

Textile Preservation Associates, Inc.

P.O. BOX 606 • SHARPSBURG, MARYLAND 21782 • PHONE (301) 432-4160 FAX (301) 432-8797

TREATMENT REPORT

Date November 30, 1998

TPA No. 920

Object 1st Regiment Texas Vol. Infantry, Hoods 3rd bunting

Catalog No M-76-81

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

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

Description

Size Leading edge: 67" Fly: 67"

The flag is constructed in the pattern of the Army of Northern Virginia flag, third bunting issue. There are four red wool bunting quadrants and a 7 1/2" wide blue wool bunting cross. The quadrants are constructed of four pieces of red wool bunting, seamed vertically. The cross is constructed of three pieces and has twelve 6 1/2" cotton stars appliquéd to each side, arranged with three stars on each arm of the cross. The edges of the stars are unturned. There is a 2 1/2" white wool bunting border on the top, bottom and fly edges. The 3/4" fimbriation is cotton twill tape. The leading edge has a 2 1/4" heavy cotton hoist with three hand sewn grommets evenly spaced for attachment. The capture number 334 is stenciled in black on the top obverse border, next to the hoist.

Condition

Previous Treatment

The flag was previously treated with the Fowler-Richey method of stitching. This previous treatment was removed about 1980 by the Panhandle Plains Center.

Present condition

The flag is intact with only about 1% of the fabric missing, mostly at the fly ends of the cross. There are some small holes scattered throughout. Splitting occurs along the edge of the top border. Other damage appears to be from the previous treatment. This includes areas where the fabric has been cut: vertically in center of the upper quadrant, horizontally across the fly border and next to fimbriation at the upper fly, and horizontally across the lower quadrant next the border. The latter cut was repaired with large whip stitches using red mercerized cotton thread. A tear in the cross next to the fimbriation was similarly repaired. The cut in the border was tightly stitched together using olive green mercerized cotton. The quadrants are distorted. The flag is relatively unsoiled; the stars and fimbriation have discolored to a golden brown. There is evidence that a label was adhered to the last star in the lower fly arm of the cross, reverse. The hoist is strong and intact. It has streaks of discoloration/soiling from previous creases.

REPORT OF TREATMENT

Documentation

1. The flag, as received, was photographed on both sides (see photos 1-2).
2. The fibers, fabrics, and sewing threads were analyzed. Information about the construction of the flag, and any evidence of alterations to the original were noted. Scale drawings were made of the flag and an analysis report prepared. Particle samples were taken for the files.

Stabilization

3. The flag was vacuum cleaned to remove all airborne particles and loose accumulations of soil.
4. The flag was soaked through four changes of deionized water to relax the fibers and remove distortions as well as de-acidified it. The pH of the flag measured 3.5. The pH of the water was monitored and changed as necessary until the flag had reached a neutral state. After 4 rinse soaks, the flag was blotted to remove excess water, fibers aligned, and the decoration flattened and air dried under glass weights.

Preparation for Exhibition

5. A buffered, acid-free panel¹ was prepared then covered with nonwoven polyester batting² and a previously washed, unbleached, airwing grade, fine cotton fabric³. The area under the cross was built up with additional batting and fabric.
6. The flag was attached to the padded panel with one row of stitching across the top using silk thread.
7. Ultra-violet filtering OP-2 Acrylite⁴ was laid over the flag, applying a light pressure to the cross. The quadrants "float" free. The entire unit was placed in a plain metal frame finished in Creme Beige (#25401) with an aluminum backing for support.
8. A final photo was taken and a treatment report prepared (see photo 3).

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

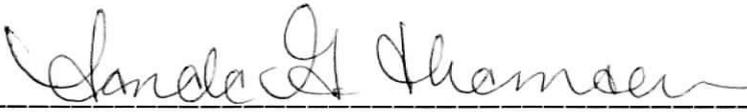
There are two metal tabs along the top of the frame for hooking onto a screw or bolt. An allen wrench is inserted in the back of the frame for opening the frame if it is ever necessary. A bottle of touch up paint with a brush is also included.

