

Basic Detail Report

Title Tile Medallion

Date late 19th-early 20th century

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)