

Coverlets in the Pioneers Museum

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

Coverlet Catalogue # 62-102

Date of Documentation: February 5, 2007

Pattern Name(s): Sorrel Blossom with Pine Tree Border

Weave Structure: Double Weave

Type: Geometric

Grid: Horizontal/vertical

Size: 81 1/8" length x 67 1/4" width. (Dimensions are an average of at least three measurements in both directions.)

Number of Panels: Fragment

Number of Blocks: 5

Probable Loom Type: Jacquard

Warp Yarn 1: Fiber Content: Wool

Estimated Yarn Size: 12/2

Spun: Z, Plied S, 2 ply, Handspun

Dye: Blue

Pantone Color: Dark Navy, #19-4013 tpx

Ends/Inch: 18 per layer, 36 total

Warp Yarn 2: Fiber Content: Wool

Estimated Yarn Size: 12/2

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

Dye: None, Natural

Pantone Color: Seed Pearl, #12-0703 tpx

Ends/Inch: 38

Weft Yarn 1: Fiber Content: Wool

Estimated Yarn Size: 12/2

Spun: Z, Plied S, 2 ply, Handspun

Dye: Blue

Pantone Color: Dark Navy, #19-4013 tpx

Ends/Inch: 18 per layer, 36 total

Weft Yarn 2: Fiber Content: Wool

Estimated Yarn Size: 12/2

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

Dye: None, Natural

Pantone Color: Seed Pearl, #12-0703 tpx

Ends/Inch: 38

Edge: 2 selvages, Bottom fringed

Border: Integrated, pine tree motif.

Weaving: Pattern squared: Yes

Borders mitered: Yes, pattern mitered
Threading errors: No
Treadling errors: No
Even beat: Yes
Panels match: is fragment

Condition: Very poor

Date Received by museum: May 15, 1962, Gift

Donor: Mrs. Harry W. Donaldson

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

“24” x 36” piece of old blue and white coverlid. Very poor condition.”

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

Analysis Speculation: This coverlet could have been woven on a 20 shaft treadle loom. Given the perfection of the weave and the number of shafts required it was most likely woven by a professional weaver. The 2 ply natural yarn could have been hand spun by the original owner of the coverlet. The navy colored yarn may also have been hand spun and indigo dyed. This pattern appears to be similar to coverlet 55-709 with treadling variations. Since the donors of both coverlets are Donaldson (perhaps the same person), it's possible these two coverlets were woven by the same weaver. The threading error on this coverlet and not on coverlet 55-709, and the difference in the yarns, would indicate that separate warps were threaded.

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

Atwater, M.M. *The Shuttle-Craft Book of American Hand-Weaving*. Coupeville, WA: HTH Publishers. 1986. ISBN 0-016668-43-0. Draft #224

Bress, H. *The Coverlet Book*, Vol 2. Gaithersburg, MD: Flower Valley. 2003. ISBN 1-886388-52-0. pp. 295, 305-308

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. 62-63, Figures 49-51

Strickler, C. *A Portfolio of American Coverlets*, Vol. 3, 1980. Information Sheet 3.18

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. 141-142