

INDEX CARDS

Collections

and Fox Indians

Medicine Bush--and Fox

and Fox

Field Worker: Lenna M. Rushing  
March 16, 1937

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HISTORICAL COLLECTION OWNED BY: James Scott  
Stroud, Oklahoma, Rt. 2

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### Medicine Pouch

It is from one hundred and fifty years to two hundred years old, and is kept at the home of Mr. Scott. It is in an excellent storage place and is in good condition. Mr. Scott intends to return it to Medicine Lodge. He would not be willing to part with it now.

The following is a description of the contents of a medicine pouch used by the members of the Sac and Fox Medicine Lodge:

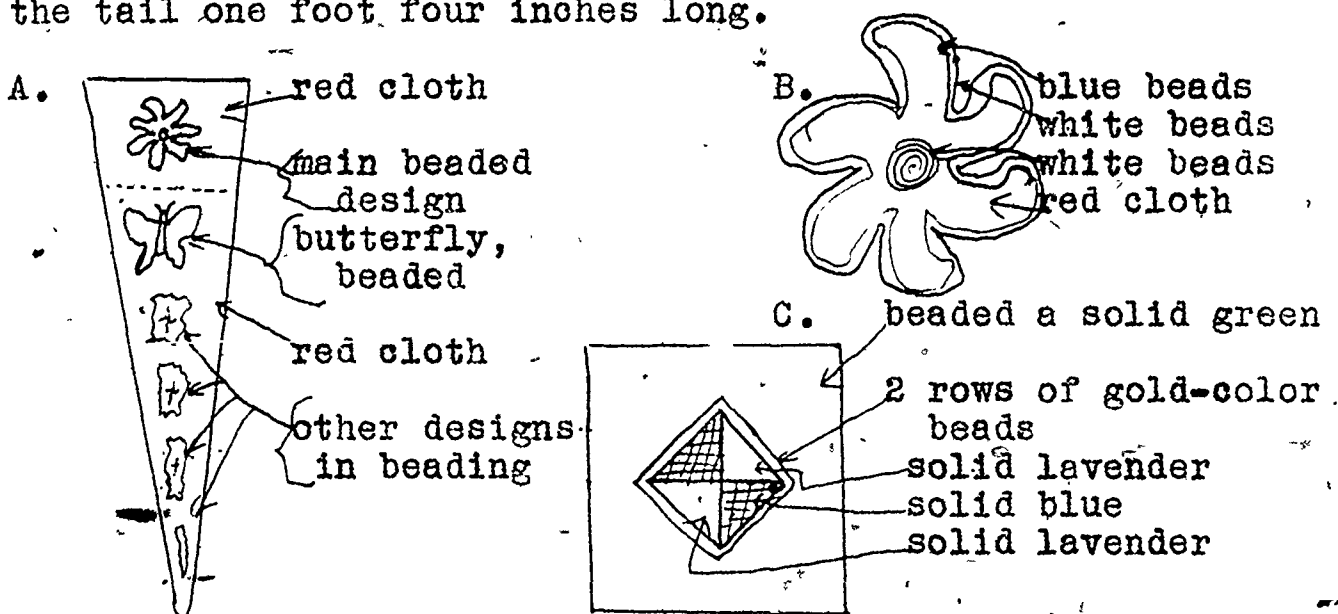
The articles were placed in a woven tapestry bag. Lying loose in the bag was a length of lavender ribbon, and a length of black-blue-and black striped ribbon with a row of gold dots in the blue. There was also a red clay peace-pipe.

The rest of the things were wrapped in two lengths of black and white printed calico. These are the things actually used in the Lodge today.

One otter skin, three feet, nine inches long with a beaded cloth tail one foot, four inches long. The head was painted with green clay. The neck was slit up and down four inches to make an opening for the pocket made by the entire skin. In the pocket were four different kinds of herbs wrapped in small pieces of cloth separately. On each foot is a beaded design on both four inches square, the design of which being repeated in the beaded tail. The center diagonal design was two inches high and two inches square.

One rattle-snake skin four feet, six inches long. It is lined with a red cloth, and on its back has flat brass buttons, ranging from three-fourths inch in diameter at its head to one-half inch at its tail, in a row down the back.

A bald eagles two feet, ten inches in length. This also is lined with red cloth. There is a beaded design on the tail one foot four inches long.



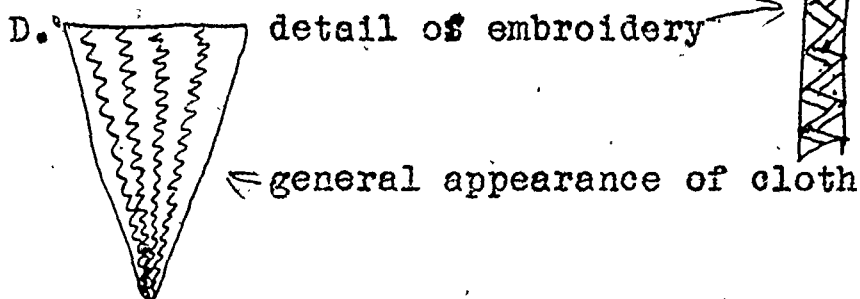
A. is a sketch of the whole tail, and B. is a sketch of the principal design. C. is a sketch of the design of the otter skin, described on page one.

One king snake skin, five feet, three inches long, with a three-inch tail made of red cloth. It is unlined and undecorated.

One snake skin five feet, four inches long, the tail of which is sewed on. This piece four inches long is of the same snake skin and may have been patched. Then again, it may have some hidden significance.

A darkish-blue cloth, one foot, six inches long with a row of white beads across the top and down the left side.

It is a triangular shape, six inches wide at the top and narrowing down to a point. At equal distances across the top and converging at the bottom of the cloth, are four rows of zigzag embroidery. The embroidery is of a straw-like material, pushed and zig-zagged back and forth, probably of porcupine quills.

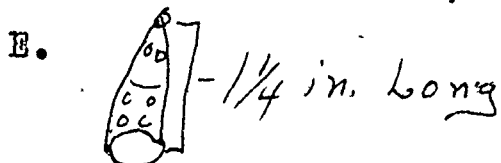


One snake skin three feet, five inches long. It is unlined and has a five-inch tail.

One brown mink skin, two feet, three inches long.

One package of sky-blue paint, in the shape of a small ball and tied up in a small piece of cloth.

One piece of dried buffalo hide five inches by six inches. On each corner are three bells of the sleigh bell variety tied with buffalo hide string. Across the hide are three rows of bells, nine bells in each row. These bells are long and triangular in shape, as shown in E. The whole is bordered in red and white beads.



It is practically impossible to buy one of these medicine pouches, or even to look at one. There are several in museums, but to my knowledge, there are no Sac and Fox pouches available. This pouch itself is to be returned to the Lodge as soon as a new member is adopted, and is not open for examination to anyone.