

Coverlets in the Pioneers Museum

217 S. Tejon, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 USA

719-385-5990 - www.Springsgov.com

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

Coverlet Catalogue # 77-12

Date of Documentation: February 12, 2007

Pattern Name(s): Bird of Paradise

Weave Structure: Double Weave

Type: Figured and fancy

Grid: Horizontal/vertical

Size: 74" length x 78.5" width. (Dimensions are an average of at least three measurements in both directions.)

Number of Panels: 2

Probable Loom Type: Jacquard

Warp Yarn 1: Fiber Content: Wool

Estimated Yarn Size: 22/3

Spun: Z, Tight twist, Ply S, Commercial spun 3 ply

Dye: None, Natural

Pantone Color: Whisper White, #11-0701 tpx

Ends/Inch: 22

Warp Yarn 2: Fiber Content: Wool

Estimated Yarn Size: 18/2

Spun: Z, Medium twist, Ply S, 2 ply, Commercial

Dye: Navy commercial dyed

Pantone Color: Insignia Blue, #19-4028 tpx

Ends/Inch: 22

Weft Yarn 1: Fiber Content: Wool

Estimated Yarn Size: 22/3

Spun: Z, Tight twist, Ply S, Commercial spun 3 ply

Dye: None, Natural

Pantone Color: Whisper White, #11-0701 tpx

Ends/Inch: 22

Weft Yarn 2: Fiber Content: Wool

Estimated Yarn Size: 18/2

Spun: Z, Medium twist, Ply S, 2 ply, Commercial

Dye: Navy commercial dyed

Pantone Color: Insignia Blue, #19-4028 tpx

Ends/Inch: 22

Weft Yarn 3: used for 2 7/8" of left panel at bottom. (Lower left panel is different dye lot)

Fiber Content: Wool

Estimated Yarn Size: 20/2

Spun: Z, Medium twist, Ply S, 2 ply, Commercial (poor quality)

Dye: Navy commercial dyed
Pantone Color: Silver Lining, #14-4501 tpx
Ends/Inch: 22

Edge: Bottom fringed
Border: Integrated, not the same motif. Bottom border includes geometric motifs and pansies. Corner motif has weaver's mark and woven in words "Bird of Paradise". Vertical borders include birds and flowers.
Weaving: Pattern squared: No elongated
Borders mitered: Yes
Threading errors: No
Treadling errors: No
Even beat: Yes
Panels match: Yes, hand sewn. Seams -- both layers not caught in places.
Condition: Shows much wear; mended

Place of Origin: New York, Palmyra, Wayne County
Circa: 1850.

Date Received by museum: February 23, 1977, Gift
Donor: Mrs. Prudence Mick
Street Address: 509 S. El Paso
City: Colorado Springs
State: Colorado
County: El Paso

Weaver: James Van Ness

Inscription: Weaver's mark, 2 lower corners.

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

"Coverlet, blue and white "Bird of Paradise" pattern with alternating scroll and floral circles, measures 79" x 84", "Bird of Paradise" border measuring "7" to 9", 9" border has 2" fringe. Major design is the Bird of Paradise. Coverlet is reversible. Weave is Jacquard. Markings: "Bird of Paradise" woven throughout the coverlet."

Museum History: Storage: 4-2-5-6

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

Anderson, C.S. *American Coverlets and Their Weavers: Coverlets from the Collection of Foster & Muriel McCarl*. Williamsburg, VA: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. 2002. ISBN 0-87935-215-9. pp. 10-11

Davison, M. & Mayer-Thurman, C. *Coverlets: A Handbook on the Collection of Woven Coverlets in the Art Institute of Chicago*. Chicago: Art Institute. 1973. LCCN 73-82570. pp. 108-109

Shaeffer, M.W.M. *Made in New York State: Coverlets 1820-1869*. Watertown, NY: Jefferson

County Historical Society. 1985. LCCN 84-25062. p. 59

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. 248

Wass, J.T. *Weaver's Choice: Patterns in American Coverlets*. Springfield, IL: Illinois State Museum. 1988. ISBN 0-89792-118-6. p. 39