



Smithsonian

*National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center*

## Charlie Dunn Collection

NMAH.AC.0186

NMAH Staff

Archives Center, National Museum of American History  
P.O. Box 37012  
Suite 1100, MRC 601  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012  
Business Number: Phone: 202-633-3270  
Fax Number: Fax: 202-786-2453  
archivescenter@si.edu  
<https://americanhistory.si.edu/archives>

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	
Administrative Information .....	1
Biographical Note .....	1
Scope and Contents .....	2
Names and Subjects .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	Charlie Dunn Collection
<b>Date:</b>	1972-1984
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.0186
<b>Creator:</b>	Dunn, Charlie, 1898- (bootmaker)
<b>Extent:</b>	0.15 Cubic feet (1 box)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	Materials relating to Charlie Dunn, fourth-generation bootmaker.
<b>Container:</b>	Box 1

---

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Charlie Dunn, 1985, October 27.

### Processing Information

Collection processed by NMAH Staff, undated

### Preferred Citation

Charlie Dunn Collection, 1972-1984, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

### Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

---

## Biographical Note

Charlie Dunn is a fourth-generation bootmaker, from a family of Irish cobblers who moved to the U.S. in the early 1800s. At eight he began an apprenticeship for a one-legged bootmaker in Paris, Texas, beginning a career that has lasted (with a brief retirement) ever since. Practicing now in Austin, Texas, he is regarded as one of the best bootmakers in the world.

## Scope and Contents

Newspaper and magazine articles, radio broadcast transcripts, and advertisements relating to Dunn's career. In addition there is a documentary of Dunn's craft on video tape, photographs, miscellaneous business stationery, and a research project titled "Charlie and Cecile Dunn: A Study in Retirement" (1978) by Linda Gann.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

- Artisans
- Bootmakers
- Business and labor
- Civilization -- History
- Shoemakers

### Types of Materials:

- Black-and-white photographic prints -- Silver gelatin -- 1950-2000
- Clippings
- Correspondence -- 1930-1950
- Videotapes

### Places:

- Texas