

Textile Preservation Associates, Inc.

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TREATMENT REPORT

Date February 2, 1999

TPA No. 915

Object 1st Regiment TVI, CSA

Catalog No M-13-80

Client Texas State Archives
1201 Brazos Street
Austin, TX 78711-2927

Contact Christopher LaPlante
Phone (512) 463-5467 FAX (512) 463-5436

REPORT OF EXAMINATION

Object submitted for examination

DOCUMENTATION

10 Kodachrome 25, 35mm color slides were taken before and after treatment.
Analysis: See attached report.

Description

Size Leading edge 65" Fly 81 1/2" (including ties and fringe)

The flag is a Texas state flag with a blue canton, and white and red bars, constructed of two layers of silk throughout. The canton has one white silk star appliquéd to the center on each side of the canton. The star measures 21 1/2" point to point and is tilted toward the hoist. The capture number 110 is stenciled in black in the upper hoist corner on the obverse side. The obverse side of the canton also has two battle honors applied with white paint in a modified block style in 3 1/2" letters. Painted above the star in a slight arc is "SEVEN PINES" and below the star, also in an arc, is "GAINES FARM". There are remnants of gold and red lettering on the white bar. On the red bar there are remnants of gold and green letters including a nearly intact "LL". The reported history states that the battle honors are "ELTHAM'S

LANDING" on the white bar and "MALVERN HILL" on the red bar. There are four pairs (of an original six) of 7 1/2" blue silk ties evenly spaced along the hoist for attachment. Sections of a 2 1/2" metallic fringe are present along the top and bottom edge.

Condition

Previous Treatment

The flag is covered with a handsewn Fowler-Ritchie Conservation treatment, from the 1930-40's. The two layers of the canton were totally separated and the ties were removed. A layer of blue linen fabric was placed behind the reverse side of the canton. The star and the battles honors were sewn down using the square stitch pattern and couching. The star on the obverse side was stitched using the square stitch pattern to the blue silk of the canton itself. The layers of the canton were then joined (with the linen between) and the square stitch pattern was completed through all layers. The silk ribbon ties were backed with netting and sewn with the square stitch pattern and reattached to the canton. The bars of the fly were not separated. Instead, pieces of appropriately colored linen were joined and used to back the silk. A layer of netting was placed over the silk and the square stitch pattern was applied. A portion of the white bar at the fly end was folded over when it was placed on the backing. The remaining fringe pieces may have already been detached at the time of the treatment or they may have been removed during the treatment process. In either case they were reattached during the treatment.

Present Condition

The blue silk is relatively strong but has suffered multiple horizontal splits following the ribbed pattern in the fabric. On the obverse side there is a 12" by 8" hole near the bottom beside the hoist and a 2" wide strip missing near the top edge. On the reverse side the silk is more fractured, especially through the battle honors. There is one 1/2" wide strip missing on the fly half under the word "FARM". The white silk of both stars is extremely brittle and fractured. The star on the obverse has only minor loss but the one on the reverse side has 70% loss.

The silk of the fly is severely degraded and fractured throughout. There is some staining throughout, especially on the white bar. There are spots of what appear to be red paint on the white bar. There is approximately a 7" section missing where the fly joins the canton and another 1-2" at the fly end (assuming and estimate length of 72"). The reverse layer of white silk is badly fractured into tiny pieces in the area where the battle honor was applied. On the obverse a few fragments of painted battles honors remain but there are no complete letters. On the red bar more of the reverse layer is intact than the obverse. There are several battle honor fragments

remaining including some of the "M" & "V" in "MALVERN" and most of the "LL" in "HILL". The red silk is severely faded. It presently appears purple in color. Our experience is that certain red dyes will turn purple upon aging. The fringe is missing along the top and fly edge, with about 50% missing from the bottom. The fringe pieces that remain are very weak. Approximately 30 strands are detached from the gimp.

There are 1/16th inch holes and an impression of the stitch pattern remaining in the silk as a result of the previous treatment.

REPORT OF TREATMENT

Documentation

1. The flag, as received, was photographed on both sides (see photos 1-2).
2. Some of the previous treatment had already been removed and some of the stitching was cut but not pulled. The remainder of the previous treatment was removed by working under 10x magnification. Uncut threads were cut then removed one at a time. The flag was photographed on both sides after the previous treatment was removed (see photos 3-4).
3. The fibers, fabrics, and sewing threads were analyzed. Information about the construction of the flag, and any evidence of alterations to the original was noted. Scale drawings were made of the flag and an analysis report was prepared. Particle samples were taken for the files.

Stabilization

4. To relax the fabrics and remove distortions caused by the previous treatment, the flag was humidified by light misting with distilled water. When relaxed, the fabrics were flattened and dried under glass weights. Separated pieces were returned to their original location (see photos 5-6).
5. The flag was sandwiched between two layers of appropriately colored Stabiltex¹, a multifilament polyester crepeline. The layers of the canton, having already been separated as part of the previous treatment were each encapsulated separately in blue Stabiltex. The blue layer over each star on each layer was cut away. The star was overlaid with yellow Stabiltex. The two layers of the fly were both encapsulated as one layer. Because the flag was constructed by sewing both layers together before joining them to another section, it was impossible to separate the layers without removing the original seams. Yellow Stabiltex was used over the white bar and red over the red bar. The size of the Stabiltex was extended to what is estimated to be

the original length of the fly. The loose fragments of the fly were arranged as they had been during the previous treatment. The location in relation to the extended size was determined by figuring the length of the battle honors and centering them. The layers were attached by sewing through the voids. Fragments were aligned and sewn around their perimeter to hold them in place. Sewing was carried out with thread pulled from the Stabiltex. The pieces were photographed after encapsulation (see photos 7-8).

6. The detached fringe pieces were reattached with 3 ply Z silk thread to the fly end piece of gimp.

7. The flag was reassembled as it was originally constructed by placing the fly between the layers of the canton and stitching with one row of blue 3 ply Z silk thread. The ties were reattached to the canton in their original locations by lightly stitching with single ply silk thread. The fringe was aligned on the obverse side of the flag and sewn with gold 3 ply Z silk thread. The fringe pieces were positioned in areas corresponding to the color of the original thread fragments remaining with the exception of the piece at the top. This piece originally belonged on the fly end as there were fragments of both red and white thread. It was decided that the piece be placed at the top of the canton to balance the appearance of the flag.

Preparation for Exhibition

8. A buffered, acid-free panel² was prepared then covered with nonwoven polyester batting³ and a previously washed, unbleached, airwing grade, fine cotton fabric⁴.

9. The flag was attached to the padded panel with one row of stitching across the top using 3 ply Z silk threads of appropriate color. Attachment was made through the Stabiltex to avoid additional stress on the flag. The flag was photographed on the panel (see photo 9).

10. Ultra-violet filtering OP-2 Acrylite was laid over the flag, applying a light pressure to the fabric. The entire unit was placed in a large gold frame (finished in Sand beige metallic #34367) with an aluminum back.

11. A final photo was taken and a treatment report prepared (see photo 10).

PROGNOSIS

The object should be exhibited under less than five foot-candles of light. Because any light is damaging, it is recommended that the piece be rotated between exhibit and storage, or covered with a dense cloth when not being viewed. Maximum

effort should be made to reduce the total exposure to light. Care should be taken to avoid aiming lights directly on the case, which can cause a "greenhouse" effect, or heat build up within the unit.

