

Overshot Coverlet

1830-50

Leeds co?

unidentified Weaver

Ref. Keep Me Warm One Night Burnhams #305

This example of an Ontario handwoven coverlet at first appears typical of a large number of surviving blue wool and white cotton coverlets but is actually quite intricate when given a close examination. all four sides have turned and stitched hems.
Ref. Keep Me Warm One Night Burnhams 1972 #305 p. 331 shows a very similar example in blue and white from Addison, Leeds Co. Dorothy Burnham suggests that a variation in threading was likely accidental creating an attractive but unusual design.

The discovery of a second near identical example here without the border variation suggests that the Threading variation by this unknown weaver was actually intentional.

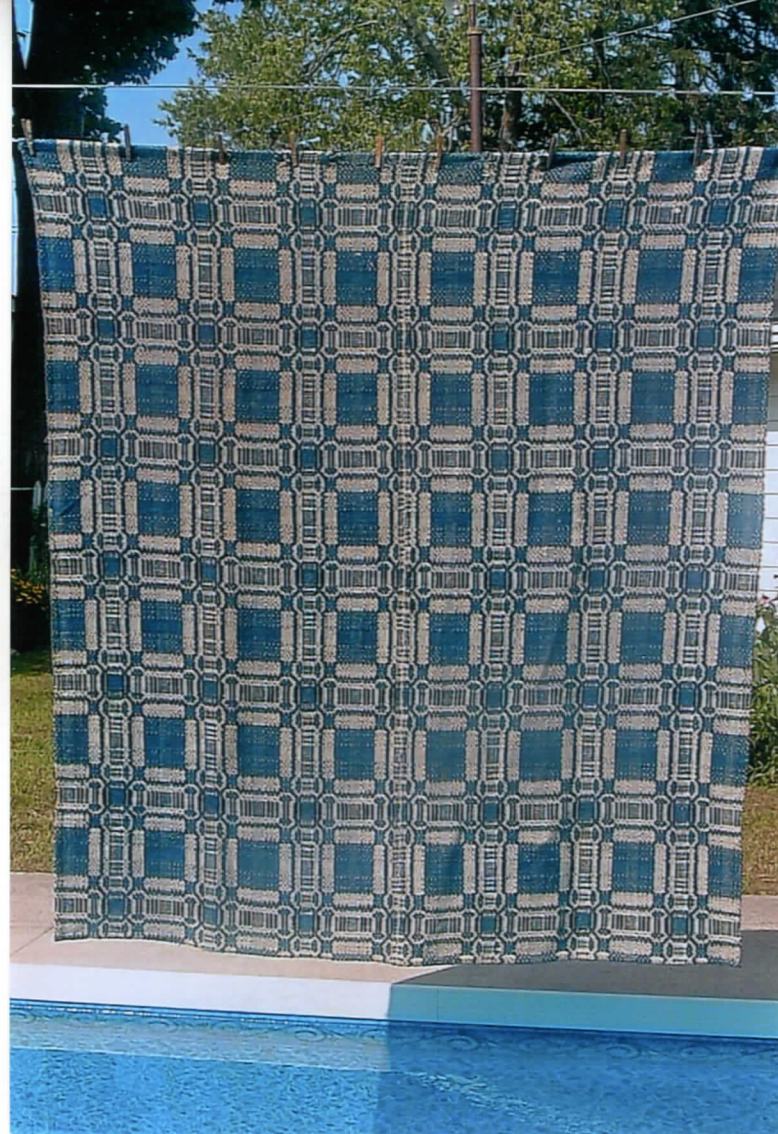
Source: Rob & Vi Lambert estate auction Potter, Kapanee, July 21-22 2018. Cat. # 362 \$217.53 incl buyer's prem + tax
The Lamberts lived in Bowmanville area but purchased quality items throughout Eastern Canada.

Condition: Very good. It shows natural wear over time. The home spun wool has maintained a soft finish. The centre seam is expertly matched. There may be some loss to the top.

