies to the Jackson County Historical Society and the rest to the Library.



Artifact: Program, 1933

Additional info: Official Program for dedication of Jackson County Courthouse, September 7, 1933, Independence, Missouri.



Artifact: Commemorative Button, 1933

Additional info: Celluloid style button has small lithograph image of the Jackson County Courthouse in 1827 and larger image of the new courthouse dated 1933. Wording in black letters on white background reads: "Jackson County / Court House / Dedication."



Artifact: Badge, 1929

Additional info: Truman was was active in this organization for many years and served as its president in 1926.

Democratic Speaking

19th & Northern Blvd.

Tuesday, July 22 7:30 P. M.

Harry S. Truman, Christian Ott, Col. Ruby Garrett Edward Donohue

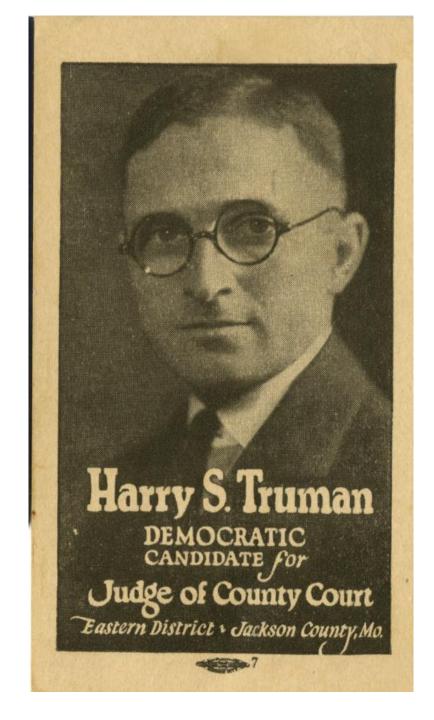
Will Speak.

All Other Candidates Cordially Invited To Speak.

Everyone Cordially Invited.

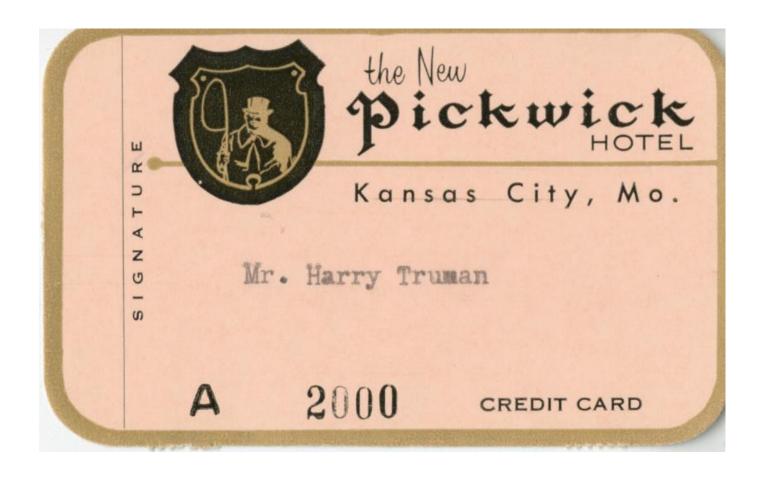
Artifact: Political handbill, 1924

Additional info: This political handbill announces speeches for July 22, 1924. During the week preceding the August 5, 1924 primary election, Judge Truman, Ott (former Mayor of Independence), and Col. Garrett (WWI 42nd Div. vet and American Legion buddy of Truman) appeared at numerous sites around Jackson County making speeches. Although Truman won the Primary Election, he lost in November to the Republican candidate, Henry Rummel (Independence harness maker).



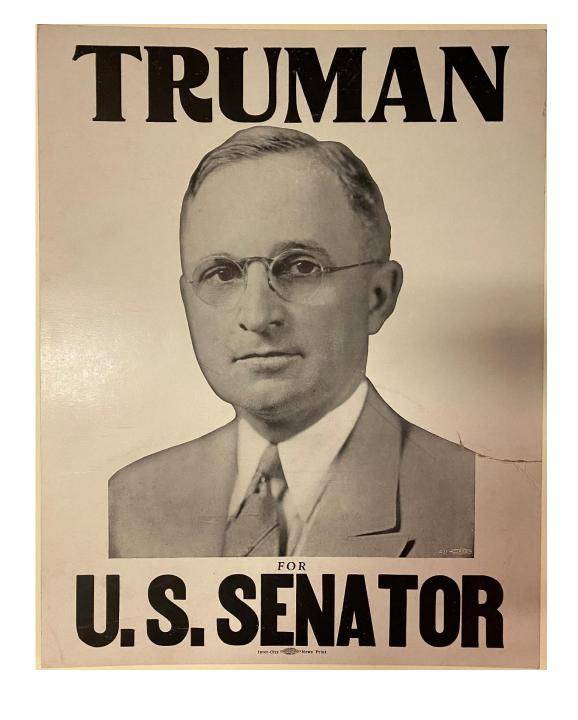
Artifact: Political card, 1922

Additional info: Political advertising card from Harry S. Truman's first political campaign.



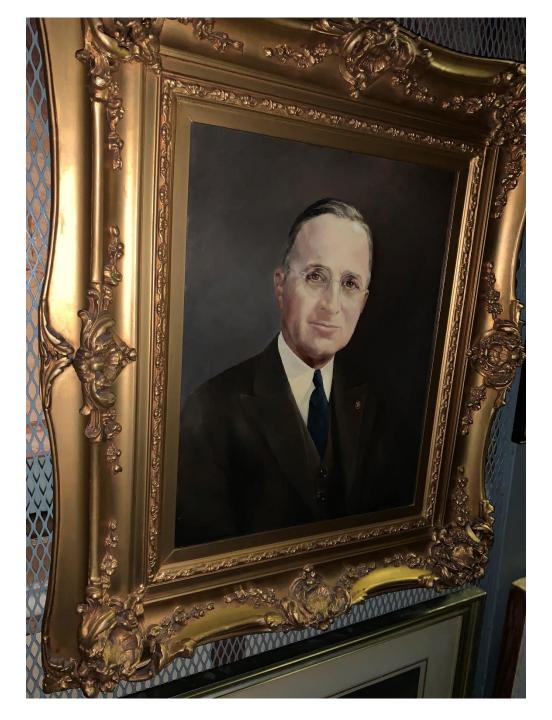
Artifact: Credit card, ca. 1959

Additional info: Credit card for the New Pickwick Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri.



Artifact: Political poster, 1934

Additional info: Poster for Truman's 1934 senate campaign.



Artifact: Portrait, 1935

Additional info: Portrait of Senator Harry S. Truman titled "Gentleman of Missouri" by Edgar C. Faris, Sr., oil on canvas. Signed by artist in lower right corner. Wording in lower left corner reads, "Gentleman of Missouri." Edgar C. Faris studied at the Kansas City Art Institute under John Patrick and established himself as an architect in 1902. By 1904, Farris was appointed City Architect of Kansas City and apparently was involved in the design of the city market and many of the city's fire stations. Between 1908 and 1925, Faris "became especially adept in the design of Mediterranean-influenced structures including business buildings, apartments and residences." Many of these survive in Kansas City to this day. At the same time, Faris also gained "a national reputation as a landscape and portrait painter." From 1935-38, Faris' son, Edgar C."Bud" Faris, Jr., worked as secretary to Senator Harry S. Truman in Washington. In a letter to Bud Faris dated August 17, 1945, President Truman wrote, "We still have that picture he (Edgar C. Faris, Sr.) made of me hanging up in the White House. Mrs. Truman thinks it is very fine."



Artifact: I.D. card, 1936-1944

Additional info: Laminated, rectangular U.S. Senate Spouse photo identification card. Photograph of Mrs. Truman with her signature in ink below the photo.



Artifact: Nameplate, 1935-1944

Additional info: Nameplate used by Senator Harry S. Truman on two office doors in the Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. In 1935, Senator Truman occupied room 248. Sometime in 1936, he moved to more spacious quarters in Room 240. Truman kept this office when he became Vice President in 1945 and did not give it up until he was sworn in as President of the United States.



Additional info: Gavel, 1945

Additional info: This gavel was used by Vice President Truman, January 22, 1945, when he presided over the U.S. Senate for the first time. The gavel is said to be made of maple taken from a tree planted on the U.S. Capitol grounds by George Washington.