To best preserve the object, the temperature and humidity level should be kept fairly constant, with temperatures of less than 70 degrees Fahrenheit and a relative humidity of 45% plus or minus 5%. Avoid hanging the object against an outside wall, or place spacers between the wall and the frame to prevent humidity transfer.

If this object is ever stored, it can be placed flat or vertical. We recommend storage in the frame, since it is part of the conservation treatment and will provide a more stable environment.

HANGING THE FRAME

There are two metal tabs along the top of the frame for hooking onto a screw or bolt. A phillips head screwdriver may be used for opening the frame if it is ever necessary. A bottle of touch up paint with a brush is also included.

CARE OF THE PLEXIGLAS

The plexiglas is soft and may scratch so care must be taken during handling. Plexiglas should not be cleaned with ammonia based window cleaners. Either plexiglas cleaner should be purchased, or water with a drop of liquid dishwasher detergent can be used along with very soft rags (diapers or gauze). If paper towels are used they should be extremely soft.

Total treatment hours: 184

Signed:  Date: 2/1/99
Fonda Ghiardi Thomsen, Fellow AIC,
Director, Textile Preservation Associates, Inc.

Work on the object was carried out by Cathy Heffner, Conservation Technician, Textile Preservation Associates, Inc. under the supervision of Fonda G. Thomsen, Conservator.

Reference list of materials used in the conservation of this object.

1. Stabiltex, a sheer, multifilament, plain weave, polyester: Talas, 568 Broadway, New York, NY 10012 (212) 219-0770.

2. Corrugated Board, buffered, acid free: Holinger Corporation, P.O. Box 8360, Fredricksburg, VA 22404 (800) 634-0491.

3. Batting: "Jasztex" a thermo bonded polyester batting: Museum Services Corporation, 1107 East Cliff Road, Burnsville, MN 55337.

"Poly-fil Traditional Batting" a non-woven, needle punched batting: Fairfield Processing Corporation, 88 Rose Hill Avenue, Danbury, CT. 06810.

4. Cotton, a 100% airwing grade fabric: Fox Reich Textiles, Inc., 54 Danbury Road, Suite 228, Ridgefield, CN 06877 (914) 533-2445.

5. Acrylite OP-2, a colorless cast ultraviolet filtering acrylic sheet: Cyro Industries, P. O. Box 950, 100 Valley Road, Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856 (416) 675-9433.

TPA # 415

Cat # M1-13-80

1st Regiment 1 V 1, USA

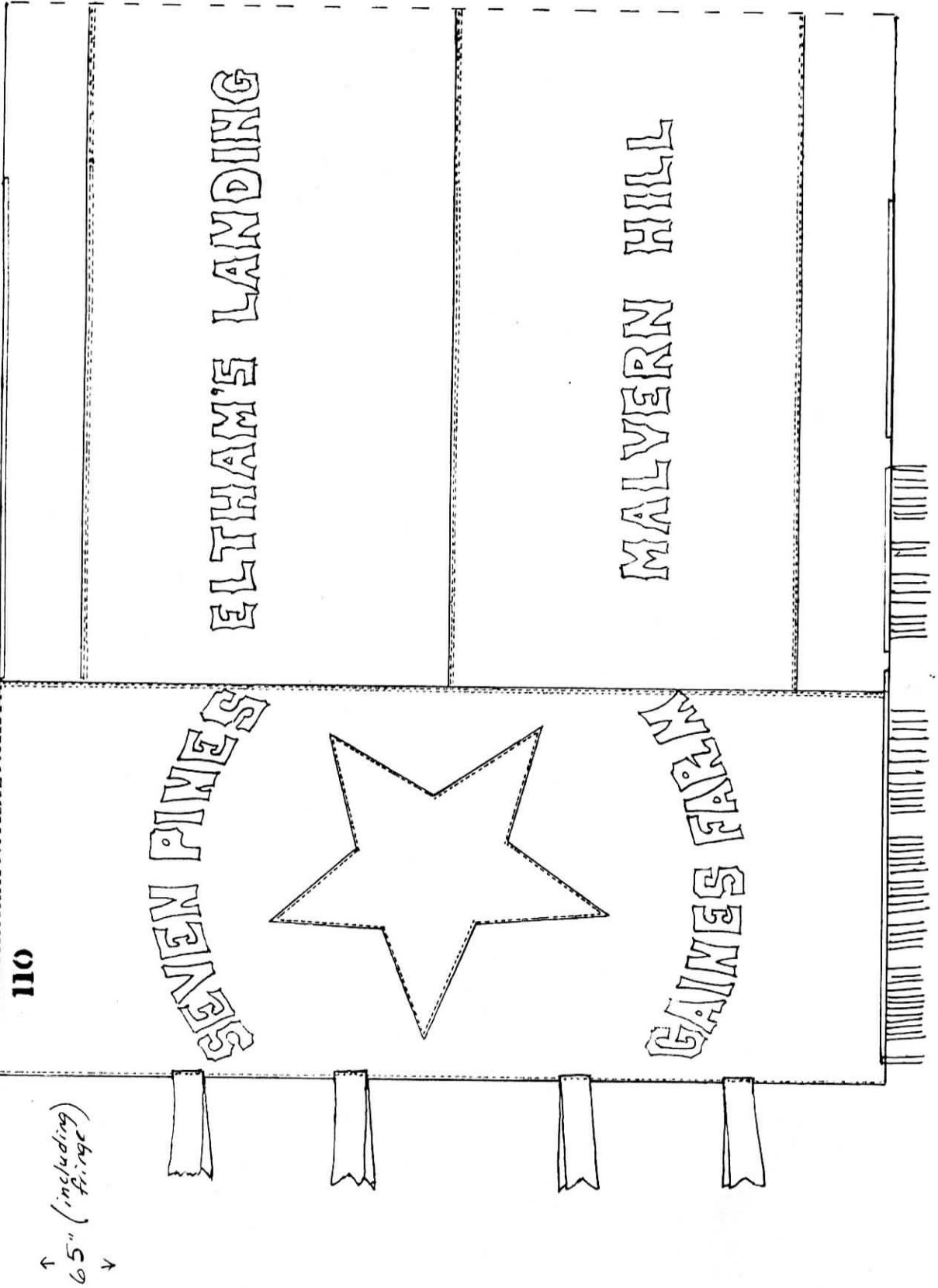
OBVERSE

Drawing # 1

Scale: 1" = 10" 0 2 1/2 5 7 1/2 10 = inches

CONSTRUCTION

← 8 1/2" → (estimated including ties & fringe)
← 72" → (fly)



↑ 65" (including fringe)
↓

- Canton: 26 1/2"
- Star: 2 1/2"
- Red Bar: 30"
- White Bar: 30"
- Ties: 7-7 1/2"
- Fringe: 2 1/2"
- Lettering: 3 1/2"

