

# VISITING THE VESTERHEIM

## COLLECTION:

### Vesterheim Goose Eye Rya

BY JAN MOSTROM

THE history of Vesterheim's goose eye rya (LC4292) pictured below is sparse, but we know it dates from the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



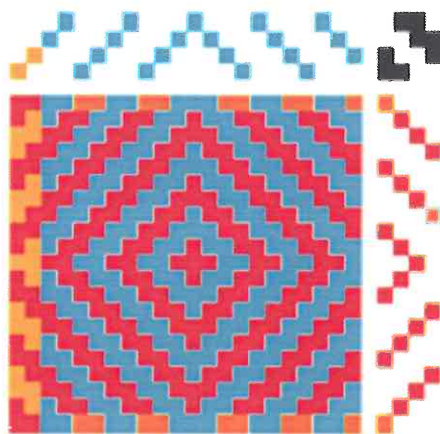
The coverlet size is 54" x 61.5". It is woven with 2 ply yarn in two pieces and joined down the center. The warp sett is about 22-23 epi and the weft sett is 16 ppi creating rectangular blocks rather than square.

The warp stripes are each 18 threads wide with 2 threads of yellow orange between each stripe. Warp sequence is brown, (red, teal) x 3, (red, brown) x 24, (red, teal) x 3, red, brown.

Weft sequence is similar but slightly different with 19 pick stripes of brown, (red, teal) x 2, (red, brown) x 19, (red, teal) x 2, red,

brown. There is a single pick of a redder orange between each block of color. The orange thread is carried down the side selvage.

Rows of rya knots are in browns, greens, natural white, pinks and purples, warp and weft color with some blips of other colors



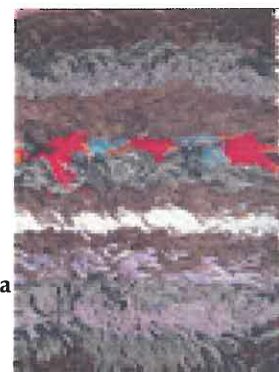
added.

Knots are around 4 threads and do not show on the opposite side of the coverlet. The knots are staggered around different warp threads from row to row but are quite closely set with only 1/16" or so between knots.

Rows are knotted at the edge of the block on the orange row for two rows and then switch



Close-ups of the Vesterheim goose eye rya



to the center of the blocks for two rows and continue in this alternating pattern. Some rows are about an inch apart and some are less than half an inch apart.

The coverlet is finished by rolling fabric to the knotted side of the coverlet and tacking it down.