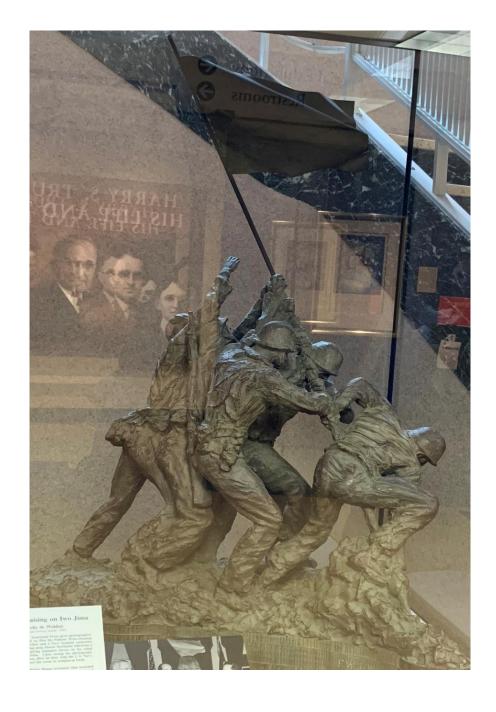


Artifact: Briefcase, ca. 1934

Additional info: Brown alligator leather briefcase.

Stamped in gold on front: "SEN HARRY S.

TRUMAN / WASHIGNTON-DE [sic]."



Artifact: Sculpture, 1945

Additional info: Sculpture, "Flag Raising on Iwo Jima" by Felix de Weldon. Sculpture depicts five Marines on a rocky hill, raising a flag in their grouped hands. Felix de Weldon determined he would create a sculpture depicting the flag raising at Iwo Jima, after seeing the photograph by Associated Press news photographer Joe Rosenthal. On June 4, 1945, de Weldon presented this plaster model of the sculpture to President Truman. De Weldon later created a massive bronze version of the sculpture that was erected at Arlington National Cemetery on November 10, 1954.



Artifact: Hat, 1945

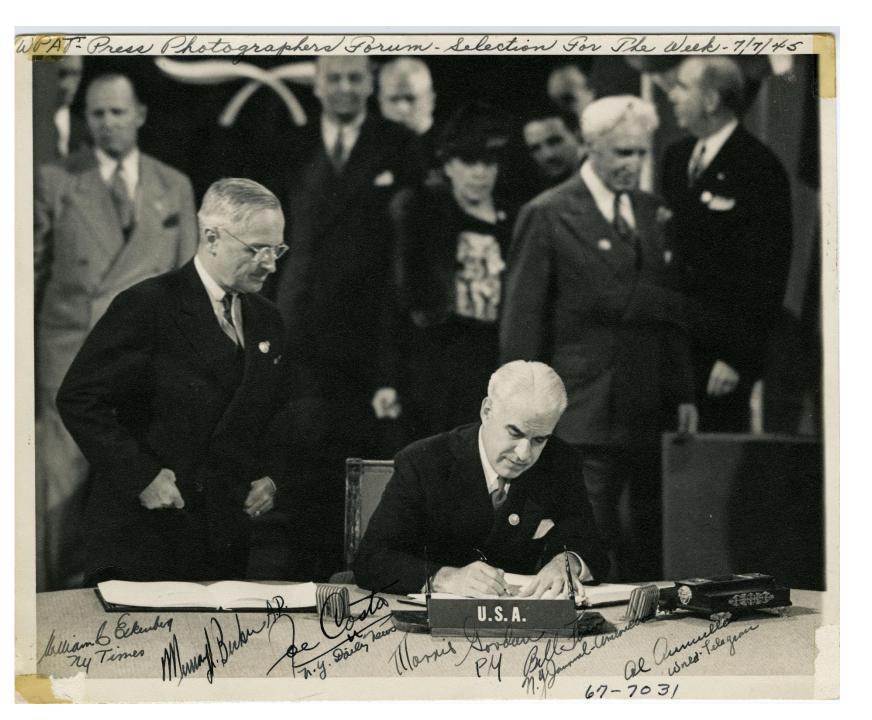
Additional info: Worn by Mrs. Truman April 16, 1945 when Mr. Truman addressed Congress for the first time as President.

Area 4: Atomic Bomb



Artifact: Pen and pencil set, 1949

Additional info: Pen set used by Dwight D. Eisenhower and the surrendering German officials to sign the official surrender of Germany on May 7, 1945.



Artifact: Photographic print, 1945

Additional info: Black and white photograph of signing ceremony at the United Nations Conference on International Organization.

President Truman looks over the shoulder of Edward Stettinius.

Lower edge of photograph signed by six press photographers.



Artifact: Lapel pin, 1945

Additional info: Pin worn by Charles D. Ross, Truman's Press Secretary, at the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco.



Artifact: Lapel pin, 1945

Additional info: This lapel pin was worn by President Harry S. Truman at the United Nations Conference on International Organization, San Francisco.



Artifact: Lapel pin, 1945

Additional info: Pin belonged to Harry S. Truman. These pins were worn by the delegates at the UN conference on International Organization in San Francisco.



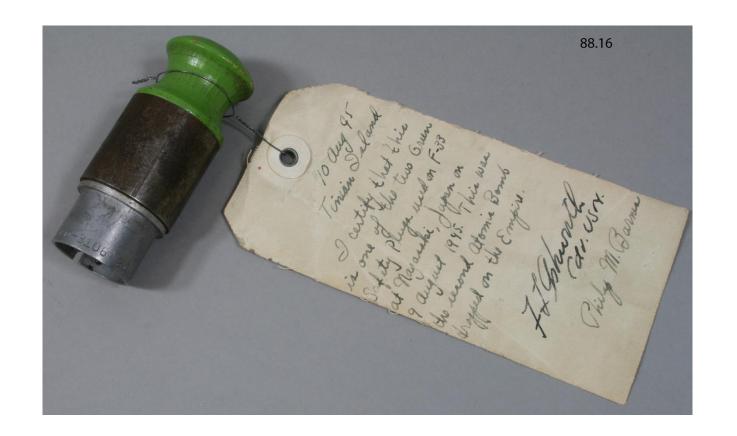
Artifact: Calendar, 1945

Additional info: Pocket calendar piece commemorates the United Nations Peace Conference in San Francisco.



Artifact: Fountain pen, 1945

Additional info: End of pen barrel is engraved, "Harry S. Truman, from his friend, Winston S. Churchill, July, 1945."



Artifact: Ammunition component, 1945

Additional info: Bomb fuse safety plug from "Fat Man," the plutonium bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, on August 9, 1945. The plug helped guard against premature detonation of the atomic bomb. The green plug was removed from the bomb and replaced with a red activating plug after "Bock's Car," the B-29 which carried the bomb, took off on its mission from Tinian. The handwritten tag was signed by the plane's bomb commander and electronics test officer and attached upon completion of the mission.



Artifact: Origami, 1955

Additional info: Origami Crane. The crane is made from folded clear cellophane. The crane was folded by Sadako Sasaki, a victim of radiation exposure from the Hiroshima bombing.

Area 5: Postwar World



Artifact: Helmet, 490-479 BCE

Additional info: Greek "Corinthian" helmets, first developed in the 8th century BC, were in common use during the Medic (Persian) Wars, 490-479 BC. Each helmet was custom made for the man who wore it. The helmet was very strong but had serious drawbacks. Small eye openings seriously impaired the wearer's vision and, because the shape of the helmet covered the ears, the wearer was practically deaf. The cheek pieces of the "Corinthian" helmet were flexible so that the helmet could be pulled down over the head and still fit closely to the face. This also allowed the helmet to be pushed back on top of the head (where the grip of the cheek pieces held it in place), leaving the face and ears free when the soldier was not fighting. This was a common position in Greek art as it allowed the viewer to see the face. This helmet was presented to U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk on behalf of former President Harry S. Truman on March 30, 1967 by the Greek Ambassador to the U.S., Alexander Matsas. The presentation took place at the State Department in Washington, D.C. on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Truman Doctrine after which, the helmet was shipped to the Harry S. Truman Library.



Artifact: Urn, 1946

Additional info: This urn was filled with soil from the site of the commemorative plaque (later the Mardasson Monument) in Bastogne, Belgium on July 6, 1946. It was hand carried by American and Belgian soldiers to Melsbroeck airfield, Brussels for air transport to the United States, arriving with military honors at Washington National Airport on July 8, 1946. President Truman received the urn in a ceremony held at the White House on July 10, 1946. The Belgian delegation was headed by Baron Silvercruys, Belgian Ambassador to the United States.