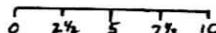
TPA # 915

1st Regiment TVI, CSA

REVERSE

Drawing # 2

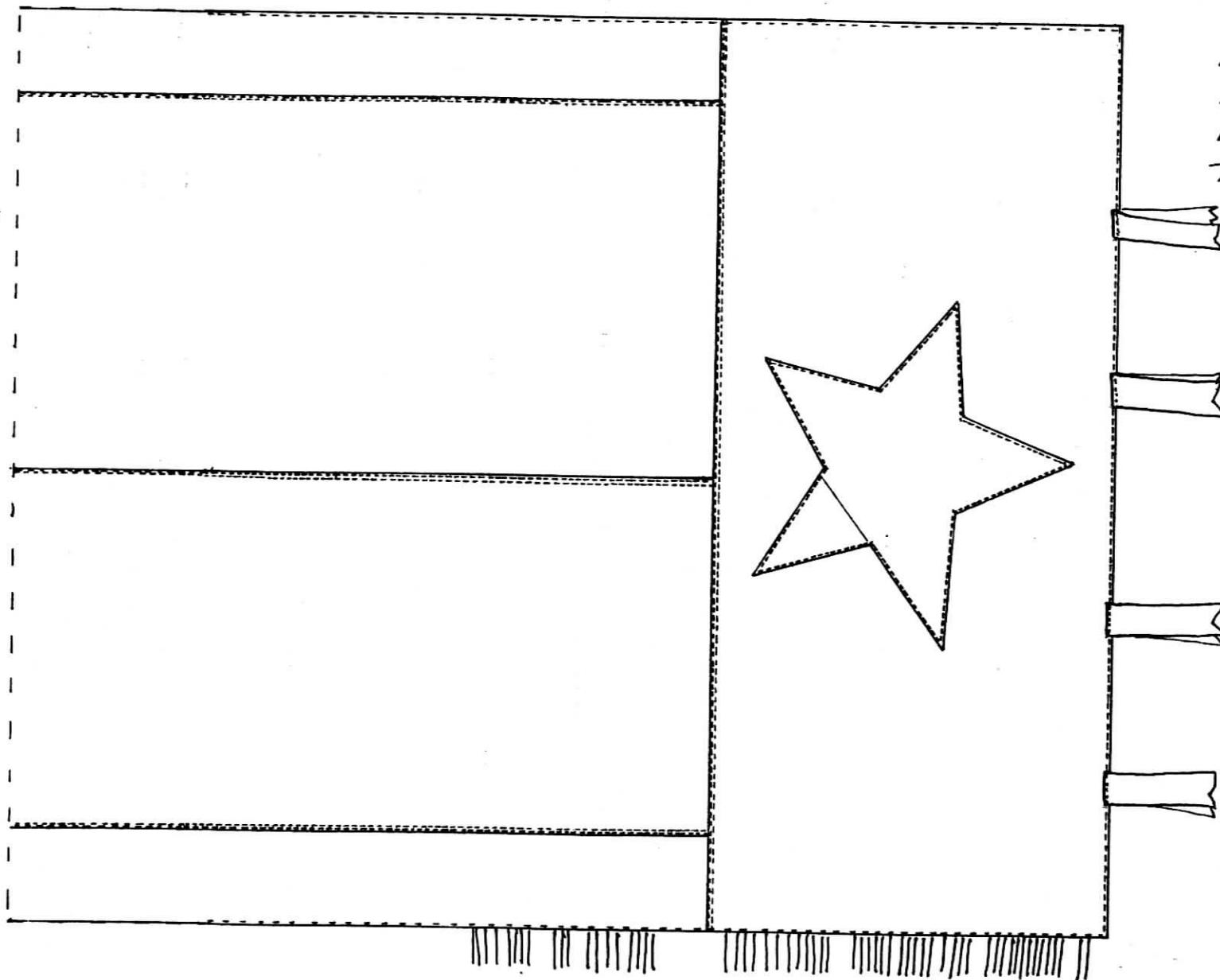
Cat. # M-13-80

Scale: 1" = 10" 

CONSTRUCTION

← 72" → (estimated - Fly) (81 1/2 including fringe & ties)

↑
65"
↓
including fringe



Canton: 26 1/2"

Star: 21 1/2"

Red Bar: 30"

White Bar: 30"

Ties: 7-7 1/2"

Fringe: 2 1/2"

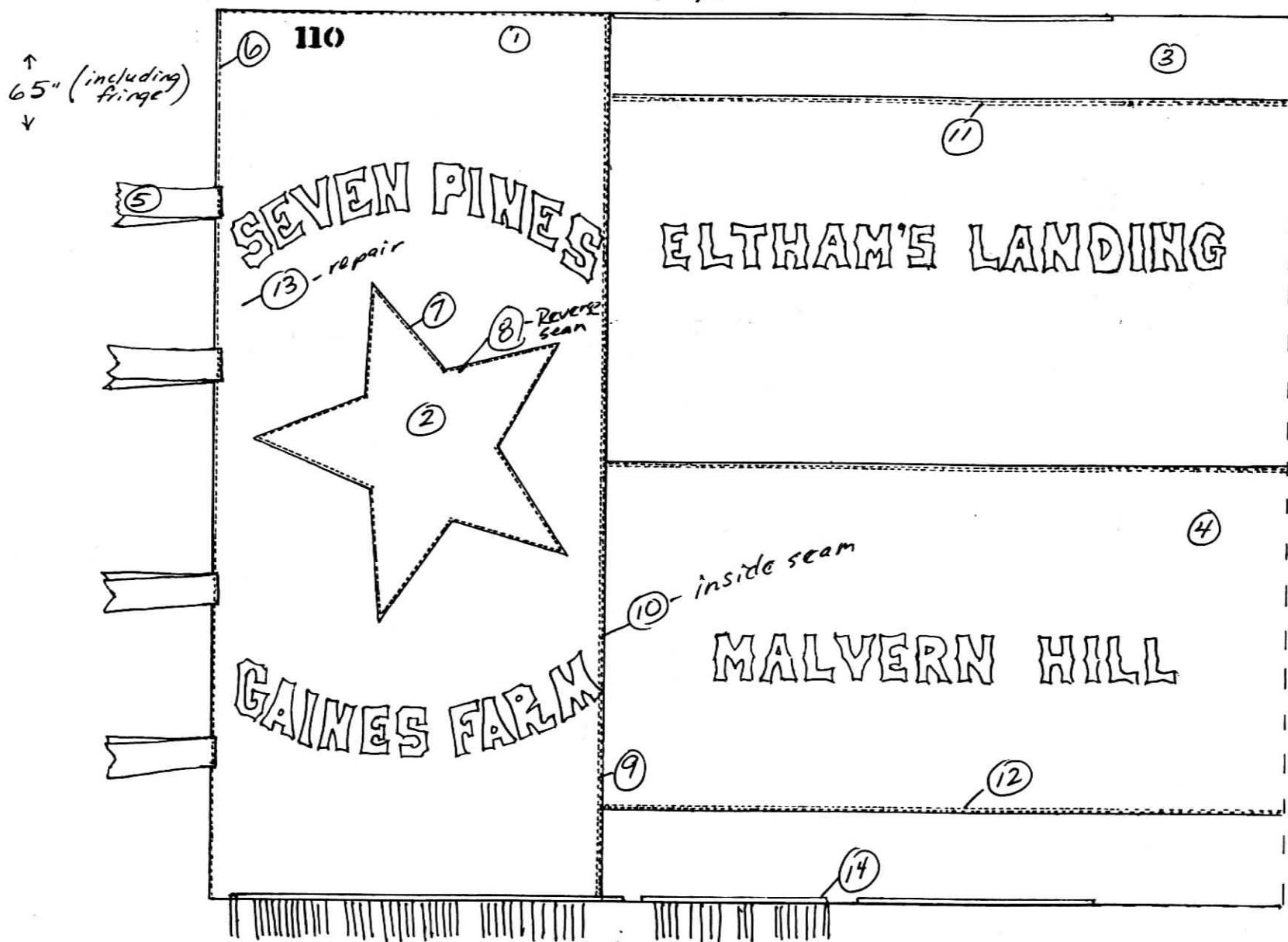
TPA # 915
Cat # M-13-80

1st Regiment TVI, CSA
Scale: 1" = 10" $0 \quad 2\frac{1}{2} \quad 5 \quad 7\frac{1}{2} \quad 10$ = inches