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: 25 hours

Signed:  Date: 11/30/98

Fonda Ghiardi Thomsen, Fellow AIC,
Director, Textile Preservation Associates, Inc.

Work on the object was carried out by Diane Kessler, 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. Corrugated Board, buffered, acid free: Holinger Corporation, P.O. Box 8360, Fredricksburg, VA 22404 (800) 634-0491.
2. 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.
3. Cotton, a 100% airwing grade fabric: Fox Reich Textiles, Inc., 54 Danbury Road, Suite 228, Ridgefield, CT 06877 (914) 533-2445.
4. 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.

Textile Preservation Associates, Inc.

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ADDENDUM TO TREATMENT REPORT

Date June 3, 2002

TPA No. 920
Object 1st Regiment Texas Vol. Infantry, Hoods 3rd bunting
Cat. No. M-76-81

Client Texas State Archives
P. O. Box 12927
Austin, TX 78711-2927

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

REPORT OF TREATMENT

At the completion of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston exhibit, the flag was returned to Textile Preservation Assoc., Inc. to be inspected because of concerns that the flag was not being properly supported in the pressure mount, causing stress to the fabrics.

Treatment Performed

1. The flag was received in the frame and was inspected to determine if the flag was receiving the proper support.
2. It was determined that additional support was needed under the quadrants because the fabric was stretched from being cut on the bias. The 1/8" Plexiglas was bowing resulting in uneven pressure on the flag. The frame was disassembled and the Plexiglas was replaced with more rigid 3/16" SG-100 Lexan¹.
3. Additional support was prepared for the quadrants by placing additional batting on the panel under each quadrant, shaped to the quadrant. A second piece of off-white cotton was placed over the additional batting and basted in place.

4. The flag and panel were vacuum cleaned to remove all airborne particles and loose accumulations of soil.

5. The entire unit was placed back in the frame and packaged for transit and an addendum to the treatment report prepared.

Total treatment additional hours: 10

Work on the object was carried out by Mary Ogle, Conservation Technician, Textile Preservation Associates, Inc. and reviewed by the Director.



Fonda Ghiardi Thomsen, Director
Fellow, American Institute for Conservation

9/10/03

Date

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

1. Lexan SG-100: made by General Electric Company, 812 Moorefield Drive, Suite 121, Richmond, VA 23236 (804) 323-4880.

Textile Preservation Associates, Inc.

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September 10, 2003

Texas State Archives
P. O. Box 12927
Austin, TX 78711-2927

Attn: Chris LaPlante

TPA No. 920
Object 1st Regiment Texas Vol. Infantry, Hoods 3rd Bunting

Dear Chris,

Sorry to have taken so long to get this to you but enclosed please find an addendum to the Treatment Report for the above mentioned object. Please include it with the report previously sent to you.

