

Overshot Coverlet c 1850

unidentified Weaver
South Hastings County
Freemason's Coat of Arms
variation.

Ref: Keep Me Warm One Night, Burnhams.
ROM #284

The coverlet in this case is a good example of the great variety of weaving from Hastings County. It is woven with black and a rust brown wool weft on a natural cotton warp. Colour variations are frequently seen in one or more of the weaver(s) who worked in the south end of Hastings County in the Belleville area. The patterned drift is another variation of.

"Freemason's Coat of Arms"

This example has a very interesting splended fringe at the bottom with a long break in the weft before continuing another narrow weft section. It may have been a request of the person who commissioned the coverlet in order to highlight the bottom when placed on a bed without a footboard. If it had been used on a bed where it was tucked in on a daily basis, it would show more wear overtime. I have not often seen a similar approach so it is unlikely it was a common finish by the weaver.

The example in the ROM #284 (KMWOH) was probably the work of the same weaver since the use of rust red is a common link as is the drift. The example here has a very attractive side panels that are woven with a variation of the pattern from the table. It also has a nearly invisible centre seam another tribute to the weaver's expertise.

Condition: Excellent - very little indication of use.

It could actually be of an earlier date 1840-50

Source: Auction from Belleville Sullivan Auctions ? @ 2008

Dimensions: $91\frac{1}{2}$ " (232 cm) ^{including fringe} x $59\frac{1}{2}$ " (151 cm.) w.

It is very long including the fringe and suggest a special request for a large early bed - ~~no~~ client request?