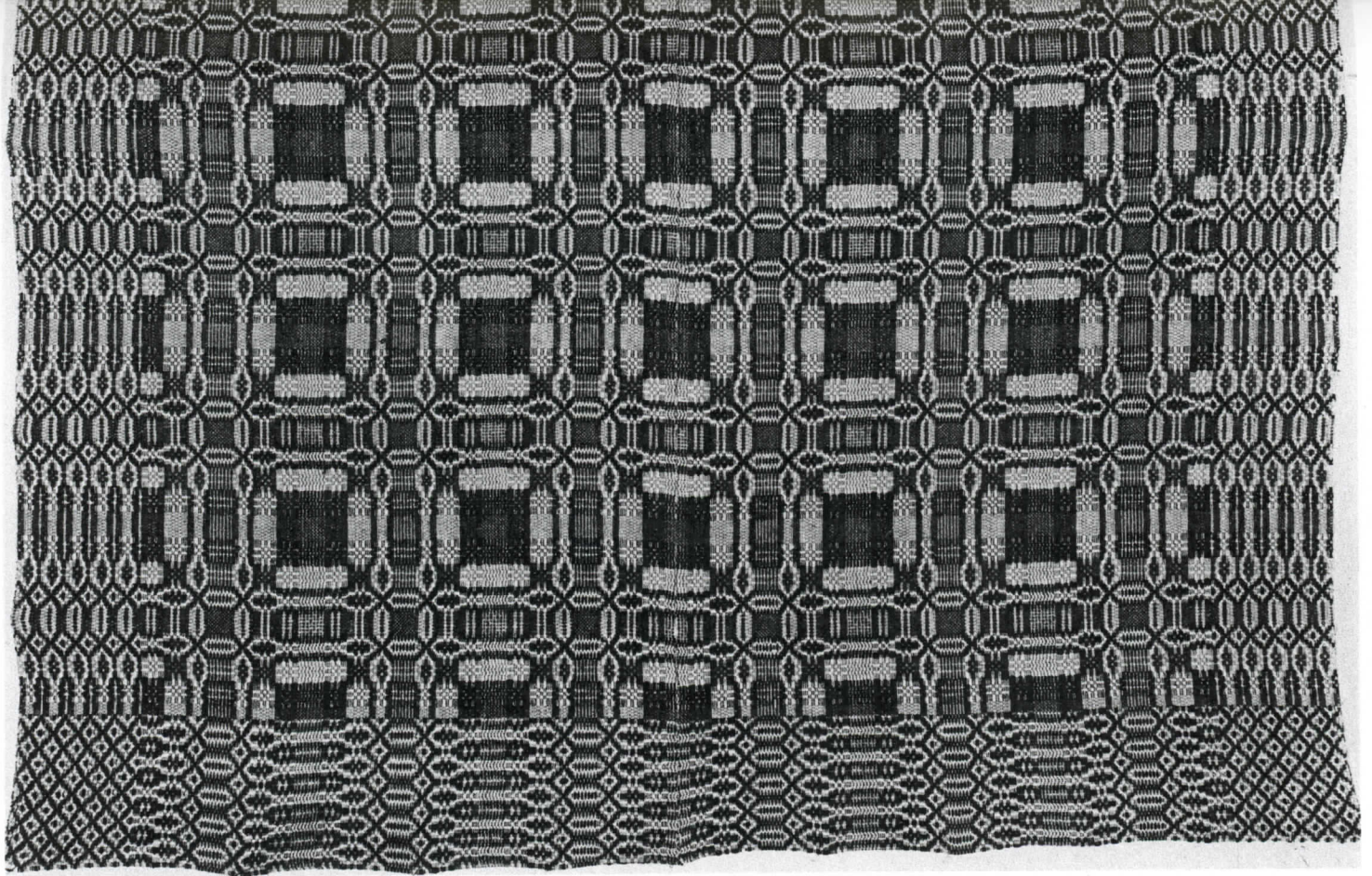
Dimensions: $75\frac{1}{2}" (191\text{cm}) \times 68" (173\text{cm})$ is. Although smaller than the Rom example, it is unlikely that all borders were lost.

It is always a thrill to find an exciting and exceptional example in a weaving classification.

Weavers frequently set up the warp in a loom to weave a pair of matched coverlets. Although these are close they are not identical for the Leeds County weaver. Here







305 / Ontario. Addison, Leeds County. About 1830-50
 ROM 968.93.1. Gift of Mrs J.H. Crang
 Overshot coverlet. L. 205cm; w. 172cm

Deep red and dark indigo blue wool on natural white cotton.
 This is a well-woven coverlet with every appearance of being

skilled professional work, but on close examination the small
 'table' framed by the 'stars' looks rather odd. The draft shows
 the reason: every time the 2-3 block was threaded, the shafts
 were taken in the wrong order resulting in loss of tabby and
 many doubled threads. The effect is by no means unattrac-
 tive, but is unlikely to have been intentional.

Keep Me Warm One Night Burnham, 1972

