

Basic Detail Report

Title Purse

Date 1845

Primary Maker Shinnecock People

Medium Hand-stitched silk velvet and cotton with glass beads and silk satin

ribbons. The beads are stitched over paper.

Description Yellow, gold, pink, maroon, and white and blue abstract floral motifs

stitched in glass beads to both front and back of the dark brown (or black) velvet

bag. Following the outer edges of the bag is a crenellated pattern in blue beads.

The bag is shaped with a rounded bottom and reverse-curved sides. Two flaps at

the top cover welted pockets at either side. The bag is trimmed with maroon silk

satin ribbons on the corners on one side, and also on the silk ribbon handle. It is

bound with the silk ribbon, lined with plain-woven cotton, and probably

interlined with leather (as it is stiff, but flexible). A pleated edging of ribbon

decorates the top edge. Caroline Brewer wore the bag on her arm at her

wedding. She married William Smith Avery in East Hartford, Connecticut, on 24

December 1845. The bag was a wedding gift from her husband.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width x depth): 7 x 6 3/4 x 1/2in. (17.8

x 17.1 x 1.3cm)