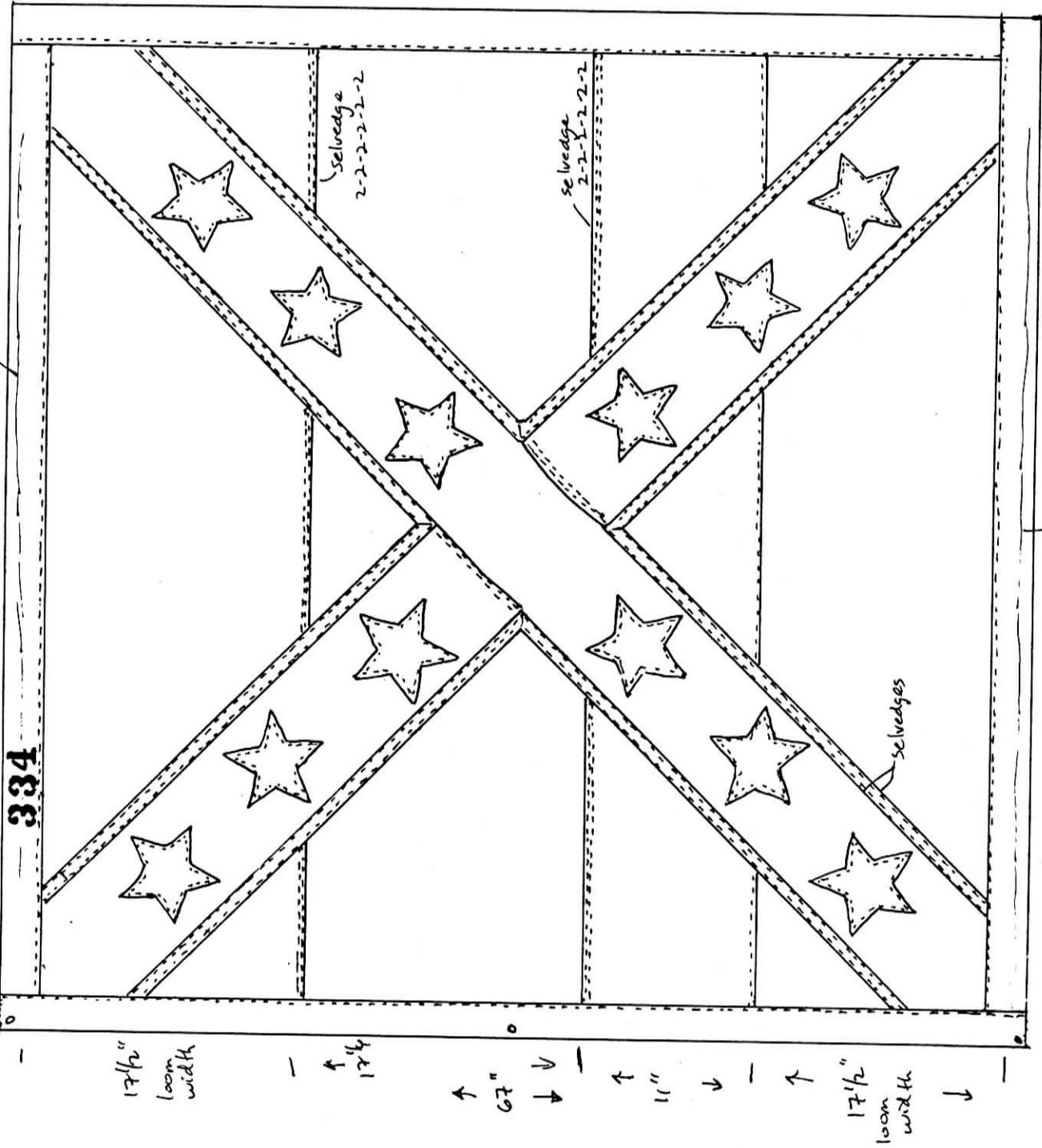
Do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Donna Lee Tissue
Administrator

TPA # 920
Cat. # M-76-81

1st Regiment Texas Vol. Infantry, Hood's 3rd Bunting
← 67" →
red selvedge under border



