

Basic Detail Report

Title Signature Quilt

Date October 1850

Primary Maker Reverend Charles Backus McLean

Medium Hand-stitched, plain-woven, glazed and unglazed white and printed cottons, or chintz; woven tape; ink

Description Pieced signature quilt consisting of a pieced top of plain-woven cotton, batting, and a white, plain-woven cotton backing; the three layers are joined by a hand-stitched quilting pattern. The center of the quilt has a glazed plain-woven white cotton square with a hand-written inscription in black ink: "From the Ladies of/ Collinsville Parish to/ Mrs. Mary D. McLean/ Oct. 1850". Each block consists of a white cotton square with a signature hand-written in black ink, inside an eight-pointed star within a feathered square. The fabric that forms the pattern is a red floral print plain-woven cotton, or calico; the calico has a red background and small yellow flowers with black stems in an overall lineal pattern. There are 41 large squares of the pattern, and sixteen smaller squares around the edges, each an eight-pointed star with a signature in the center. The edge of the quilt is completed with a sawtooth pattern (Delectable Mountain pattern). The quilting pattern is in concentric squares with the quilting following the triangular shapes in the center of each square and around the edge. Each edge of the quilt has a basketweave tape binding. Condition: Both sides of the

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quilt have scattered brown spots. The white cotton has an overall brown discoloration. Some fabric in the top center of the quilt has abraded; some batting was lost.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (length x width): 98 x 96in. (248.9 x 243.8cm)