

Collection Title: Bergman Collection

Accession Numbers: 92.107

Inclusive Dates: [1887-1993]

Bulk: [1930-1948]

Restrictions: None

Volume: 4.5 linear feet (11 boxes)

Languages: English, Swedish

Abstract: Bergman Collection was donated to the Nordic Museum by Arthur and Ann Bergman [1992] through the intercession of Theresa Trebon

Biography: Johan Jonsson (later known as John Bergman) (b. February 9, 1866, Rörön, Jämtland, Sweden, d. 28 Nov. 1943) migrated to the United States on July 6, 1893, became a naturalized citizen in Seattle, January 10, 1899 (presumably when he adopted the name John Bergman). Margaretta Ohlsson, (known professionally as Margaret Bergman) (b. June 22, 1872 in Bergs, Jämtland, Sweden. d. July 18, 1948) migrated to the United States in January, 1902. John and Margaret were married on January 14th, 1902. They were pioneers in an area called Briedablick in Big Valley, (now Poulsbo), Washington in 1903, where they built a house and farmed. She had studied weaving at Svenstavik, in Sweden, completing a teaching diploma in 1901. After settling in the Poulsbo area, John built Margaret a loom based on her instructions. In the 1920's she began to teach others to weave in a weaving studio at home. From there she began to expand her teaching to other parts of Kitsap County and around Puget Sound. She developed a folding loom to take with her and patented two compact looms; the Bergman Suitcase loom (1933) and the Bergman Floor loom (1936). Each loom was designed with folding frames that enabled the loom to collapse even when fully warped. Building and selling looms became a family business - Bergman Looms. Margaret continued teaching and spent several summers as an instructor at the Penland School of Handicrafts in North Carolina. She also helped found several weaving guilds and developed a weaving structure called the 'Margaret Bergman technique. Following her death, her son John Arthur (known as Arthur, or Art, b. Oct 1, 1909, d. June 1, 1993) took over the family business. He continued to build and sell looms, demonstrate the Bergman weaving technique, and maintain a collection of his mother's textiles. Arthur married in 1954, and in 1956, he his wife Anna M. (née Groves, known as Ann, b. January 3, 1900, d. November 8, 1994) opened the Yarn Barn on the old family homestead and continued to build looms and sell yarn and related supplies until they retired in 1973. A retrospective exhibit of Arthur and Margaret Bergman's work was held at the Nordic Heritage Museum in July of 1993.

Scope and content: Bergman family papers and correspondence, patent documents, documents related to the running of Bergman Looms, and The Yarn Barn, weaving patterns, clippings, articles, photographs. The correspondence in Swedish has been translated. Material in the collection, but not listed in this finding aid include a loom, textiles and additional photographs.

Inventory

Box 1

Folder Contents

- 1 Photographs, negatives and prints (12)
- 2 Photographs, prints (14)
- 3 Photograph album with customs declaration
- 4 Photographs (Bergman loom), negatives and prints (3)
- 5 Photographs, prints (6)
- 6 Photographs, negatives and prints (7)
- 7 Photograph, print (1)

Box 2

Folder Contents

- 1 Index cards of customers and orders

Box 3

Folder Contents

- 1 *Northwest Weavers*, Volume I
- 2 *Northwest Weavers*, Volume II
- 3 Envelopes for *Northwest Weavers*
- 4 Typescript of a biography of M. Bergman
- 5 Death announcement: Olaf Jönsson & Olaf William
- 6 Correspondence in Swedish (1929, 1936)
- 7 Svenska Ungdomens Amerikafärd certificate
- 8 Correspondence and documents regarding the Bergman looms patents
- 9 Correspondence and documents regarding the Bergman looms patents
- 10 Correspondence and documents regarding the Bergman looms patents
- 11 Bergman family papers
- 12 Official documents (migration, naturalization, military service, marriage)
- 13 Membership certificates, death certificate for Ruth Bergman

- 14 Bergman family history
- 15 Ribbons [prizes/awards]
- 16 *Kentucky Weaver* featuring M. Bergman
- 17 Articles about M. Bergman
- 18 Articles about Kitsap County pioneers
- 19 Articles about M. Bergman
- 20 Articles about M. Bergman
- 21 Articles about M. Bergman
- 22 Penland School of Handicrafts
- 23 Penland School of Handicrafts
- 24 Penland School of Handicrafts
- 25 Brochure for weaving course in Sweden
- 26 Swedish Tercentenary publication
- 27 Seattle Weavers' Guild – membership lists
- 28 Seattle Weavers' Guild
- 29 Seattle Weavers' Guild
- 30 Patent correspondence
- 31 Tacoma Weavers' Guild
- 32 Weaving pattern graph
- 33 Family reunion announcement
- 34 Census information
- 35 Obituary, Irma Robinson
- 36 Article about the Seattle Weavers' Guild
- 37 Weaving pattern graphs