red selvedge encased in border

Diagram 3

OBVERSE



SELVEDGES



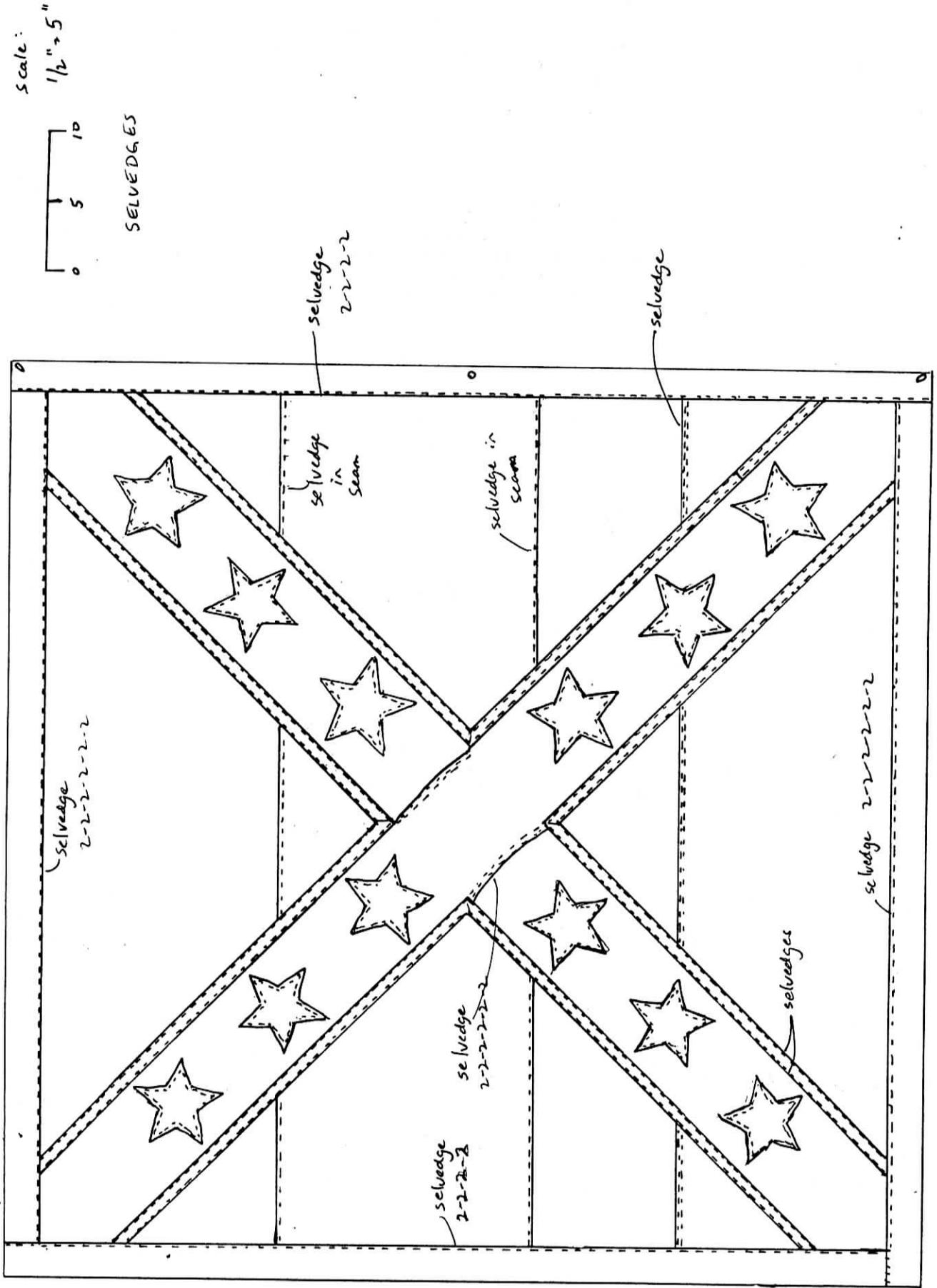
star: 6 1/2"

TPA # 920
Cat. # M-76-81

1st Regiment Texas Vol. Infantry, Hood's 3rd Bunking

Diagram 4

REVERSE



TPA # 920
Cat. # M-76-81

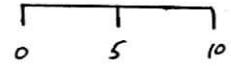
1st Regiment Texas Vol. Infantry, Hood's 3rd Bunting

