

Overshot Coverlet c. 1825-30

possibly Peter Fretz
Lennox & Addington County
or Patrick Gibson, possibly
Prince Edward County.
"Nine Star" or "Nine Roses"

Ref. Keep Me Warm One Night, Burnhams #293

Ref. Quilts and Other Bedcoverings R. McKendry
#97

The large coverlet is expertly woven with red cadmium and dark indigo blue wool on a natural white cotton warp. The pattern is a variation of "Freemason's Coat of Arms". Transitions of the weave at the side borders in reduced blocks.

Example #293 in the ROM was found in Prince Edward County at Robin Hills, Sophiasburg Township and this example in McKendry #97 was found near Napanee at Empey Hill in Lennox and Addington County. Both locations are in relatively close proximity and could be by the same weaver. My example, the third in identical colours to the Empey Hill example are in red and blue. The example here was found at a local farm auction many years ago in Napanee.

The coverlet here has a mismatched centre seam. The seaming may have been done by the first owner not by the weaver. We know from John Campbell's journal that finishing the coverlet required at least two days and the new owner sometimes took the coverlet from the loom and completed joining, finishing and border hemming themselves.

Condition: Very good - a large early example showing some minor fading and wear over time. I have dated this to the ROM example. c. 1825 → some bottom fringe loss
Source: to note one the auction consignors in L and A, unfortunately.

Dimensions: 72" (183 cm) ^{wide} × (87 1/2" (221 cm.) l.