Artifact: Sword, pre-1945

Additional info: At one time, this sword belonged to Lieutenant General Shojiro Iida, Commanding General of the Japanese Fifteenth Army in Burma. General Iida left Burma in April 1943 to serve as commander of the Central District Army prior to his retirement in December 1944. Aung San was the leader of the Burma Independence Army/Burma National Army. As such, he acted as a fifth columnist and assisted the Japanese invasion of Burma in 1942. In March 1943, Aung San was promoted by the Japanese to the rank of Major General. Prior to his departure from Burma, General Iida may have given the sword to Aung San. By the end of the war Aung San was doing his best to divest himself of Japanese ties, help the Allies, and avoid prosecution. Since he had a Japanese sword as a symbol of rank, it's possible he presented it as a gift to President Truman to curry favor.



Artifact: Vase, ca. 1146

History: This vase was discovered in 1912 inside the royal tomb of the consort of King Injong (1123-1146 A.D). The tomb was about 32 miles from the capitol city of Seoul in Chang Dan county, Kyungki province, Korea. Likely used as a flower vase in the palace when official ceremonies were held. The vase was presented to President Truman as a gift to the people of the United States from the people of Korea. From 1953 until the early 1980s, the vase lay undisturbed in a cardboard box marked "Brown Vase" in the Truman attic at 219 Delaware. Sometime between June 1981 and May 1983, the box was moved to the Truman Library by staff members. When the vase was cataloged in 1992, staffers recognized it as being the lost Korean "National Treasure" celadon vase.

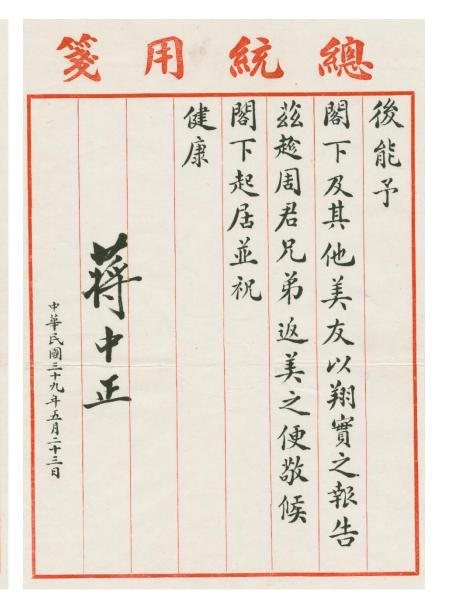


Artifact: Sculpture, 1945

Additional info: This bottle was a gift from Dr. H H Kung (1880-1967), one time Premier (1939-45) and Finance Minister (1933-45) of China, and also brother to Chiang Kai-shek. The gift is presumed to have been made in 1945 and was accompanied by a gift of tea. HST, in a thank you letter dated May 16 1945, noted that he kept it on his mantle in the White House.

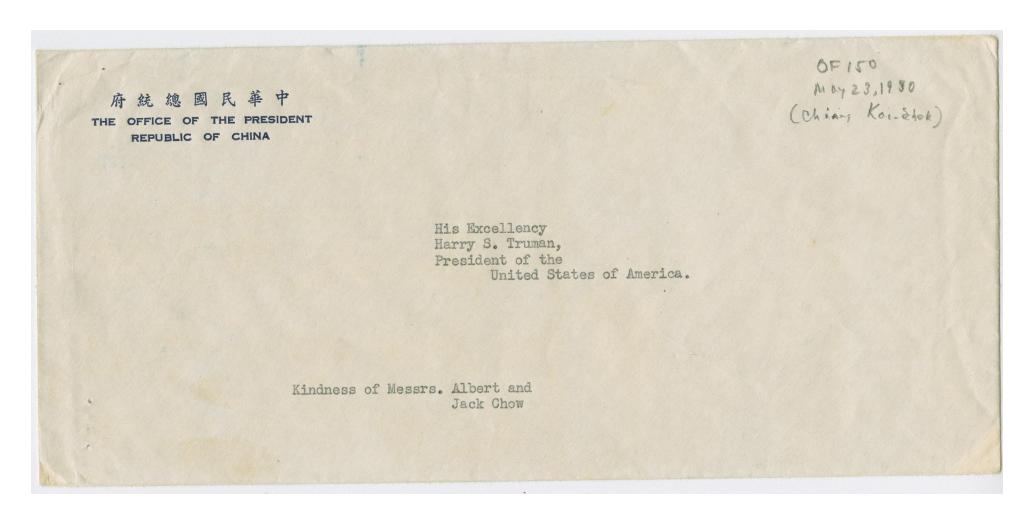
笺 用 統 總

閣 閣 其盡情 臺 同志 者周 統 問 為 閣 君 被等均盛道 朝與其弟 情 回 植



Artifact: Letter, 1950

Additional info: Two page letter on white rice paper written in Chinese with red and black ink in eight vertical columns. Letter is from President Chiang Kai-shek of Republic of China.



Artifact: Envelope, 1950

Additional info: Envelope for two page letter from Chiang Kai-shek. Envelope addressed to Truman specifically.

Area 6: Israel



Artifact: Torah pointer, 1948

Additional info: Dr. Chaim Weizmann presented this Torah pointer along with the Torah Scroll to President Truman in the Rose Garden of the White House on May 25, 1948.



Artifact: Torah scroll, 1948

Additional info: Dr. Chaim Weizmann presented the Torah Scroll and Torah pointer to President Truman in the Rose Garden of the White House on May 25, 1948.



Artifact: Torah case, 1949

Additional info: The Torah Ark was presented to the President by Eliahu Elath on behalf of Dr. Weizmann, on October 26, 1949 to President Truman. The ark is topped with a large, silver crown fashioned from Hebrew letters. These letters are a quote from Exodus 3:2. The exterior of the case is encircled with Hebrew letters and form a quote from Psalm 19:7-9.



Artifact: Bust, 1953

Additional info: Bronze bust of Chaim Wiezmann depicts subject from the neck up. There are Hebrew letters on the bottom front of the bust. It was presented to Harry S. Truman, December 3, 1953 at the Decennial Dinner of the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science.



Artifact: Commemorative cup, ca. 1964

Additional info: Engraving on cup reads: "Presented to President Harry S. Truman 'Who has filled the cup of life for so many. By The Israel Torah Research Institute Jerusalem, Israel. Upon the Visit of Rabbi Issar Yehudah Unterman Chief Rabbi of the State of Israel to Harry S. Truman/July 6, 1964."



Artifact: Menorah, 1767

Additional info: Chanukah Menorah, known as the "Buergel Menorah," is made of copper and executed in the style of 18th Century rococo. This oil-burning Menorah has eight arms, a "Shamash" (servant) in the center, and is crowned by the double-headed eagle of the old German Reich. The square base is inscribed in Hebrew, "This Menorah was given to the Synagogue by the esteemed and wealthy Leiser Wimpfe and his wife Breinle in 1767. They shall live for the glory of God." David Ben Gurion presented this Chanukah Menorah to President Truman at the Blair House, May 8, 1951.



Artifact: Vases, 1800 B.C.E. – 100 A.D.

Additional info: Given to HST in Chicago on December 10, 1960.



Artifact: Standard, 1953 - 1962

Additional info: Israeli ceremonial standard presented to organizations, municipalities and villages considered to be veterans of the 1948-49 War of Independence.

Area 7: Campaign / Civil Rights



Artifact: Painting, 1948

Additional info: "Family Squabble" by
Norman Rockwell, oil on canvas. Painting
depicts a husband and wife arguing about the
candidates of the 1948 Presidential election.
The husband is pointing at a picture of Dewey
while the wife has a sullen expression holding
an image of Truman. A small child and dog
are on the ground in the foreground.



Our President knows war because he served in war.

That's why he and he alone of the present candidates for the highest office in the land speaks the language of you war veterans . . . the language of courage and strength and unity in the present mighty battle to preserve both You don't see World War II Veterans selling apples on our own American freedom and the peace of the world. street corners.

G.L. can understand.

that the veterans of World War II . . . unlike their fathers faced the farmer veterans of World War I.

