

Basic Detail Report



Bag

Date

c. 1850-1870

Primary Maker

Haudenosaunee (Iroquois)

Medium

Velvet, silk binding, glass beads, cotton lining, thread

Description

In the early 1800s, Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) women began to offer beaded bags with floral and abstract imagery for sale to non-Natives, particularly travelers and tourists who visited Niagara Falls. Both the end of the War of 1812 and the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 contributed to the dynamics of this new activity. Although the majority of bags were sold, Iroquois women also wore the purses to accompany the beaded finery of their skirts, leggings and moccasins.

Dimensions

Overall: 5 1/4 x 5 1/2 in. (13.3 x 14 cm)