

Coverlets in the Pioneers Museum

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(Documentation completed by members of Pikes Peak Weavers Guild, May, 2008)

Coverlet Catalogue # 54-47

Date of Documentation: November 27, 2006

Motif Name: Stars

Weave Structure: Tied Overshot & Point Twill

Type: Star Work

Grid: Horizontal/vertical

Size: 90 1/2" length x 74 1/2" width. (Dimensions are an average of at least three measurements in each direction.)

Number of Panels: 2

Probable Loom Type: Treadle

Warp Yarn 1: Fiber Content: Cotton.

Estimated Yarn Size: three 30/1 yarns grouped together

Spun: Z, Loose twist, Plied S, 3 ply loosely plied, commercially spun

Dye: None, White

Pantone Color: White Swan, #12-0000 tpx

Ends/Inch: 24

Weft Yarn 1 (Tabby or Structure):

Fiber Content: Cotton.

Estimated Yarn Size: three 30/1 yarns grouped together

Spun: Z, Loose twist, Plied S, 3 ply loosely plied, commercially spun

Dye: None, White

Pantone Color: White Swan, #12-0000 tpx

Picks/Inch: 20

Weft Yarn 2 (Pattern):

Fiber Content: Wool

Estimated Yarn Size: 12/2

Spun: Z, Loose twist, 2-ply, Plied S

Dye: Red, Commercially dyed with natural dye

Pantone Color: Bossa Nova, #18-1547 tpx

Picks/Inch: 20

Weft Yarn 2 (Pattern):

Fiber Content: Wool

Estimated Yarn Size: 12/2

Spun: Z, Loose twist, 2-ply Plied S

Dye: Blue, Commercially dyed with natural (indigo) dye

Pantone Color: Dark Blue, #19-4035 tpx

Picks/Inch: 20

Edge: Fringed on both sides and bottom. Bottom knotted. Top rolled hem stitched with sewing thread. Has cotton sleeve.
Border: Integrated, with same motif.
Weaving: Pattern squared: Yes
Borders mitered: No
Threading errors: Yes, center star both panels
Treadling errors: No
Even beat: Yes
Panels match: Yes, hand sewn with sewing thread
Condition: Shows some wear.

Place of Origin: Lehigh County. Pennsylvania
Circa: 1826

Date Received by museum: July 15, 1954, Gift
Donor: Mrs. James Wynn

Weaver: Mrs. Jackson

Inscription: Weaver's corner block with date 1874

Museum Note: (includes history prior to museum ownership and other information in museum files):

“Red, white and blue coverlet. A note sewed on the coverlet says, in part, “The wool in this coverlet was spun and dyed by Mrs. Elizabeth (Karn) Schueffer of Lehigh Co. Pa. In 1826 and woven the same year...” This was the great great grandmother of the donor.”

(continued from note) “by Mrs. Jackson a weaver of that locality. The coverlet is the property of Mrs. Austin E. Michel? of North Manchester who purchased it in 1922 from the heirs of Mrs. Anna McGrillelan? Of Wooster Ohio who was a sister of my mother, both daughters of Mrs. Schueffer. Mrs. Amilla Euhloty?” Written in script

Museum History: Storage: 3-5 bin 5

Display (Dates/Venue): on Jackson Bed - 2nd floor addition

Analysis Speculation: This star and diamond type coverlet could be woven on a loom with 18 shafts. The size of this loom indicates it probably belonged to a professional weaver. The loosely twisted yarns may indicate they are hand spun. The red dye could be cochineal. The blue dye may be indigo.

For further information on the weaver or coverlets with similar motifs or design features see:

Gordon, J. *American Star Work Coverlets*. New York: Design Books. 1995. ISBN 1-55821-382-1. p. 95

Swygert, L. *Heirlooms from Old Looms: A Catalogue of Coverlets Owned by the Colonial Coverlet Guild of America & Its Members*. Chicago: R.R. Donnelley. 1940. p. 131.