No veterans of any war in our history have received such hind the veteranintelligent and thoughtful and understanding treatment. In fact, when thirteen million service men and women It is Harry Truman who above all others has consistheaded for home at the close of World War II, they found ently advocated decent housing for veterans. It was Harry waiting for them the G.I. Bill of Rights: loans to help build a home . . . buy a farm . . . get an education . . . start Congress pass the Taft-Ellender-Wagner Housing Bill . . . a business . . . the Veterans' Administration reorganized and placed in the hands of the G.I.'s General - Omar Bradley ... terminal leave pay paid promptly. They didn't All this you should Remember in November ... on Election Day.

promise to make it good in some distant future. They got

You don't see any bonus marchers during the Truman

That's why he forswears platitudes and doubletalk. That's The World War II Vet, returning to his farm did not why he speaks simple, honest facts . . . the kind of facts a come back to 16¢ wheat. Nor has he been forced to stand helplessly by while his farm is sold for taxes because mil-That's why he has battled and battled successfully to see the food the farmer grows . . . the terrible condition which

Yes, the Vet in the White House has stood foursquare be

the United States Congress "walked away from the bill."

get any vague promises . . . or any certificates with a Then . . . go to the polls, vets, and vote your

NOBODY WANTS WAR

KEEP THE VET IN THE WHITE HOUSE

VOTE for TRUMAN-BARKLEY

AND THE DEMOCRATIC TICKET

Artifact: Political poster, 1948

Additional info: Political poster from Truman's 1948 campaign detailing why having a veteran as president is prudent for the country.



Additional info: Key to the city of Grand Rapids. Reverse of key has engraved text, "HARRY S.
TRUMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES/ SEPT. 6, 1948."



Additional info: On Monday, October 18, 1948, President Truman attended the 30th Annual Convention of the American Legion held in Miami, Florida. He delivered a major address to the Legion at Dinner Key. Presumably, the President was accompanied by Mrs. Truman and Margaret Truman. On October 20, 1948, Miss Truman wrote a thank you note to Mayor Marcie Liberman acknowledging the gifts.



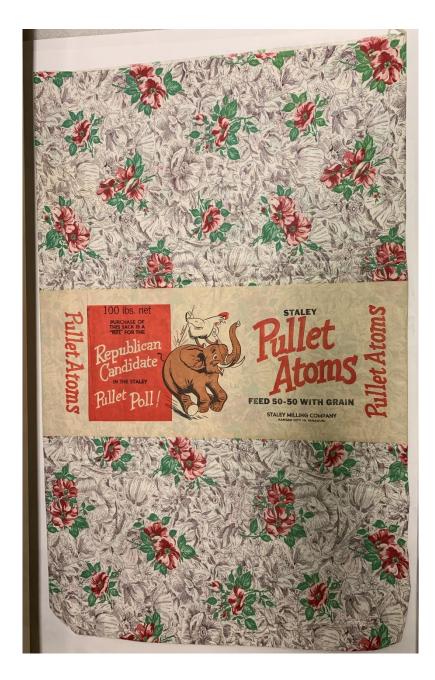
Additional info: Key to the city of Spokane. Large skeleton key made of aluminum has the letter "S" stamped out of the key mechanism end. The shaft is engraved, "To Harry S. Truman/ From the City of Spokane/ June 9, 1948."

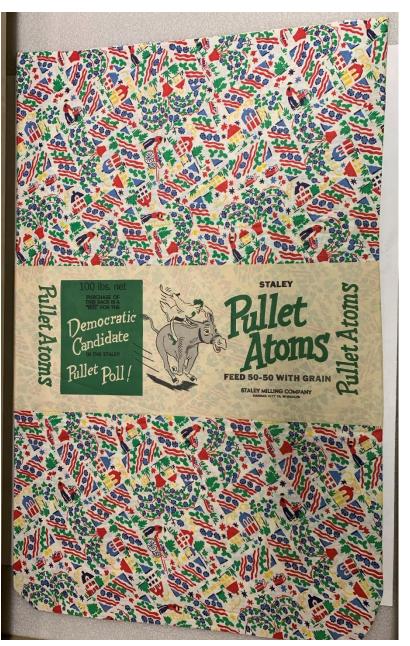


Additional info: Key to the city of Bolivar. Gold colored metal skeleton key is engraved, "Hon. Harry S. Truman/President of the United States/City of Bolivar, Missouri/1948."



Additional info: An engraved plate on key reads, "TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN/ KEY TO MINOT, N.D."





Artifact: Feed bags, 1948

Additional info: During the 1948
Presidential campaign, the Staley
Milling Company of Kansas City
offered buyers of chicken feed a
choice of Democrat or Republican
bags. The poll was showing a 54 to
46 percent preference for President
Truman when it was discontinued
about ten days before the election as
being too improbable.

IF YOU STAY HOME on Nov. 2 You **//////** be voting

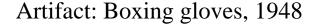
FOR Higher prices
Tougher anti-labor laws
Housing Shortages
Boom, Bust and Breadlines

140 - P.E.V.

Artifact: Political poster, 1948

Additional info: 1948 Democratic campaign poster encouraging people to get out and vote or accept the opposition's policies.





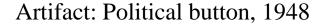
Additional info: Presented to President Truman during his whistlestop in Seattle, Washington, June 10, 1948.



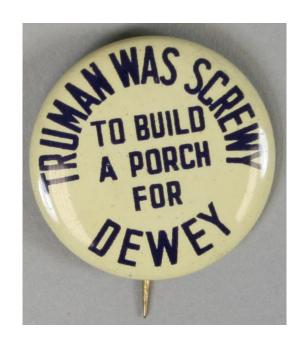
Artifact: Political button, 1948

Additional info: This button advertised the famous chicken feed poll conducted by the Staley Milling Co. of Kansas City, Missouri during the 1948 Presidential campaign. Purchasers of feed indicated their favorite candidate by selecting bags with elephant or donkey labels. According to a November 15, 1948 article in Newsweek, when the poll "revealed a 54-46 preference for Truman it was discontinued as too improbable."



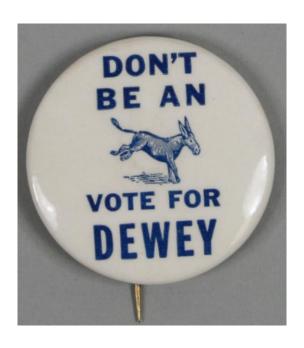


Additional info: Harry S. Truman and Alben Barkley were the presidential and vice-presidential nominees, respectively, of the Democratic Party in 1948. This button also identifies Truman as the incumbent candidate.



Artifact: Political button, 1948

Additional info: "Truman Was Screwy To Build A Porch For Dewey," ranks as one of the most memorable buttons. It refers to renovations Truman made to the White House, specifically the second-story balcony at the south portico

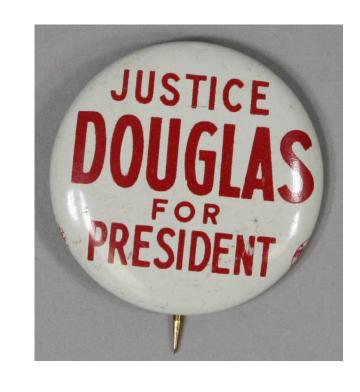


Artifact: Political button, 1948

Additional info: Thomas E. Dewey was the presidential nominee of the Republican Party in 1948.







Artifact: Political button, 1948

Additional info: Harry S. Truman was the presidential nominee of the Democratic Party in 1948.

Artifact: Political button, 1948

Additional info: Button is printed to look like a orange, with a small green star "stem" in the upper right quadrant. Earl Warren, the Republican governor of California was the Republican Vice Presidential nominee for Dewey.

Artifact: Political button, 1948

Additional info: William O. Douglas was a supreme court justice nominated by Roosevelt. He sought the democratic vice-presidential nomination in 1944 and then ran against Truman for president in 1948.





Additional info: Truman was the 1948 Democratic Presidential and incumbent candidate. Part of his platform focused on Civil Rights because of his decision to desegregate the military.



Artifact: Political button, 1948

Additional info: Henry Wallace was the Progressive Party candidate for President in 1948.



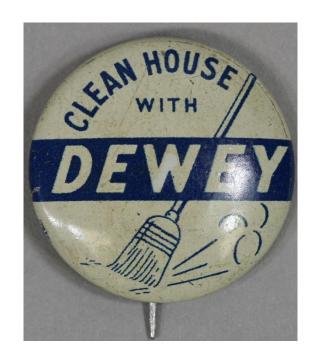
Artifact: Political button, 1948

Additional info: Eddie Jacobson was a Kansas City businessman, U.S. Army associate, business partner, and longtime, close friend of Truman. Jacobson helped advance creation of a Jewish homeland in Palestine, one of Truman's most famous decision.