OBVERSE

Drawing # 3
SAMPLING

← 81½ → (estimated including ties & fringe)
← 72" → (fly)



Canton: 26½"
Star: 21½"
Red Bar: 30"
White Bar: 30"
Ties: 7-7½"
Fringe: 2½"
Lettering: 3½"

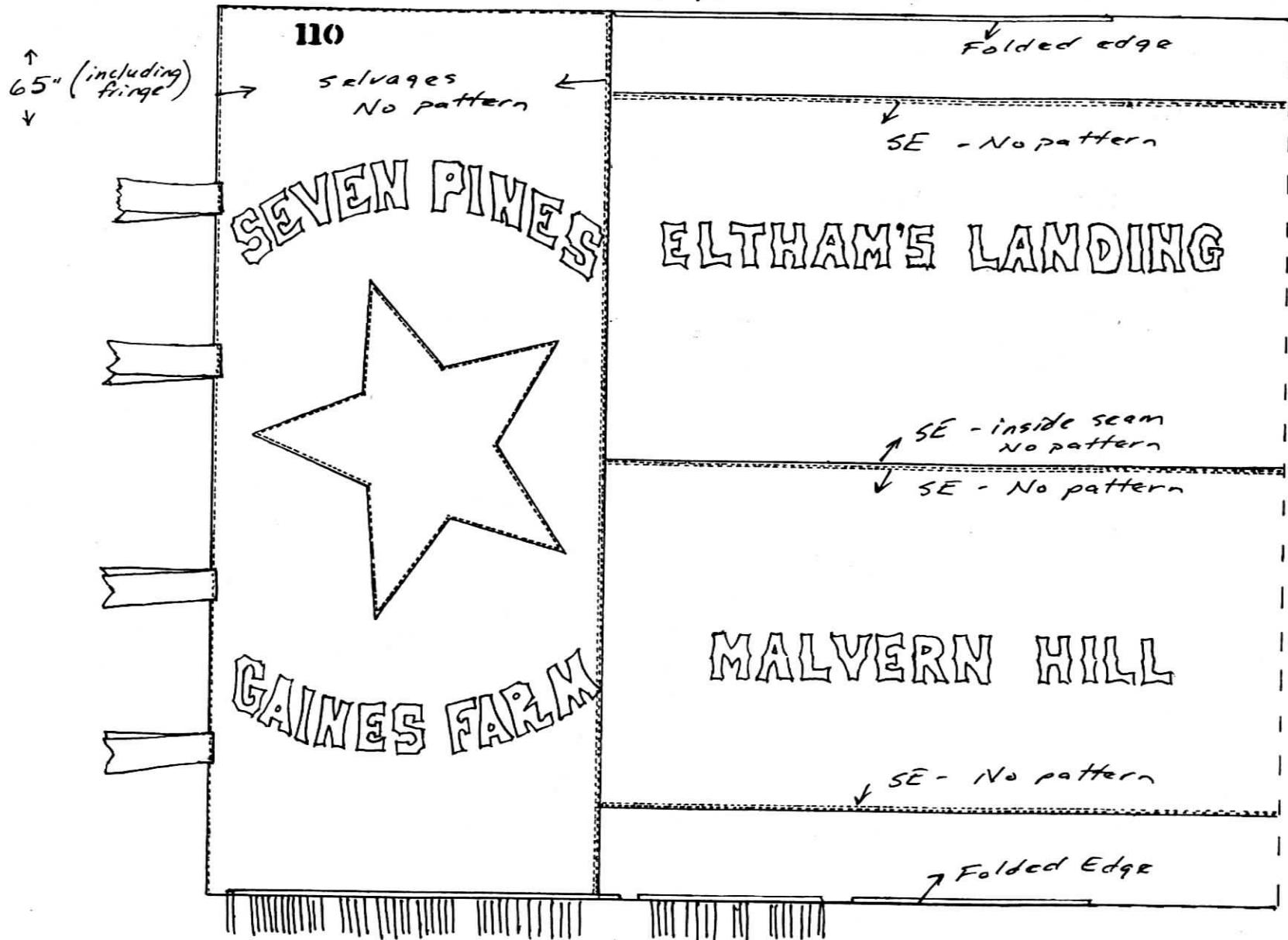
TPH # 412
Cat # M-13-80

1st Regiment 1 V 1, USA
Scale: 1" = 10" 0 2 1/2 5 7 1/2 10 = inches

OBVERSE

Drawing # 4
SELVAGE EDGES

← 81 1/2 → (estimated including ties & fringe)
← 72 → (fly)



Canton: 26 1/2"
Star: 21 1/2"
Red Bar: 30"
White Bar: 30"
Ties: 7-7 1/2"
Fringe: 2 1/2"
Lettering: 3 1/2"

