

Basic Detail Report



Woven Bag

Date

c. 1900

Primary Maker

Artist not recorded

Medium

Wool

Description

The bag has the shape of a slightly tapered rectangle. There are bands of bright multi-colors alternating between light and dark with perpendicular bands of diamond shapes in groups of three. These diamond shapes create even more bold and optical effects by being two-toned and by being dark when on a light background and light when on a dark background. The top is twined with a raised edge, and there is a twined cord attaching to one side. The design is reminiscent of early southwestern weavings. Colors are bright: turquoise, red, purple, blues, yellow, off-white, brown, black; made of twined wool yarns. This Ojibwa weaving could date to earlier than mid-19th century, per Ken Canfield. It was purchased from an Ojibwa family at Red Lake and had been used as a wrapper for a religious carving relating to the Mide cult. However, other reed mats have been described as household furnishings. (See examples in the Field Museum and the Logan Museum at Beloit College). Warp is basswood fiber, weft is reed (natural colors). There is a purple design from a vegetal dye.

Dimensions

22 × 30 in. (55.8801 × 76.2002 cm)