Artifact: Political button, 1948

Additional info: Thomas E. Dewey was the presidential nominee of the Republican Party in 1948.



Artifact: Political button, 1948

Additional info: Thomas E. Dewey was the presidential nominee of the Republican Party in 1948.



Artifact: Top hat, 1949

Additional info: Worn by Mr. Truman for

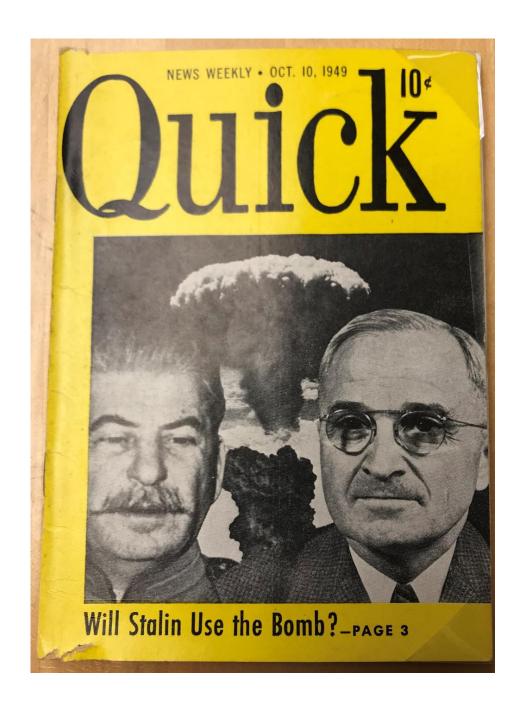
his inauguration January 20, 1949.



Artifact: Microphone, 1948

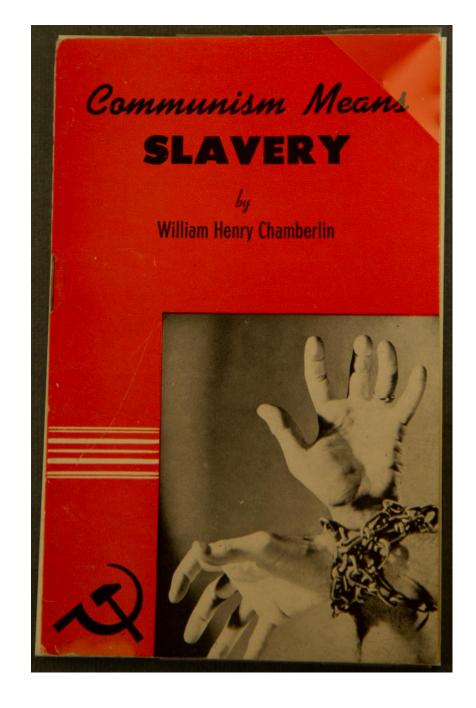
Additional info: Plaque reads: "TO HON. HARRY S TRUMAN. EARLY ON NOVEMBER 3, 1948 OVER THIS MICROPHONE. H V KALTENBORN BROADCAST TO THE NATION THAT HARRY S TRUMAN HAD LOST THE ELECTION. PRESENTED BY H V KALTENBORN AND RADIO AND TELEVISION EXECUTIVES SOCIETY NEW YORK CITY JANUARY 11, 1954".

Area 8: Korea



Artifact: Magazine, 1949

Additional info: News Weekly Magazine titled, "QUICK." Published Oct. 10, 1949 with article speculating if Stalin will use an atomic bomb. These publications were part of a larger propaganda goal called the Red Scare – the fear of the spread of communism and degradation of democracy in the free world.



Artifact: Booklet, 1947

Additional info: This booklet was no. 5 in a series on Communism and its potential impact on American society. These publications were part of a larger propaganda goal called the Red Scare – the fear of the spread of communism and degradation of democracy in the free world.



Artifact: Game, 1945

Additional info: Dark blue cardboard box has octagonal glass opening in top revealing black and white graphics of "Atomic Bomb" dropping on Japan. Japanese islands are surrounded by a flash and three cities are named, i.e. Tokyo, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki. The object of the game is to get a plastic capsule containing a small steel ball bearing (Simulating Atom Bomb) into the holes cut for Hiroshima and Nagasaki.



Artifact: Typewriter, 1941

Additional info: Vernice Anderson served as a Personal Assistant to U.S. Ambassador-at-Large Philip Jessup, and traveled to Wake Island with President Truman and his staff to meet with General Douglas MacArthur. Ms. Anderson used this typewriter to type the communique of the meeting, along with her and Ambassador Jessup's records of the meeting. Anderson faced severe backlash when Truman made the decision to fire MacArthur because she documented, supposedly unbeknownst to MacArthur, their closed-door conversation at Wake Island on this typewriter. Many American citizens, journalists, and MacArthur supports accused Anderson of dishonoring her country, her government, and of being a "commie." Eventually, the hate mail became so troubling that the FBI opened an investigation into Anderson's personal safety.



NURSERY RD CONN MR. TRUMAN AS YOU HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LOSS OF OUR SON'S LIFE IN MOREH, YOU MIGHT JUST AS WELL MEEP THIS EMBLEM ON DISPLAY IN YOUR TROPHY ROOM, AS A MEMORY OF ONE OF YOUR HISTORIC DEEDS. OUR MAJOR REGRET AT THIS TIME IS THAT YOUR DAUGHTER WAS NOT THERE TO RECEIVE THE SAME TREATMENT AS OUR SON RECEIVED IN KOREA. SINGED William Banning

Artifact: Medal, 1953

Additional info: PFC George C. Banning, Co.B, 5th Infantry Regt., 5th Regimental Combat Team, was killed in action near Sagimak, Korea, May 11, 1953. This cased Purple Heart medal, ribbon bar, lapel pin and "Gold Star" pin and button were mailed to former-President Truman by the deceased soldier's father, William Banning. A handwritten letter written by Mr. Banning accompanied the medal. Truman kept the medal and letter in a drawer in his desk that museum staff found when processing the contents of Truman's desk after his passing.

Area 8, Case 27



Artifact: Arctic outer shell for sleeping bag, date unknown

Additional info: Olive drab arctic outer shell for a sleeping bag with instructions on proper usage and care. Winter temperatures in Korea often plunged 30 below zero and brought frigid winds. Soldiers could freeze to death without proper gear.



Artifact: Uniform and helmet, date unknown.

Additional info: Standard issue Army fatigues that belonged to George Lee Parks. Interestingly, a small can opener is pinned to the left breast pocket. Soldiers often did this to ensure they always had a can opener during meal times.



Artifact: Coat/parka shell, date unknown

Additional info: Olive drab winter coat/parka shell with a fur trimmed hood. Winter temperatures in Korea often plunged 30 below zero and brought frigid winds. Soldiers could freeze to death without proper gear.



Artifact: Entrenching tool, date unknown

Additional info: Soldiers used entrenching tools to dig holes/trenches, as picks, and sometimes as weapons.



Artifact: Messkit, date unknown

Additional info: Standard issue mess kit with full silverware set.



Artifact: Canteen, date unknown

Additional info: U.S. standard issue metal canteen with canvas case.



Artifact, AN/PRC-6 Walkie-Talkie, date unknown

Additional info: The AN/PRC-6 walkie-talkie, or field telephone, had a 300-yard range in dense forest and jungle settings or one mile in open terrain. Despite their size and average weight of 9 pounds, soldiers could easily conceal the olive-drab walkie-talkies, making them invaluable communication devices in the field or in combat.



Artifact: Identification Tag, ca. 1950

Additional info: Kozlowski sacrificed his life to reestablish communication lines when the fort he was stationed at came under heavy enemy fire. He was awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his valiant efforts.



Artifact: Bible, date unknown

Additional info: Soldiers could buy these bullet-proof bibles to place in their breast pockets over their hearts as a way to prevent death if they were shot near their heart. They were also viewed as physical symbols of encouragement.



Artifact: Medal, 1951

Additional info: Stephen Kozlowski was awarded this Bronze medal in April of 1951 for his "heroic achievement" in Korea. When the battalion post he was stationed at came under intense enemy fire, Kozlowski moved essential communication lines to a previously agreed upon location despite endangering his person and becoming mortally wounded by enemy mortar fire. Kozlowski's sacrifice made it possible to re-establish vital communications that aided his unit in completing their mission.



