VISITING THE VESTERHEIM COLLECTION

BY JAN MOSTROM (GOLD MEDAL WINNER)



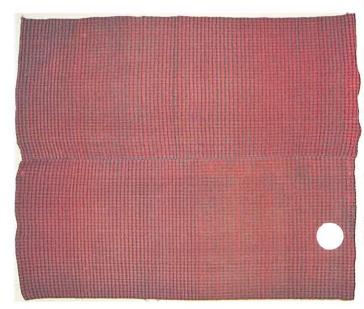
Piie side of rya coverlet 69x60 from Western Norway. Vesterheim (1990.013.001)

We are looking at a rya coverlet from the Vesterheim collection. The backing is an irregular twill houndstooth pattern in indigo blue and an orange red that looks like it could be dyed with madder. Both warp and weft are the same 2

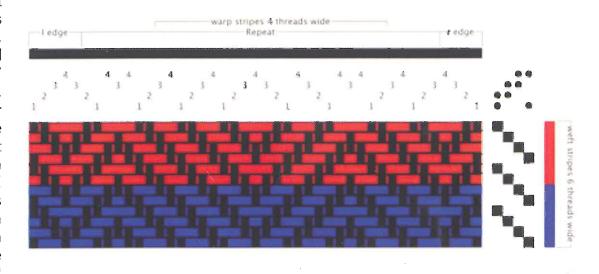
ply yarns. The sett is an even weave set at 12 epi. The knots are in green, gold, blue, and red arranged in 4" blocks of one color. The color arrangement of the blocks is somewhat random, but each row of blocks has all colors. The knots varied somewhat in their location from row to row. The warp stripes are 4

threads wide and the weft stripes are 6 threads wide. The coverlet was hemmed by rolling the cut edge of the coverlet under and sewing it down.

I used Rauma Alkea yarn to weave a sample of this structure and it worked well set at 12 epi. I placed the knots around the lifted threads on treadle 2 when shafts 2 and 3 were lifted. That left three threads down between the threads the knots were tied around. This space allowed complete coverage of the knots on the non-pile side of the coverlet so that side looks like a twill blanket.



Non-pile side of rya coverlet.



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6