

known that appears to be from either Hagerstown or Xenia. It is a fullstock flintlock, brass mounted with a pierced three-piece patchbox, a rectangular cheekpiece with an oval inlay, and signed in engraved script on the barrel as "S. Hawken." This rifle is illustrated in Reisner (1978: 4-5) and in Hanson (1979: 9). It is worth noting that the overall design of this rifle is very similar to those crafted by his brother William Hawken. The rifles of both Henry and Sam very likely have much in common with those of their brother William, though Henry's time in Greensburg, Pennsylvania may have had some additional influence on his style.

A Hawken family crisis developed with the death of patriarch Christian in 1821. The family gathering brought in Sam from Ohio, and Jacob (c. 1786-1849) who had left Hagerstown in 1815 and eventually settled in St. Louis by 1820. This reunion of the Hawken family and settling of their father's estate may have given impetus for Sam to move to St. Louis after the death of his wife the following year, but it may have also given the family of gunmakers an opportunity to re-evaluate the guns they were making, as the new percussion technology was beginning to take hold, with the expiration of early patents and the availability of the percussion cap systems of Joshua Shaw of Philadelphia (Madaus 1981:74). Henry Hawken, and his Ohio sons John Hawken (c. 1805-c. 1846) and Daniel Turney Hawken (1814-1851) may have also been at this same reunion, perhaps discussing with Jacob and Sam these very issues, as their customer base was changing and there was a growing market for plainer, more efficiently made guns, of less carved ornamentation, but still of sound design and quality build. Speculative as this is, the Golden Age style of American long rifles was transforming into plainer designs, and Ohio gunsmiths were very much a part of the new Midwestern styles (Bender 2010).

*Sources:*

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Link: file:///C:/Users/Mark/Downloads/1978-B39-The-Artistry-Of-The-Hawken-Family%20(1).pdf

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The "S. Hawken" stamped rifle (r.) has a 47 $\frac{7}{8}$ " barrel, including patent breech and brass triggerguard. The shorter rifle is a later S. Hawken. (Photograph by Nathan E. Bender)





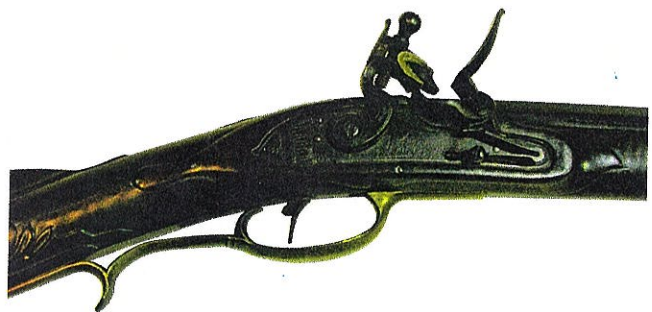
*Cheekpiece side view of Samuel Hawken rifle. Note rectangular cheekpiece, brass trigger guard traditionally mounted to stock, and flat-end toe piece. Held by Cody Firearms Museum 1997.4.5. Gift of William B. Ruger and Sturm, Ruger. (Photograph by Nathan E. Bender)*



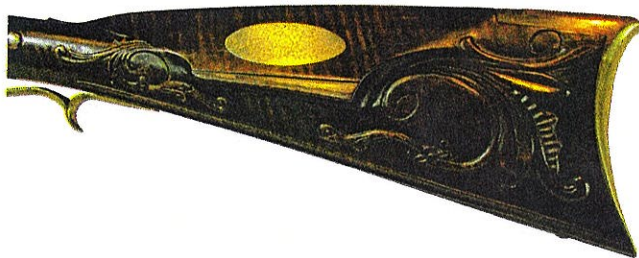
*Samuel Hawken long barreled fullstock brass mounted rifle, percussion lock detail. Held by Cody Firearms Museum 1997.4.5. Gift of William B. Ruger and Sturm, Ruger. (Photograph by Nathan E. Bender)*



*William Hawken rifle with pierced three-piece patchbox, and Truitt Bros Co flintlock. Held by Cody Firearms Museum 1997.4.13. Gift of William B. Ruger and Sturm, Ruger. (Photograph by Nathan E. Bender)*



*Christian Hawken rifle lock side view. Lock is marked "J. Bishop/ Warranted". Bishop was listed as a Philadelphia lockmaker in the 1790 census. Cody Firearms Museum 1997.4.1, Gift of William B. Ruger and Sturm, Ruger. (Photograph by Nathan E. Bender)*



*Fig. 1. Cheekpiece view of Christian Hawken rifle, CFM 1997.4.1. (Photograph by Nathan E. Bender)*



*Fig. 2. Detail of patchbox finial of Christian Hawken rifle, CFM 1997.4. (Photograph by Nathan E. Bender)*