Artifact: Medal, 1951

Additional info: In a letter to Mrs. Kay Kozlowski dated April 4, 1951, Stephen's mother, Frank Pace Jr. the Secretary of the Army expressed his condolences for the loss of Stephen and informed Mrs. Kozlowski that her son would be awarded the Purple Heart medal posthumously for his efforts and sacrifice in Korea.



Artifact: Medal, 1952

Additional info: This original medal, for actions on February 12, 1951, was presented at the Pentagon, January 15, 1952 to Mrs. Evelyn H. Long, widow of Sgt. Charles R. Long.



Artifact: Stretcher, date unknown

Additional info: Stretchers like this one allowed soldiers and medical personnel to carry injured soldiers off the field and transport them via truck, helicopter, or foot to the nearest mobile army surgical hospital.



Artifact: Surgical lamp, date unknown

Additional info: Portable, surgical lamp that extends upwards from carrying case. Lamp used in the Mobile Army Surgical Units.



Artifact: Triage mat, date unknown

Additional info: Triage mats with bright orange vinyl side used to identify soldiers with medical emergencies out in the field. These mats could be spotted from above in a helicopter. Directions on proper use printed on olive drab canvas side.



Artifact: Red Cross uniform, date unknown

Additional info: Standard issue Red Cross nurse uniform with Red Cross pin that reads "American Red Cross Volunteer." Pin located just above breast pocket.



Artifact: Medical kit, date unknown

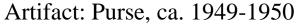
Additional info: Medical kits like this one outfitted Airmen with immediate triage supplies, such as field dressings, safety pins, water purification tablets, razors, and tubes of petroleum jelly used for topical injuries. This particular kit still contains the original materials checklist. Triage care in the Korean War drastically improved from previous conflicts due to innovative medical technology, new antibiotics, the Mobile Army Surgical Unit (MASH), and helicopter medevacs.



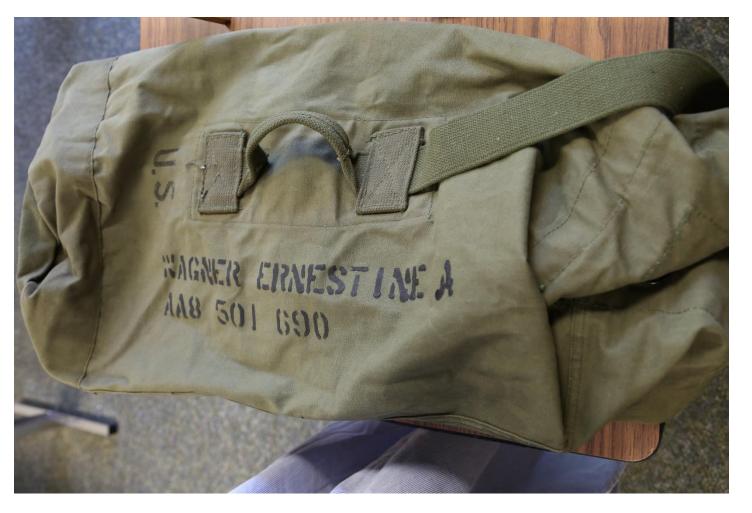
Artifact: WAF uniform, ca. 1949-1950

Additional info: This Women's Air Force (WAF) issued seer-sucker, summer uniform belonged to Ernestine "Ernie" Ann Wagner- Soehrmann who served as a radio technician during the Korean War. Wagner joined the WAF in November 1949, just one year after President Truman signed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act in 1948, officially accepting women as a permanent part of all four branches of the military. Wagner served at O'Hare Field in Illinois and Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina. The buttons on the uniform bear the seal of USAF.





Additional info: Purse issued to Ernie Wagner. Notice the clasp on the front of the purse which bears the USAF seal.



Artifact: Duffle bag, ca. 1949-1950

Additional info: Standard issue duffle bag that belonged to Ernie Wagner



Artifact: Spear, ca. 1952

Additional info: Frank Pace, Secretary of the Army, was unable to confirm the history of the piece but it is believed that it is a weapon that was presented to him while Secretary of the Army and that it is one of 3,000 similar spears captured following the riot by North Korean prisoners of war at Compound 76, Koje-do, June 10, 1952. A researcher, Kevin L. Jamison, reports that although many of the spears had tent pole shafts, there were many saplings on the Koje-do island and it is likely this weapon was used in the June 10th incident.



Artifact: Uniform, date unknown

Additional info: Standard issue UN POW uniform that belonged to a Korean POW.



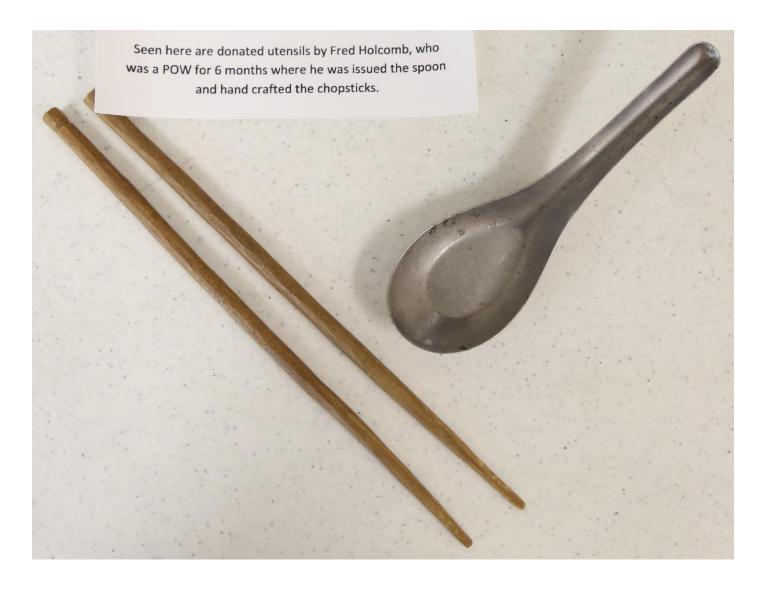
Artifact: Rocking chair, date unknown

Additional info: Miniature rocking chair crafted by POWs out of a can.



Artifact: Jeep, date unknown

Additional info: Handmade by Chinese prisoners-of war held captive on the island of Cheju-do, this intricately made jeep contains fascinating details, such as tire tread, gas and brake pedals, and a speedometer needle. The Chinese POWs presented this jeep to Dr. Godfrey Kampner, an Obstetrician and Gynecologist drafted into service during the Korean War.



Artifacts: Chopsticks and spoon, date unknown

Additional info: Handcrafted chopsticks and spoon issued to Fred Holcomb when he was imprisoned as a POW for 6 months.



Artifact: Pin, 1952

Additional info: Pin from in the "Inter-Camp Olympics" which was an event orchestrated by North Korean prisoner camps in 1952 to publicize the camps as peaceful, recreational spaces where the prisoners received fair treatment.



Artifact: Handkerchief, ca. 1950

Additional info: Bears the names of dozens of American prisoners-of-war detained in the POW Camp 4 located in the Chagang Province of North Korea. Sergeant Archie Edwards, the donor, wrote his information on the lower-left corner of the cloth, and encouraged his fellow POWs to do the same.



Artifact: Automatic pistol, 1941

Additional info: Luger P-08 automatic pistol used in the assassination attempt on President Truman on Nov. 1, 1950. The assassination attempt was carried out by militant Puerto Rican pro-independence activists Oscar Collazo (who carried this pistol) and Griselio Torresola. Collazo and Torresola attacked at Blair House where the Truman family was living during the White House Renovation. Both men were stopped before gaining entry into the house, however.

