



Bag

Date

c. 1790

Primary Maker

Anishinaabe (Red River Ojibwa)

Medium

Buffalo hide, pigments, pony beads, wool, sinew thread

Description

rectangular flat pouch made of tanned buffalo skin. Sewn to the bottom is a panel of loom-woven beads. All sewing has been done with sinew thread. The warp of the beadwork panel consists of thin strings of leather, stained with red ochre. The weft is of sinew thread, while the beads are of the early "pony bead" type. Bead-strung fringes with yarn tassels at the ends decorate the bottom and sides of this panel. The bottom fringes are

continuations of the leather warp strings, while the side fringes are cut from separate, sewn-on strips of hide. The skin bag is decorated on both sides with geometric patterns, painted in red ochre and dark brown. The paint has been pressed into the skin surface, indicating the use of a solid tool instead of a brush in its application. Also the pattern on the beadwork panel is rigidly geometric, black, blue, yellow, and two shades of red against a white background. The beads on the fringes have been strung so as to create horizontal bars of contrasting colours. The yarn tassels are of a faded red colour and partially worn off.

Dimensions

Overall (Includes Fringe): 23 × 13 in. (58.4 × 33 cm)