TPA # 915

1st Regiment TV1, CSA

REVERSE

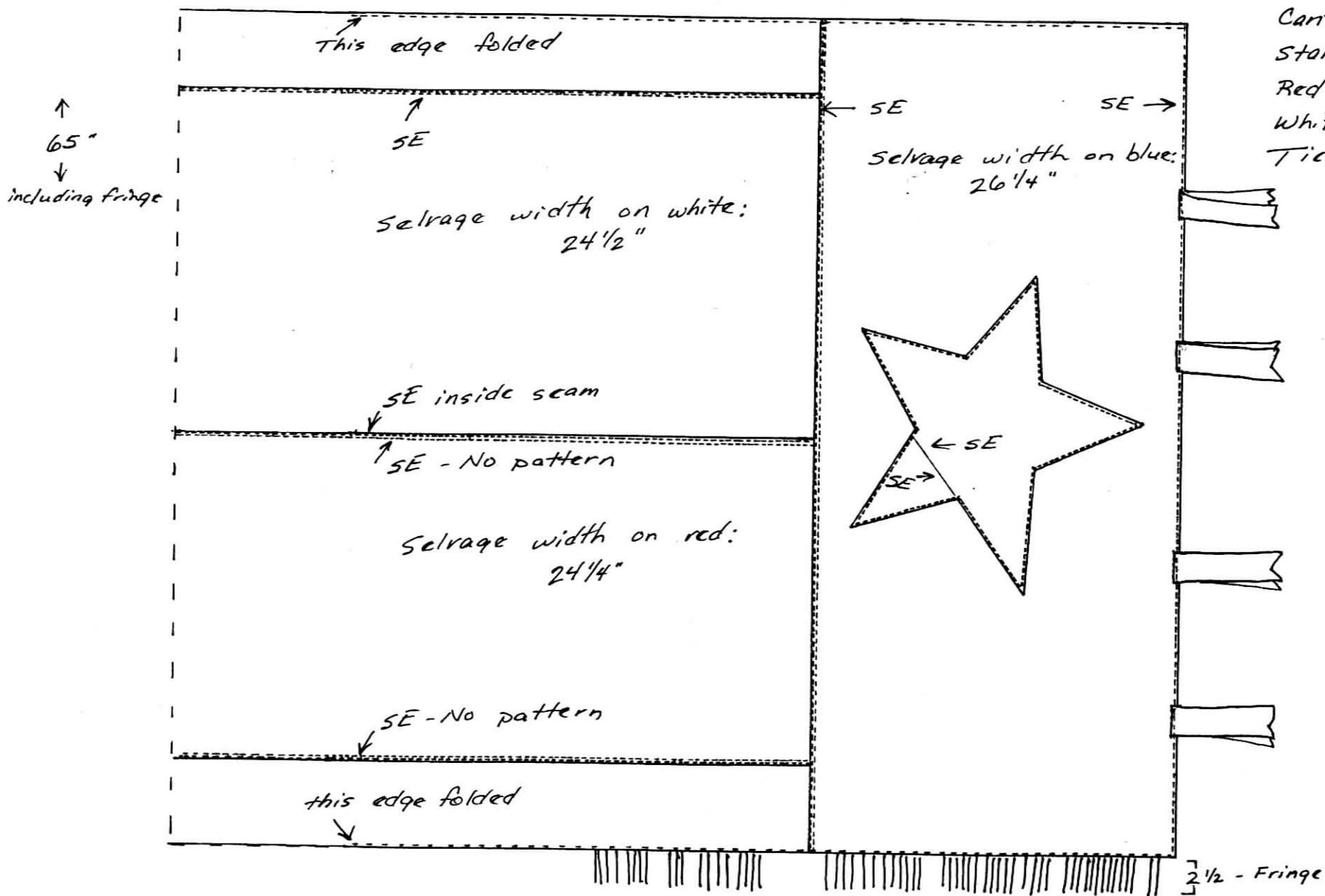
Drawing # 5

Cat. # M-13-80

Scale: 1" = 10" 0 2 1/2 5 7 1/2 10 inches

SELVAGE EDGES

← 72" → (estimated-Fly) (82" including fringe & ties)



Canton: 26 1/2"
 Star: 2 1/2"
 Red Bar: 30"
 White Bar: 30"
 Ties: 7-7 1/2"

2 1/2 - Fringe

TPA # 915

Cat # M-13-80

1st Regiment TVI, CSA

Scale: 1" = 10" 0 3 1/2 5 7 1/2 10 = inches

OBVERSE

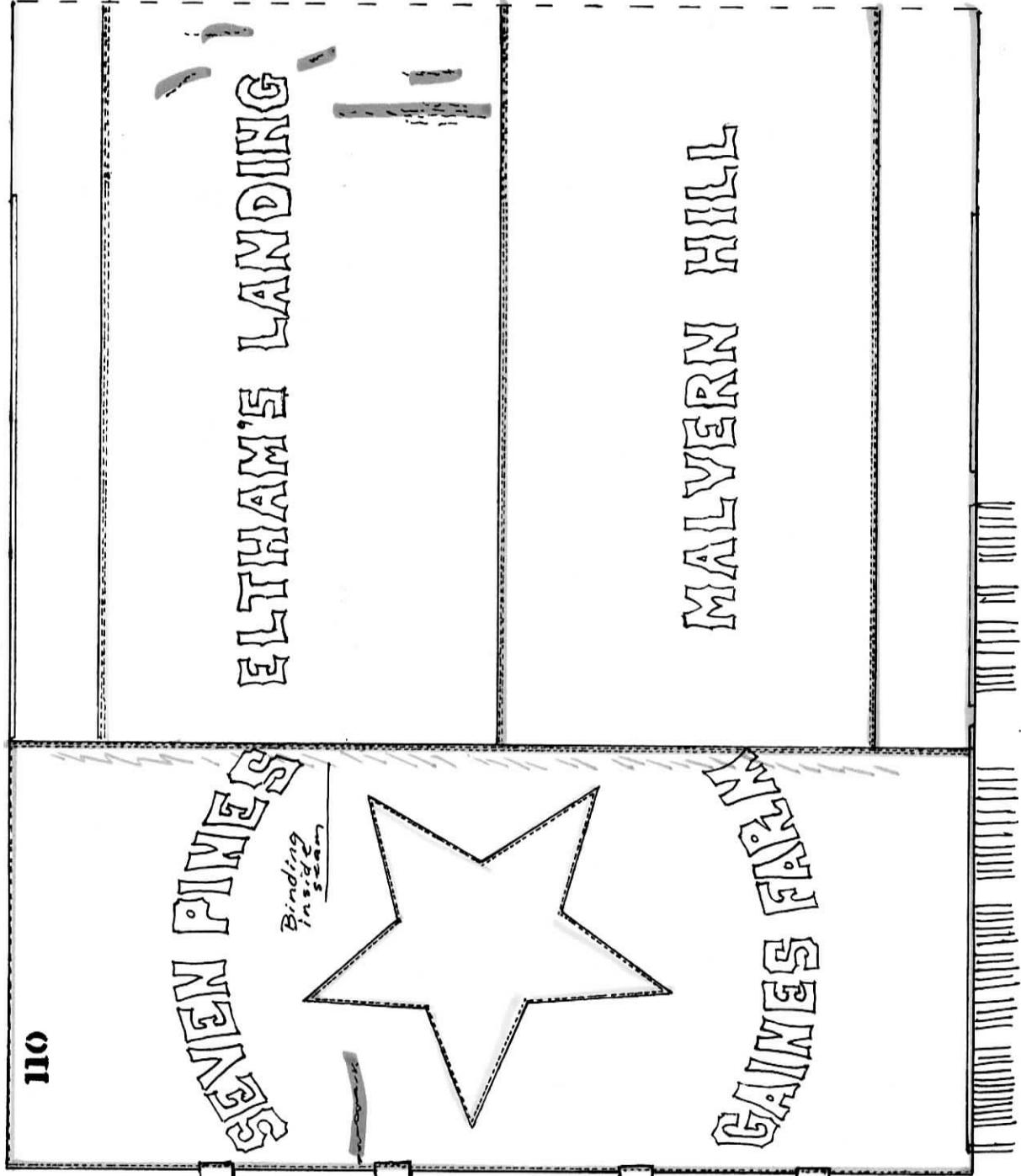
Drawing # 6

SEWING THREADS

← 8 1/2" → (estimated including ties & fringe)

← 72" → (fly)

↑ 65" (including fringe)
↓



Canton: 26 1/2"
 Star: 2 1/2"
 Red Bar: 30"
 White Bar: 30"
 Ties: 7-7 1/2"
 Fringe: 2 1/2"
 Lettering: 3 1/2"