Diagram 7

← 67" →

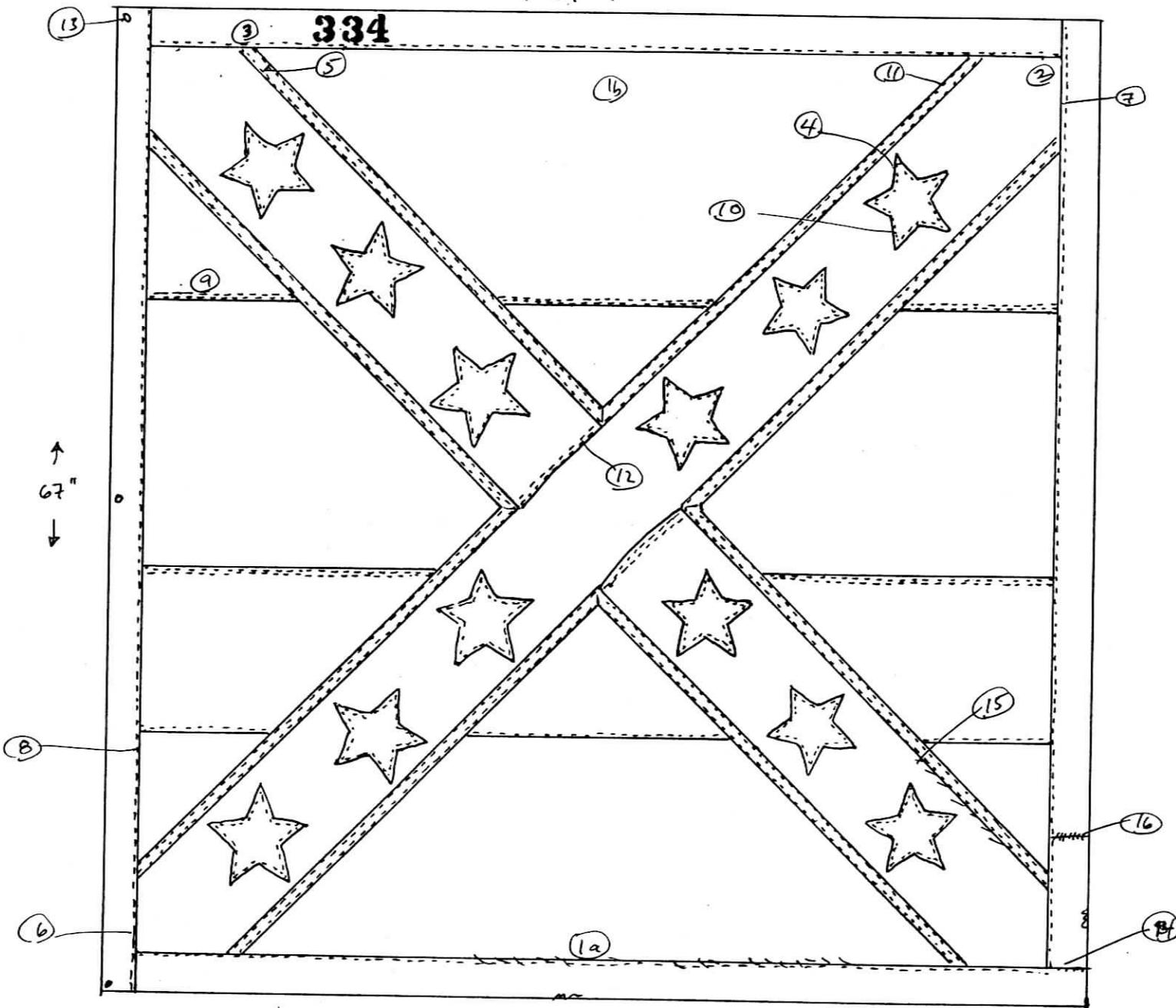
OBVERSE

scale:
1/2" = 5"



SAMPLING

star: 6 1/2"