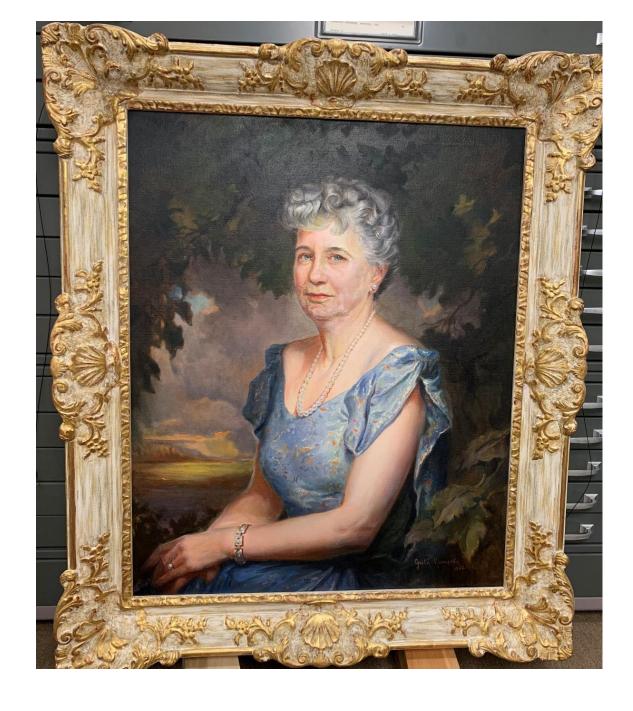


Artifact: Automatic pistol, 1939

Additional info: Walther P-38 automatic pistol carried by Griselio Torresola during the assassination attempt, November 1, 1950. This firearm was used by Torresola to wound White House Police Private Leslie Coffelt. Coffelt was able to shoot and kill Torresola in the ensuing gun battle, but succumbed to his wounds.

Area 9: NO ARTIFACTS

Area 10: White House



Artifact: Portrait, 1968

Additional info: This portrait is a copy of the original 1952 painting that hangs in the Truman Home, Independence, Missouri. In 1967, Kempton painted a copy of the painting for the White House. At that time, arrangements were made with the artist for her to paint this second copy. The painting was displayed at the Truman Library for the first time on April 6, 1968.



Artifact: Portrait, 1949

Additional info: Painting originally commissioned by Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder and given to the Flynn Park School (elementary) of University City, Missouri by the class of 1949. President Truman posed for the artist during May 1949. This is the third of five portraits painted of the President by Greta Kempton. In 1992, purchase price for acquisition of the painting was donated by the late Mrs. Jack "Kit" Rader with the assistance of her neice, Mrs. Sue Barr of Sedalia Missouri.



Artifact: Photographic print, ca. 1948

Additional info: Framed photographic print of Margaret Truman, circa 1948, by Hessler Studio, Washington, D.C. Margaret Truman poses leaning on a grand piano.



Artifact: Evening gown, 1951

Additional info: Worn by Mrs.
Truman to a reception for Prince
Phillip and Princess Elizabeth.
Bess later wore this gown for her
official White House portrait by
Greta Kempton, which hangs
above. Gown made by Madame
Agasta, a trusted designer and
seamstress who Bess relied on
heavily during her time in
Washington.



Artifact: Suit, 1946

Additional info: Worn by Mrs. Truman on the Train from Independence, MO to Washington, D.C. in Nov. 1946 and to various functions and events through 1952. Suit made by Madame Agasta.



Artifact: Purse, 1951

Additional info: Mrs. Truman paired this purse with the blue silk gown she wore to the reception for Prince Phillip and Princess Elizabeth, 1951.



Artifact: Piano, 1945

Additional info: On November 13, 1945, President Truman was presented with a membership card and this piano by the National Press Club at a dinner attended by over 900 people. Mr. Truman kept this piano in his conference room at the Truman Library.



Artifact: Painting, late 19th century

Additional info: "The Beach at Schevenigen" by Hendrik Willem Mesdag was presented to President Truman in the Oval Office of the White House on July 26, 1946. The painting was a gift to the American people for all they had done for the people of Holland during and after the war.



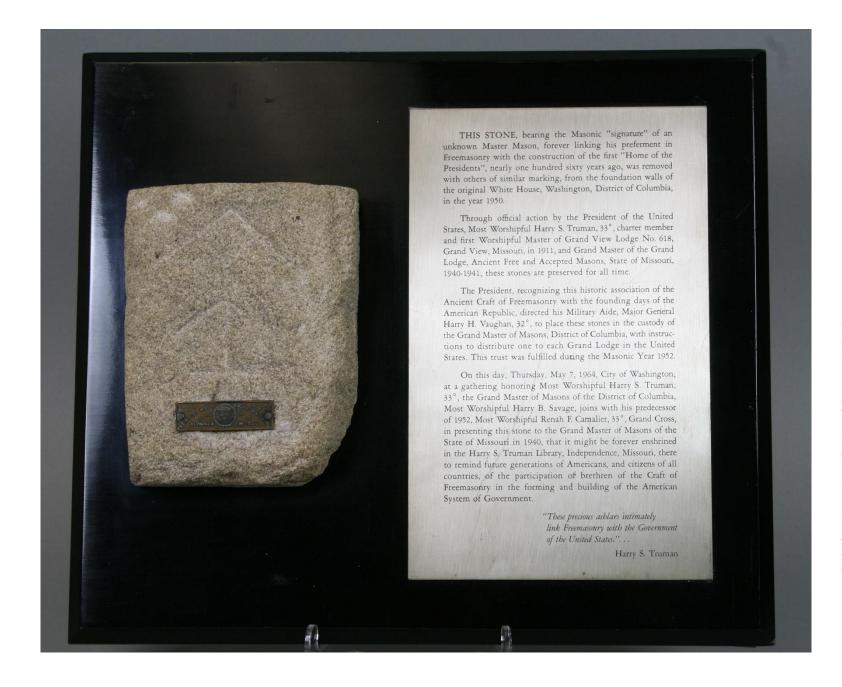
Artifact: Key chain, 1952

Additional info: An engraved metal plate attached to the inside of the case lid has text, "TO/ HARRY S. TRUMAN/ PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/ THIS KEY TO THE WHITE HOUSE IS PRESENTED BY/THE YALE & TOWNE MANUFACTURING COMPANY/ IN A FREE SOCIETY, THE KEY TO A MAN'S HOUSE SYMBOLIZES HIS/AND HIS FAMILY'S RIGHTS TO THOSE PRIVACIES AND FREEDOMS/ WHICH ARE THE HEART AND SINEWS OF THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE/ THIS KEY AND THE LOCKS IT OPERATES ARE PRODUCTS OF THE/ SKILLS AND INGENUITY OF AMERICAN MEN AND WOMEN LIVING/ AND WORKING SAFE IN THEIR LIBERTIES./ WITH GOD'S HELP, MAY IT EVER BE SO!/ April 23, 1952."



Artifact: Brick, 1951

Additional info: This brick was part of the "Class III" material removed from the White House during renovation work, 1949-51. Orders for souvenir material were taken by the Commission on Renovation of the Executive Mansion, January 15 through October 31, 1951. 22,055 acceptable orders were received. Souvenir "kits" were packed and shipped from a small office at Fort Myer, Virginia. There were a total of 4,520 single bricks (Kit No.10) shipped.



Additional info: Commemorative plaque, 1950

Additional info: Stone was removed from the foundation walls of the original White House during the renovation in 1950. Stone has chiseled Masonic marks on front. There is a silver plate located beside the stone attached to the black base with engraved text that gives the history of the stone and of Mr. Truman's Masonic connection.



Artifact: Mantle and fireset, 1902

Additional info: This mantel was originally installed in the State Dining Room of the White House in 1902 by President Theodore Roosevelt. It was removed during the 1949-52 renovation and shipped to Kansas City for eventual display at the Library.



Artifact: Wall covering, 1951

Additional info: When installed at the White House, this red silk wall covering was stretched over a linen base and a pad of cotton batting. This piece was probably cut out of a door or window opening during installation.



Artifact: Wall covering, 1951

Additional info: When installed at the White House, this blue silk wall covering was stretched over a linen base and a pad of cotton batting. This piece was probably cut out of a door or window opening during installation.



