

Basic Detail Report



Robe

Date

early 20th Century

Primary Maker

Maggie Kadanaha

Medium

Mountain goat's wool with cedar bark warp strand and

pigment

Description

In Edward S. Curtis' book titled "The Kwakiutl", he elaborates on the coloration and dye techniques, "The most dramatic effect that European trade goods had on the dyes of the Dancing Blanket was to change the yellow-green color in the blankets to a blue-green. The first weavers used a fourth color obtained from an oxide of copper and urine. The dye bath was produced by soaking copper in old urine and leaving it to settle for approximately four months. The resulting liquid was a beautiful blue-green color. Wool when immersed in this liquid before it was heated, immediately took on this delightful hue. One can easily imagine the frustration of the weavers when they rinsed the yarns, and the color changed to a dull green. Even if left to soak for a week, the color, which eventually stayed in the wool was not the blue-green of the liquid-dye. Simmering yarns for half an hour produced a yarn, which, when rinsed, turned golden yellow and when dried, changed to olive green." P. 68

Dimensions

Hanging: 54 × 74 × 1 in. (137.2 × 188 × 2.5 cm) Flat: 54 × 87 × 1 in. (137.2 × 221 × 2.5 cm)