TPA # 920
Cat. # M-76-B1

1st Regiment Texas Vol. Infantry, Hood's 3rd Bunting

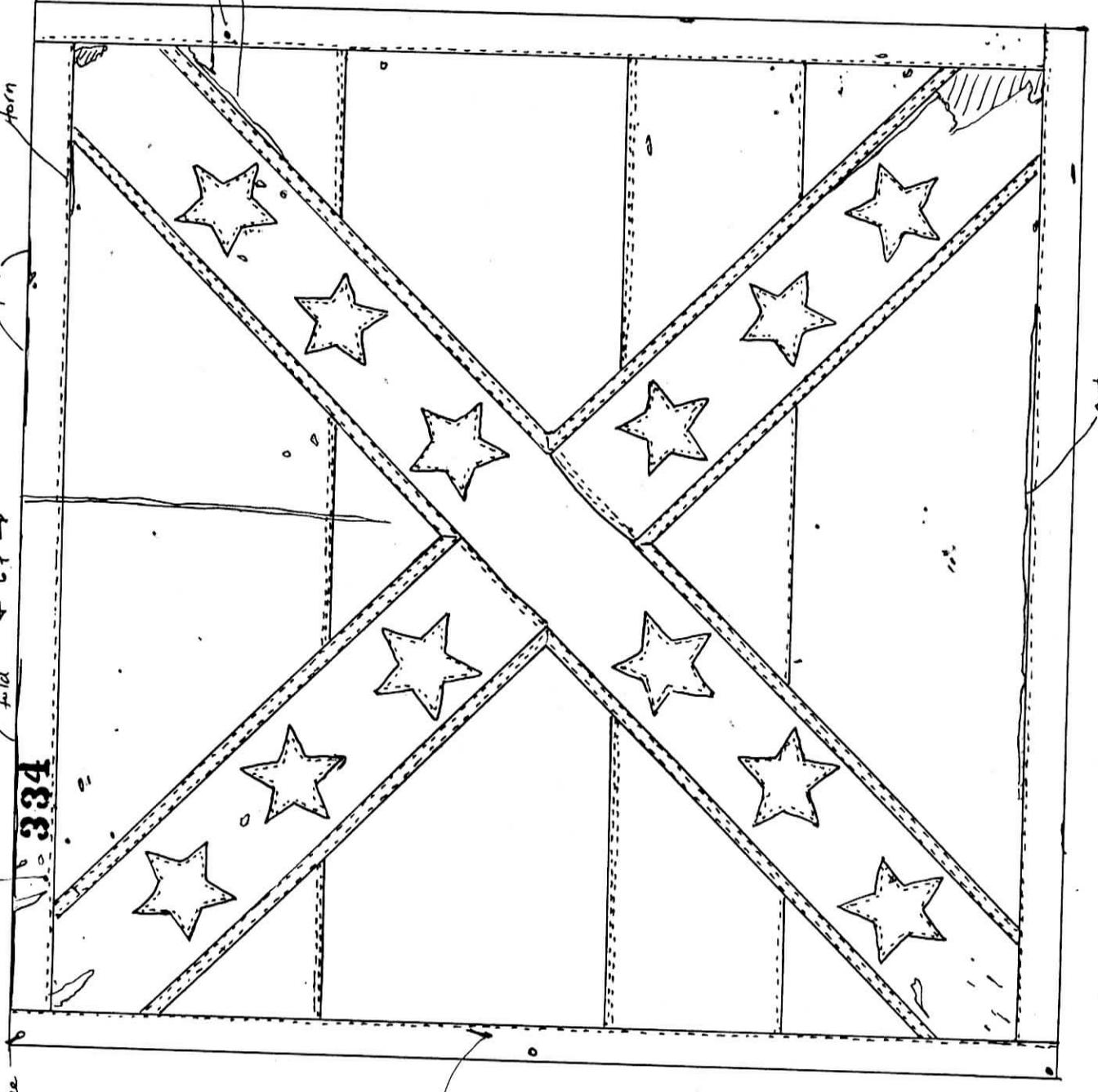
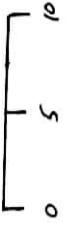


Diagram B

OBVERSE

scale:

1/2" = 5"



CONDITION



star: 6 1/2"

