

# FUNGUS ART: "MT. MCGREGOR"

## OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECTS

<b>Repository:</b>	Crandall Public Library. Folklife Center Glens Falls, NY.
<b>Creator:</b>	E.D. Smith
<b>Title:</b>	Fungus Art: "Mt. McGregor"
<b>Dates:</b>	unknown date
<b>Quantity:</b>	1 item: 12 inches x 6 ½ inches
<b>Identification:</b>	Folk Art

## HISTORICAL NOTE

Mount McGregor is a mountain in Saratoga County, New York in the towns of Milton, Moreau, and Corinth. It is one of the principal peaks of the Palmertown Range. The "Sanatorium on the Mountain" at Mount McGregor was opened in 1913 by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company for the benefit of its employees suffering from tuberculosis. This sanitarium, fully staffed by doctors and a nursing staff, had a goal of restoring the health of all the company's employees. A labyrinth of underground passages still exists that were used to transport the bodies of patients who died to the church and crematorium. The sanitarium closed in 1945. The site was subsequently used for several different facilities, including, from 1976 to 2013, a medium-security correctional facility. The mountain is also the location of Grant Cottage State Historic Site, the place where President Grant died in 1885.

## INDEX TERMS

<b>Topics:</b>	Fungus art Art from Nature
<b>Places:</b>	Mt. McGregor, Saratoga County, New York
<b>Important People:</b>	Smith, E.D.
<b>Form/Genre:</b>	Three-dimensional art piece

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Preferred Citation:** Fungus Art: "Mt. McGregor"  
Folklife Center  
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY.

**Accession Information:** Acquired in Greenwich, Washington County, NY circa 2015, along with another piece of fungus art inscribed "Mt. McGregor, NY, E.D. Smith."

**Processing Information:** Arranged and described by Erica Gonyea, 2019

## **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECTS**

Fungus art is made from a parasitic bracket mushroom (genus *Formes*) etched while fresh and then dried.

The scene on this piece shows mountains, trees, and a small cabin, and is inscribed "Mt. McGregor, NY, E.D. Smith."

Related collections:

Two other fungus art pieces:

Chapel + Infirmary  
Bear in Woods