Jacquard woven afghan of *Les Eglises de la vallée 2014*
MCC-00493

Total boxes: 1
Cubic feet: .35

Prepared by
Anne Chamberland, August 21, 2020
Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes
University of Maine at Fort Kent
Fort Kent, Maine

Jacquard woven afghan of *Les Eglises de la vallée 2014* (MCC-00493)

Shelf List Number: AX-493

Collection Overview

Creator

Country Mills Inc.

Dates
2014

Extent
1 box (.35 cubic feet)

Provenance
Material was donated by Gertrude Albert.

Language
French and English

Conservation notes
Not specified

Conditions Governing Access and Use

Restrictions

Access:

None

Physical:

None

Technical:

None

Rights Statement

Copyright has not been assigned to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes

Recommended Citation

Jacquard woven afghan of *Les Eglises de la vallée 2014* (MCC-00493). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Collection Description

Historical and Biographical Information

The **Jacquard machine** is a device fitted to a loom that simplifies the process of manufacturing textiles with such complex patterns as brocade, damask and matelassé. The resulting ensemble of the loom and Jacquard machine is then called a **Jacquard loom**. The machine was invented by Joseph Marie Jacquard in 1804, based on earlier inventions by the Frenchmen Basile Bouchon (1725), Jean Baptiste Falcon (1728), and Jacques Vaucanson (1740). The machine was controlled by a "chain of cards"; a number of punched cards laced together into a continuous sequence. Multiple rows of holes were punched on each card, with one complete card corresponding to one row of the design. Both the Jacquard process and the necessary loom attachment are named after their inventor. This mechanism is probably one of the most important weaving inventions as Jacquard shedding made possible the automatic production of unlimited varieties of pattern weaving. The term "Jacquard" is not specific or limited to any particular loom, but rather refers to the added control mechanism that automates the patterning. The process can also be used for patterned knitwear and machine-knitted textiles, such as jerseys.

This use of replaceable punched cards to control a sequence of operations is considered an important step in the history of computing hardware.[1]

Country Mills is located in Upper Black Eddy, Pennsylvania. This organization primarily operates in the Gifts and Novelties business / industry within the Wholesale Trade - Nondurable Goods sector. This organization has been operating for approximately 19 years.[2]

L'Association Française de la Vallée St-Jean or Le Club Français is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting an environment for the French language to prosper for all people in the St. John Valley, an area deeply connected to its Franco-American and Acadian heritage.

[1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacquard_machine
[2] http://www.buzzfile.com/business/Country-Mills-Inc-610-847-3284

They seek to influence attitudes towards use of French language in the region by raising awareness and demonstrating its cultural, linguistic, and economic value. Through education, recognition, encouragement, and community service, they support those who value French as a viable and beneficial form of expression in the St. John Valley.

Le Club Français holds monthly meetings in French. It serves as an important repository for preserving French culture and language related to the St. John Valley. Books for adults and children are available on loan.[3]

Scope and content

This collection consists of one Jacquard woven afghan measuring 45 inches wide by 69 inches long with a fringe border. The afghan depicts all the catholic churches of the St. John Valley and their names woven in black on a light gray-colored background. Also, depicted in the center of the afghan are the names of *L'Association Française de la Vallée St-Jean; Le Centre Français Madawaska; La maison Mikesell*; and the flag representing le centre français. The backside of the afghan shows a black background with white churches and letters.

This afghan was the result of a fundraiser for L'Association française de la Vallée St-Jean, an idea of Marie-Paule and Dan Lapointe of Van Buren, Maine in 2013. Marie-Paul went around and photographed the churches in the valley except for one; the church in Eagle Lake was photographed by Bob Devoe. The afghans are/were made as needed and available in two colors, red and black.

Written on the label of the afghan: "Country Mills Inc., 100% cotton, Jacquard woven afghan, Made in USA."

Arrangement

Not applicable

Separated Materials (If Applicable)

Not applicable

Subject Headings

Afghans (Coverlets)
Arts and crafts
L'Association Française de la Vallée St-Jean
Catholic church – St. John Valley (Me)
Cotton weaving
Jacquard weaving
St. John Valley (ME) – Acadians
St. John Valley Me and N.B. – History

[3] https://www.nps.gov/maac/planyourvisit/leclub.htm

Textile Industry
Woven textiles

Related Materials

Not applicable

Collection Inventory

One afghan measuring 45 inches wide by 69 inches long with a fringe border. The colors are light gray background with black woven churches and writing.