

Basic Detail Report

Title Tile Medallion

Date late 19th-early 20th century

Primary Maker Karl Gerhardt

Medium Cast red earthenware

Description Square red earthenware, or terra cotta, tile that is unglazed. The tile has two relief busts of men, both facing right; the decoration on the tile was formed by a sculptor who shaped and incised the clay by hand. The upper left bust, showing a man with a moustache and curly hair, is labeled "Mark/ Twain" on the left edge of the tile. The lower right bust, showing a bearded man, is labeled "Geo/ W/ CAble" on the right edge of the tile. Both busts are raised over a circular, textured background with incised horizontal lines. Between the two busts are a decorative, raised, feather, an ink pen, and a ribbon. Below the busts, along the bottom edge of the tile, is the incised artist's name, "Karl/ Gerhardt/ fecit". There is slight wear to the highest relief portions of the tile, at Twain's head, Cable's beard, and the raised feather between. There is a small chip on the right edge of the tile.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (width x depth): 8 1/2 x 9 1/8in. (21.6 x 23.2cm)