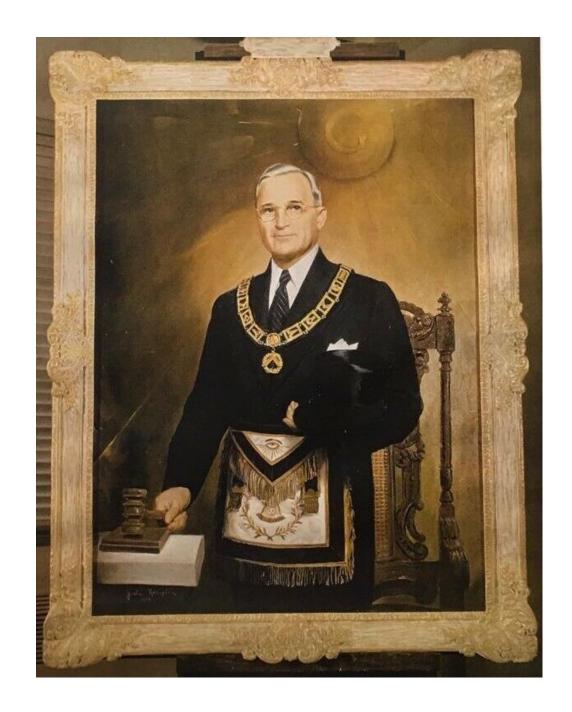
Artifact: Wall covering, 1951

Additional info: When installed at the White House, this blue silk wall covering was stretched over a linen base and a pad of cotton batting. This piece was probably cut out of a door or window opening during installation.



Artifact: Tableware set, 1951

From 1945 until 1951, President and Mrs. Truman used the White House china originally purchased by Franklin D. Roosevelt. In 1951, the Trumans selected a new set of china which would be more appropriate in the newly decorated state dining room. At that time, the carved natural oak paneling put in the dining room during the Theodore Roosevelt Administration was painted a soft celadon green, popularly called "Williamsburg green. The new china was banded with the same shade of green. The Truman china featured the Coat of Arms of the President of the United States which had been standardized by Executive Order on October 25, 1945. Beginning with the Woodrow Wilson Administration, the eagle faced its own left. To conform to heraldic custom, the eagle was changed to face its own right, the direction of honor. On the newly designed seal, the eagle also faced the olive branches of peace instead of the arrows of war. The porcelain china displayed here was used for the first time on April 3, 1952 at a luncheon honoring Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands. It was manufactured by Lenox, Inc. of Trenton, New Jersey and is part of the original 1,572-piece set costing \$28,271.40. The Truman state dinner service actually used in the White House was purchased from B. Altman and Company, New York, New York.



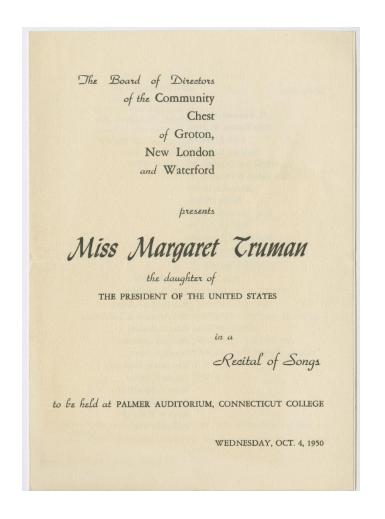
Artifact: Portrait, 1948

Additional info: Portrait of Truman painted by Greta Kempton (1903-1991), who also painted Harry and Bess's official white house portraits. Portrait shows Harry S. Truman wearing Masonic regalia, including a decorated apron and large gold necklace and pendant. He has a top hat in his left hand and a gavel in his right hand.



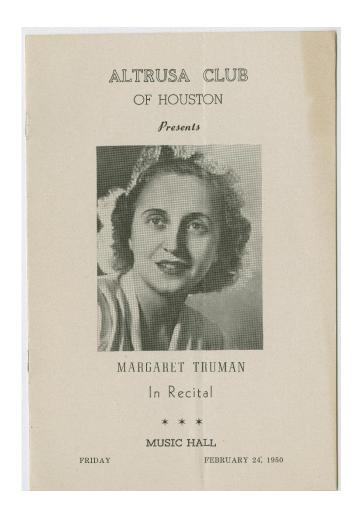
Artifact: Poster, 1949

Additional info: This poster was used for the concert tour which ran from early October through late November, 1949. On this tour, Miss Truman performed in numerous cities including: Atlanta, GA; Rocky Mount, NC; Raleigh, NC; St. Louis, MO; Columbus, OH; Battle Creek, MI; Detroit, MI; and in Washington, DC.



Artifact: Leaflet, 1950

Additional info: Leaflet advertising upcoming "recital of songs" to be performed by Margaret Truman at Palmer Auditorium, Connecticut College, New London, Connecticut, on Wednesday, October 4, 1950.



Artifact: Program, 1950

Additional info: Program for MTD concert on Friday, February 24, 1950 at Music Hall in Houston.



Artifact: Camera, 1947

Additional info: On Sunday afternoon, October 5, 1947, the White House News Photographers Association gathered on the south lawn of the White House for a group photo. These members of the "One More Club" made the occasion even more special by presenting President Truman with two, new cameras (this Graflex Crown Graphic and a 16mm hand-held movie camera. The President immediately used both cameras to photograph the White House grounds and the news photographers themselves. Later, President Truman reported that "my daughter seems to have ranked me completely out of the (Crown Graphic)." Paper label on carry box seems to indicate that Margaret Truman did take the camera with her to New York.



Artifact: Cigarette box, 1952

Additional info: Hinged lid is engraved, "HARRY S. TRUMAN/ 'PRESIDENT OF THE ONE MORE CLUB'/ FROM/ WHITE HOUSE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION/ 1952."



Artifact: Sculpture, 1949

Additional info: Plaque on the front of the statue reads,
"1948-1949 / NEWSREEL
AWARD / TO / HARRY S.
TRUMAN / FOR THE / BEST
PERFORMANCE OF THE
YEAR / WHITE HOUSE
NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS
ASSOCIATION."



Artifact: Sculpture, 1949

Additional info: Brass plate on front of statue "LOWELL'S TROPHY / FOR HIGHEST BASEBALL I. Q. / AWARDED TO THE PRESIDENT / 1949".



Artifact: Fraternal hat, 1945-52

Additional info: Harry S. Truman was initiated in Kallipolis Grotto, Washington, D.C. (M.O.V.P.E.R) May 27, 1943. He became a life member on October 22, 1943.





Artifacts: Teacup and saucer, ca. 1936-51

Additional info: This dinner service, originally purchased by President Roosevelt, was used aboard the presidential yacht USS Potomac. When the USS Williamsburg was commissioned on November 8, 1945, the tableware was transferred to the new vessel. In 1951, President Truman ordered a replacement set of china from Lenox. The overall appearance of the new tableware remained the same except that the coat of arms of the President was changed to conform to the Executive Order of October 25, 1945.



Artifact: Poker set, 1945

Additional info: Engraved plate on box lid reads, "WE ARE HONORED TO SERVE YOU AS PRESIDENT AND DELIGHTED TO CALL YOU FRIEND FROM THE MORNING GANG. CHRISTMAS 1945.



Artifact: Cap, 1950-51

Additional info: Truman wore this hat on March 14, 1950 in Key West, on March 21, 1951 in Key West, and on his tenth presidential trip to Key West on November 30, 1951.



Artifact: Hawaiian shirt, date unknown

Additional info: Print of tigers stalking through bamboo. Hawaiian shirts were iconic pieces of Truman's wardrobe, especially during his visits to Key West.



Artifact: Ship model, 1950

Additional info: Model of Presidential Yacht U.S.S. Williamsburg, by Boucher, New York, New York, circa 1950. 1:96 scale. In a letter dated July 8, 1992, William J. Lewis, President of Boucher-Lewis explained that the model was built for the White House in late 1950, approximately.

Area 11: Oval Office





Artifact: Sign, 1945

Additional info: "The BUCK STOPS here!" Other side of sign reads, "I'm from MISSOURI." This sign sat on Truman's oval office desk during his presidency. The sign was made in the Federal Reformatory at El Reno, Oklahoma. Fred A. Canfil, then United States Marshal for the Western District of Missouri and a friend of Mr. Truman, saw a similar sign while visiting the Reformatory and asked the Warden if a sign like it could be made for President Truman. The sign was made and mailed to the President on October 2, 1945. Truman famously believed and said that the buck stopped with him, so while he consulted his advisors, he knew that ultimately he had to make the tough calls.

Area 12: Legacy



Artifact: Chair and table, 1947

Additional info: Blonde walnut table and chair from the Presidential Penthouse of Hotel Muehlebach, Kansas City, Missouri. Used by President Truman to sign the Truman Doctrine on May 22, 1947 and the Bonn Peace Agreement August 22, 1952. On July 30, 1965, in the auditorium of the Truman Library, the table was used by President Johnson to sign the Medicare Bill into law. On March 12, 1999, the table was used for the "accession" of the Czech Republic and the nations of Hungary and Poland to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.