3 Ply 2 Silk

2 Ply 5 Silk (white)

2 Ply 5 Silk (Red)

2/2 Cabled Cotton

3 Ply Cotton (Repair)

TPA # 915
Cat # M-13-80

1st Regiment TVI, CSA
Scale: 1" = 10" 0 2 1/2 5 7 1/2 10 = inches

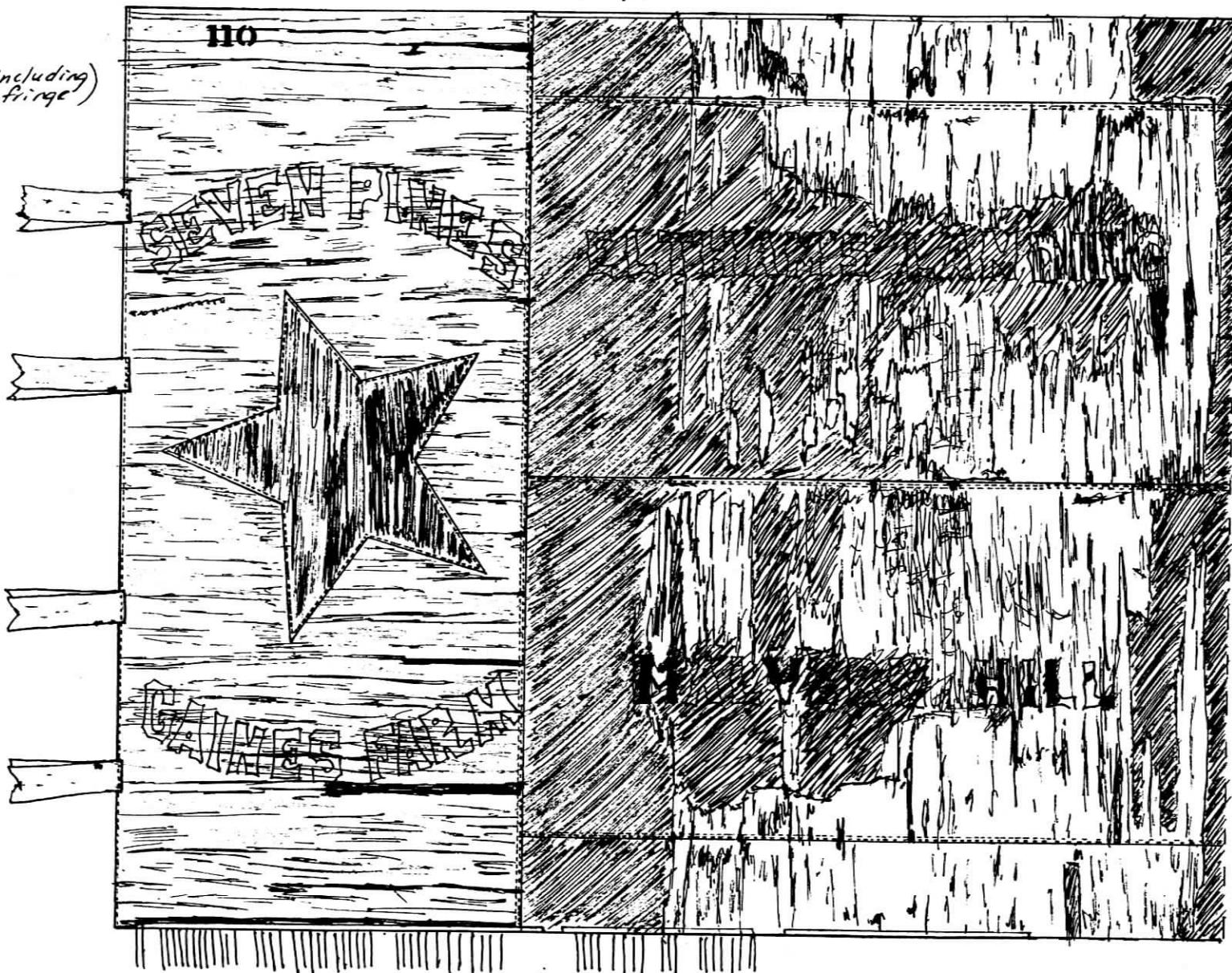
OBVERSE

Drawing # 8
CONDITION

← 8 1/2" → (estimated including ties & fringe)

← 72" → (fly)

↑
65" (including fringe)
↓



Canton: 26 1/2"

Star: 21 1/2"

Red Bar: 30"

White Bar: 30"

Ties: 7-7 1/2"

Fringe: 2 1/2"

Lettering: 3 1/2"

TPA # 915

1st Regiment TVI, CSA

REVERSE

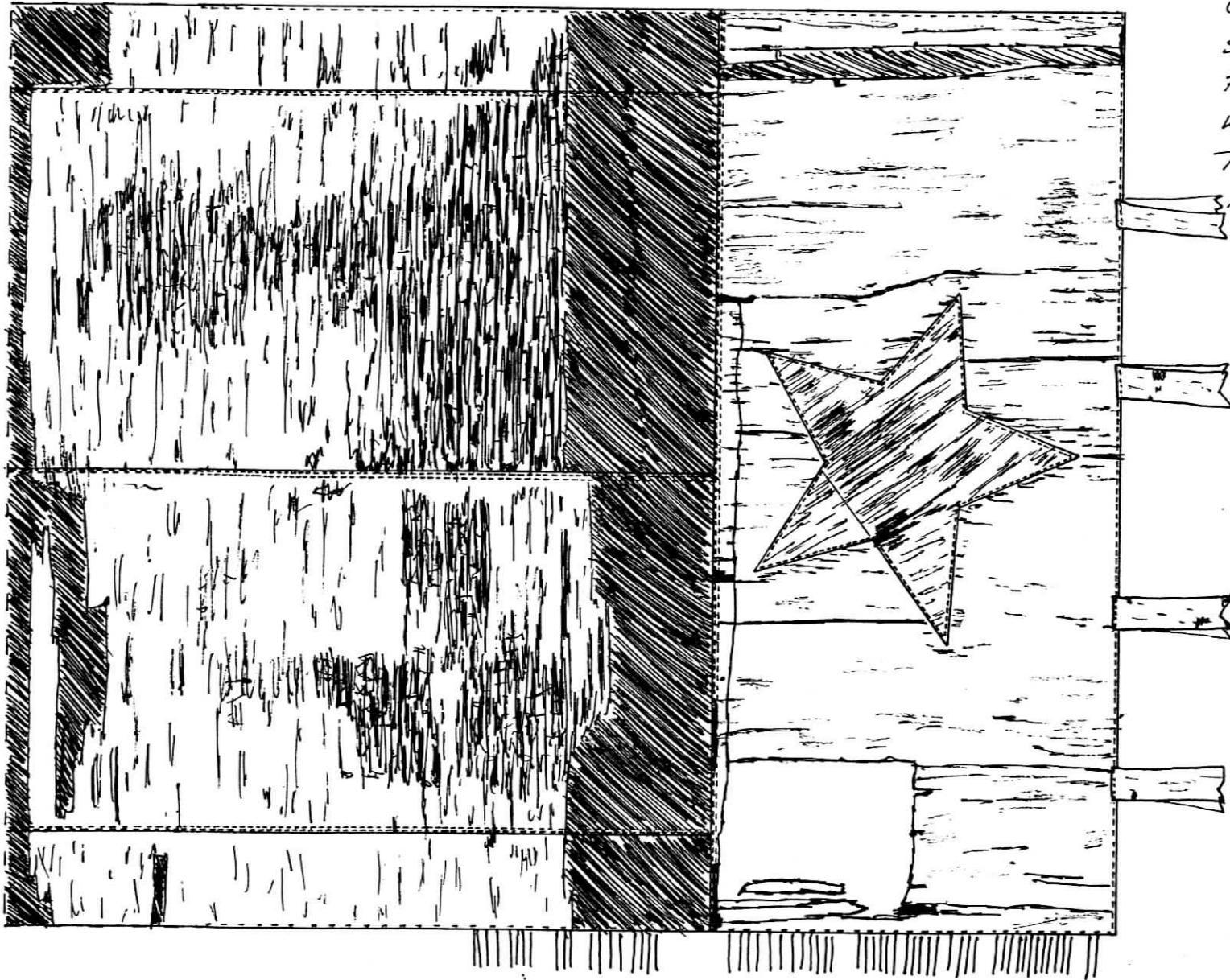
Drawing # 9

Cat. # M-13-80

Scale: 1" = 10" $\overbrace{0 \quad 2\frac{1}{2} \quad 5 \quad 7\frac{1}{2} \quad 10}$ inches

