

Basic Detail Report

Title Whitework Quilt

Date about 1816-1821

Medium Plain-woven white cotton, hand-stitched cotton thread, woven cotton tape

Description Whitework quilt consisting of a white cotton top and backing that have been hand-stitched together in an elaborate quilted pattern in the Empire, or late neoclassical, style. The design elements in the pattern have been filled with stuffing and cording, a technique known as trapunto. The quilted pattern consists of a central medallion of a large basket of flowers on a background of diagonal quilted lines. The central medallion is surrounded by two concentric borders, one of curved leaves and one of a grapevine. This is surrounded by four sunflowers inside a square border of slanted lobes. Each side and the bottom of the quilt have an additional border of three vases with flowers and trailing vines emerging and extending across the border. The borders are on a background of quilted diamonds. The top and backing of the quilt each consist of four panels of plain-woven cotton that are joined with a seam. The top of the quilt is finely woven, while the fabric on the bottom of the quilt is less finely woven. The edges are finished with white woven cotton tape. Condition: The quilt is in excellent condition with minor staining and minor loss to the quilting stitch at the left side.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width): 106 x 96 1/4in. (269.2 x 244.5 cm)