Box 3.1

Folder Contents

- 1 VHS tape Bergman Exhibition July-Sept 1993
- 2 Articles about M. Bergman
- 3 Articles about M. Bergman and weaving
- 4 Articles about M. Bergman and weaving
- 5 Swedish newspaper articles
- 6 Articles about weaving
- 7 Articles about weaving
- 8 Articles about weaving
- 9 Articles about weaving
- 10 Obituary, Clara Chapman
- 11 Excerpt about M. Bergman from *Revivals, Diverse Traditions 1920-1945*

Box 4**Folder Contents**

- 1 Correspondence
- 2 Correspondence
- 3 Correspondence
- 4 Correspondence
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31	Correspondence
32	Correspondence
33	Photographs – Bergman exhibit at the American Swedish Institute, Photocopies of Bergman related photos

Box 5

Folder Contents

1	Contents of notebook pocket
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- 2 Papers found in top of loom
- 3 Bergman Looms invoices 12/1946 – 9/1952
- 4 Bergman Looms financial papers from ledger
- 5 Bergman Looms ledger
- 6 Bergman Looms Ledgers invoices and index.
- 7 Weaving pattern graphs – photocopy of an M. Bergman Mss.
- 8 Weaving pattern graphs
- 9 Weaving pattern graphs
- 10 Weaving pattern graphs
- 11 Weaving pattern graphs
- 12 Papers from the top of M. Bergman's loom
- 13 Index cards with descriptions of M. Bergman's textiles

Box 6

Folder Contents

- 1 Correspondence, price lists, samples
- 2 Correspondence
- 3 Correspondence
- 4 Correspondence
- 5 Correspondence
- 6 Correspondence
- 7 Correspondence
- 8 Correspondence
- 9 Correspondence
- 10 Label for model loom
- 11 Correspondence

- 12 Drawings of looms
- 13 Business cards, price list – Bergman Looms & Yarn Barn
- 14 Invoices , advertisement – Bergman Looms
- 15 Loom set-up instructions, price lists – Bergman Looms
- 16 Loom set-up instructions, price lists – Bergman Looms
- 17 Price lists – Bergman Looms & Yarn Barn
- 18 Price lists – Bergman Looms
- 19 Price lists, assembly instructions – Bergman Looms
- 20 Stock list, description of merchandise, knitting instructions – Yarn Barn
- 21 Kitsap County Rodeo program
- 22 Kitsap County Fair and Rodeo program
- 23 Sunset Magazine
- 24 Northwest Conference of Handweavers, Seattle 1957 - J. Arthur Bergman
- 25 Northwest Conference of Handweavers, Seattle 1957 – Mrs. J. Arthur Bergman
- 26 Weaving samples – J. A. Bergman
- 27 Bergman exhibition 1993
- 28 Articles about the Bergman Exhibition and Teresa Trebon
- 29 Exhibition – calendar and information
- 30 Correspondence – Theresa Trebon to the Bergmans
- 31 Correspondence – Theresa Trebon to the Bergmans
- 32 Correspondence - Arthur Bergman to Theresa Trebon
- 33 Correspondence – Marianne Forsblad to Theresa Trebon
- 34 Correspondence – between Theresa Trebon and friends and relatives of M. Bergman
- 35 Correspondence and forms - Theresa Trebon

Box 7

Folder Contents

- 1 Weaving handbook
- 2 Book with photographs of tapestry
- 3 Book of weaving patterns
- 4 Scrapbook and letter

Box 8**Folder Contents**

- 1 Gammal allmogeslöjd från Malmöhus Län : i bild och text [book about weaving in Malmöhus]
- 2 Jämten 1949 [Journal]
- 3 Weaving pattern graphs

Box 9**Folder Contents**

- 1 Hemmets Vävbok [weaving handbook]
- 2 Vävbok för Hem och Skola [weaving handbook]
- 3 Den Norske Husflidsforenings Håndbok i Vevning [weaving handbook]
- 4 Jämtlands och Härjedalsvävar [weaving handbook]
- 5 Praktisk Vävbok [weaving handbook]

Box 10**Folder Contents**

- 1 Photograph album containing photos 92.107.127a-al.
Scrapbook containing weaving samples, loose patterns and clippings.

Box 11**Folder Contents**

- 1 Scrapbook containing weaving samples, loose patterns and clippings.

Search Terms:

Clippings

Photographs
Correspondence
Sweden
Swedish-American
Bergman Ann
Bergman, Arthur
Bergman John
Bergman, Margaret
Poulsbo
Briedablick
Big Valley
Seattle Weaver's Guild
Tacoma Weaver's Guild
Penland School of Crafts
Kitsap Weavers' Guild
Weaving
Patterns
Looms