← 72" → (estimated - Fly) (81½ including fringe & ties)

↑
65"
↓
including fringe



Canton: 26½"
Star: 21½"
Red Bar: 30"
White Bar: 30"
Ties: 7-7½"
Fringe: 2½"

TPA # 915
Cat # M-13-80

1st Regiment TVI, CSA
Scale: 1" = 10" 0 2 1/2 5 7 1/2 10 = inches

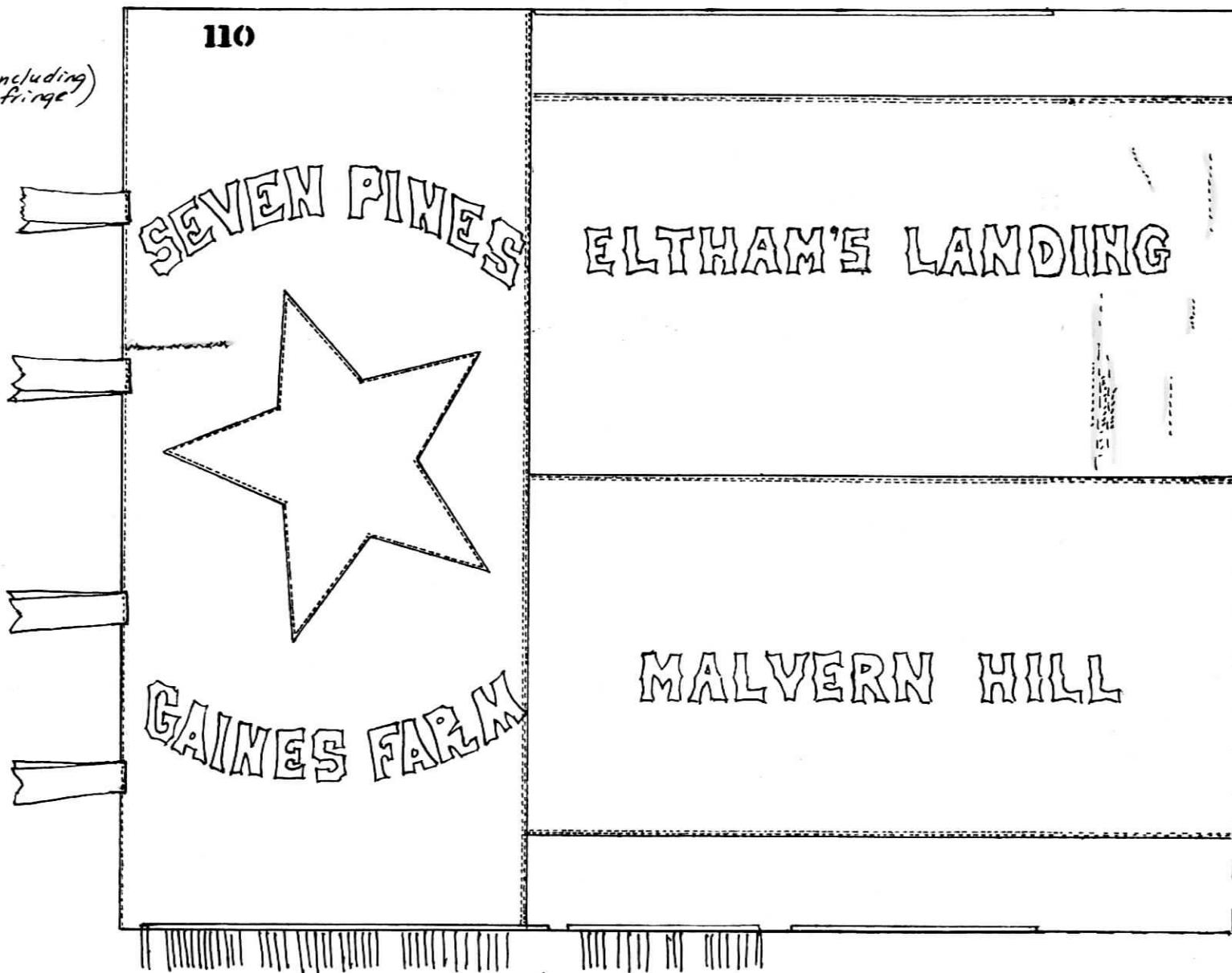
OBVERSE

Drawing # 10
PREVIOUS REPAIRS

← 81 1/2" → (estimated including ties & fringe)

← 72" → (fly)

↑
65" (including
fringe)
↓



Canton: 26 1/2"
Star: 21 1/2"
Red Bar: 30"
White Bar: 30"
Ties: 7-7 1/2"
Fringe: 2 1/2"
Lettering: 3 1/2"

TPA # 915

Cat # M-13-80

1st Regiment TVI, CSA

Scale: 1" = 10" 0 2 1/2 5 7 1/2 10 = inches

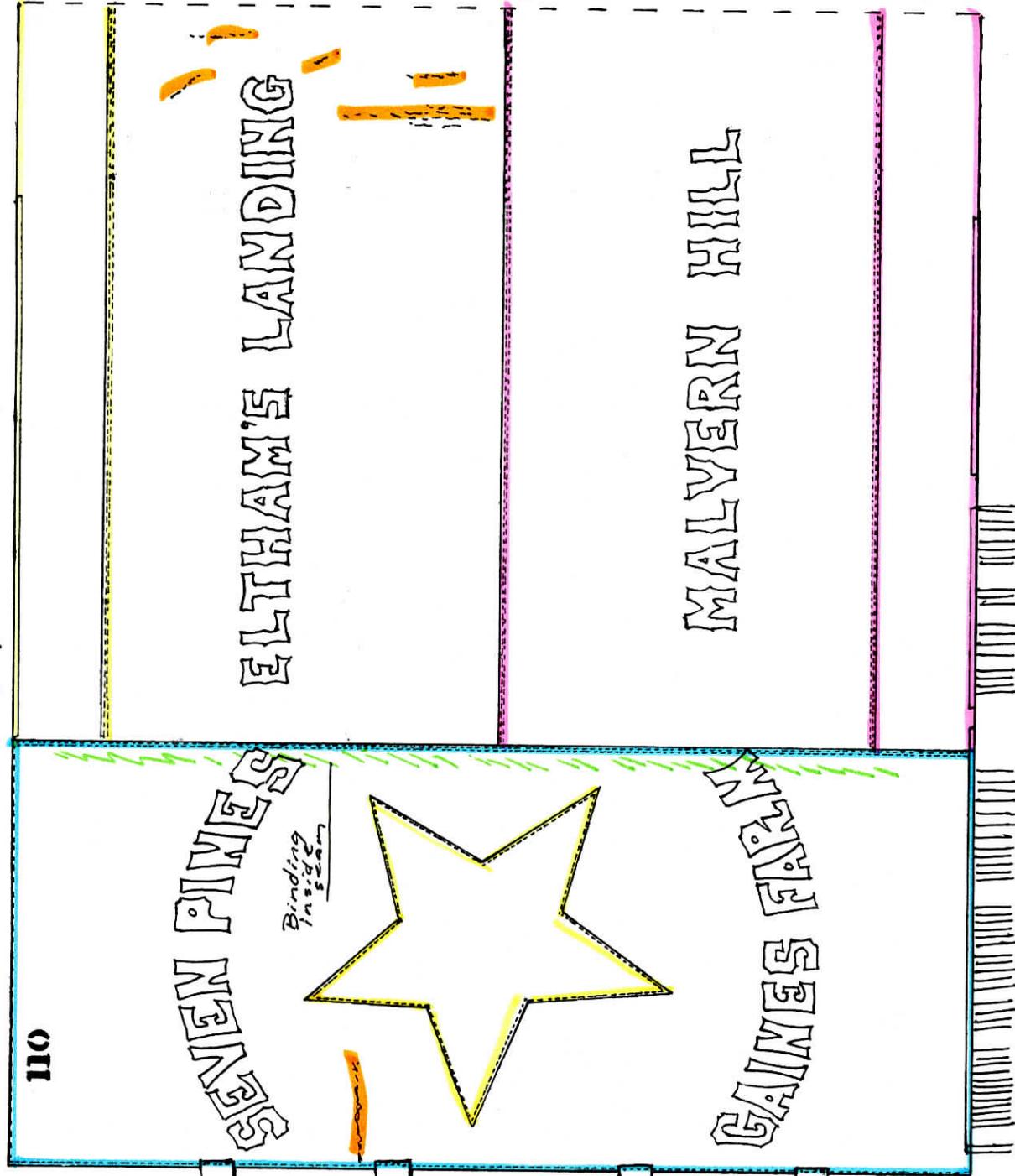
OBVERSE

Drawing # 6

SEWING THREADS

← 8 1/2" → (estimated including ties & fringe)

← 72" → (fly)



↑ 65" (including fringe)
↓

- Canton: 26 1/2"
- Star: 21 1/2"
- Red Bar: 30"
- White Bar: 30"
- Ties: 7-7 1/2"
- Fringe: 2 1/2"
- Lettering: 3 1/2"

3 Ply 2 Silk

2 Ply 5 Silk (white)

2 Ply 5 Silk (Red)

2/2 Cables Cotton

3 Ply 5 Cotton (Repair)

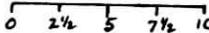
TPA # 915

1st Regiment TVI, CSA

REVERSE

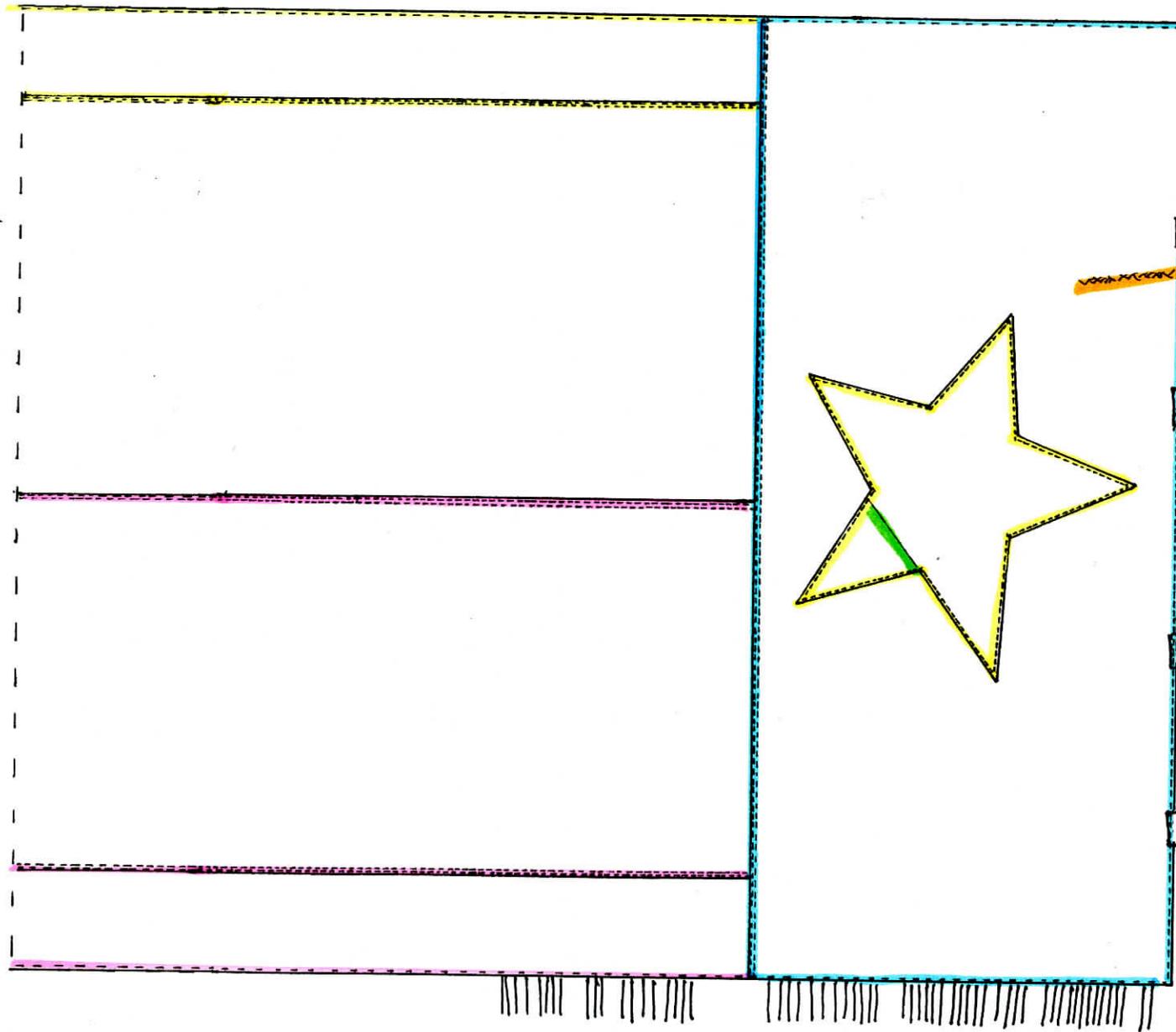
Drawing #7
SEWING THREADS

Cat. # M-13-80

Scale: 1" = 10" 

← 72" → (estimated-Fly) (82" including fringe & ties)

↑
65"
↓
including fringe



Canton: 26 1/2"
Star: 21 1/2"
Red Bar: 30"
White Bar: 30"
Ties: 7-7 1/2"

- 3 Ply Z Silk
- 2 Ply S Silk (Gold)
- 2 Ply S Silk (Red)
- 2/2 Cabled S Cotton
- 3 Ply S Cotton REPAIR

2 1/2 - Fringe