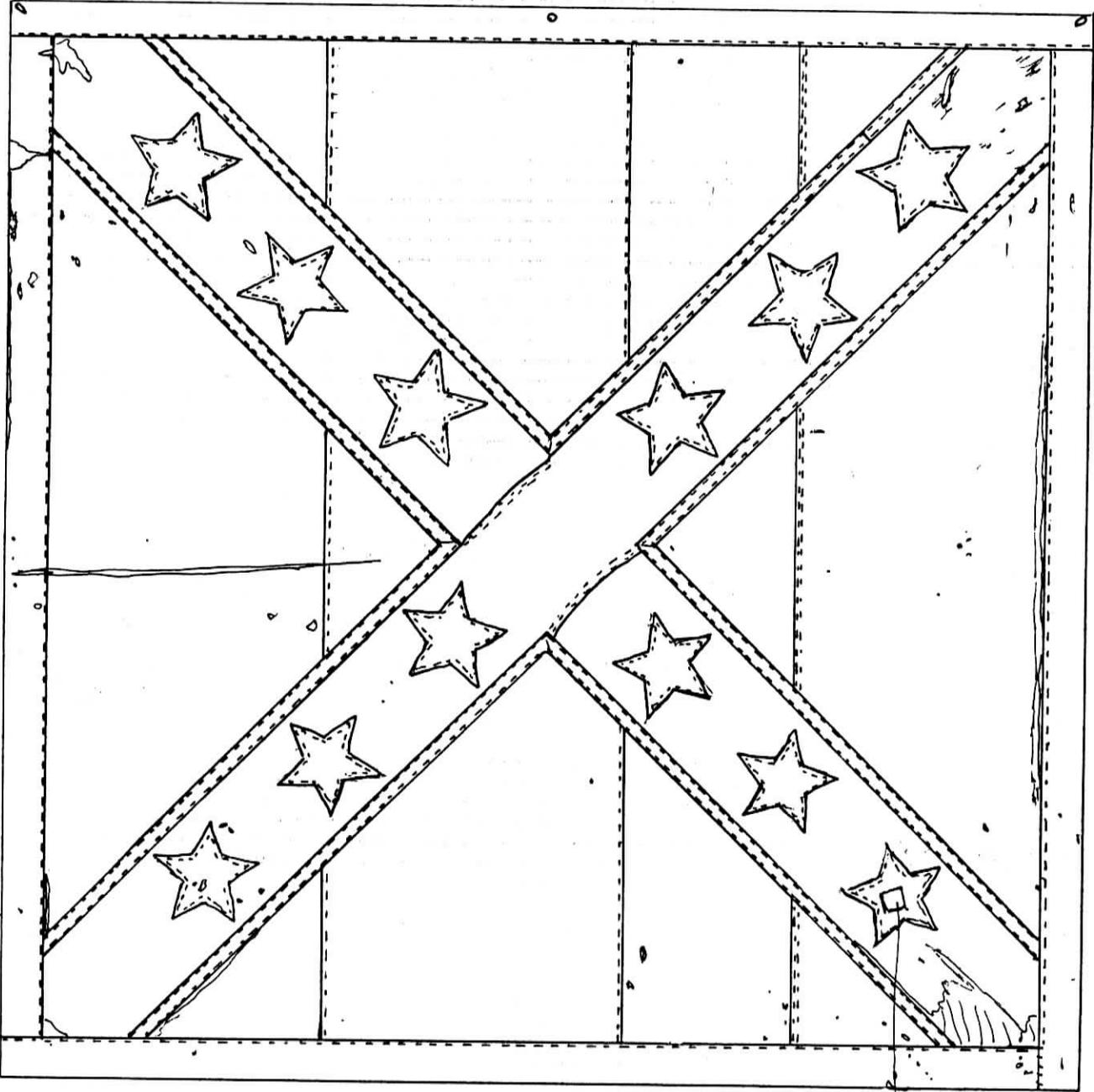
stain
↑ 67" ↓

T/A # 920
Cat. # M-76-81

1st Regiment Texas Vol. Infantry, Hood's 3rd ... Bunting

Diagram 9

REVERSE



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

CONDITION

paper +
adhesive
residue

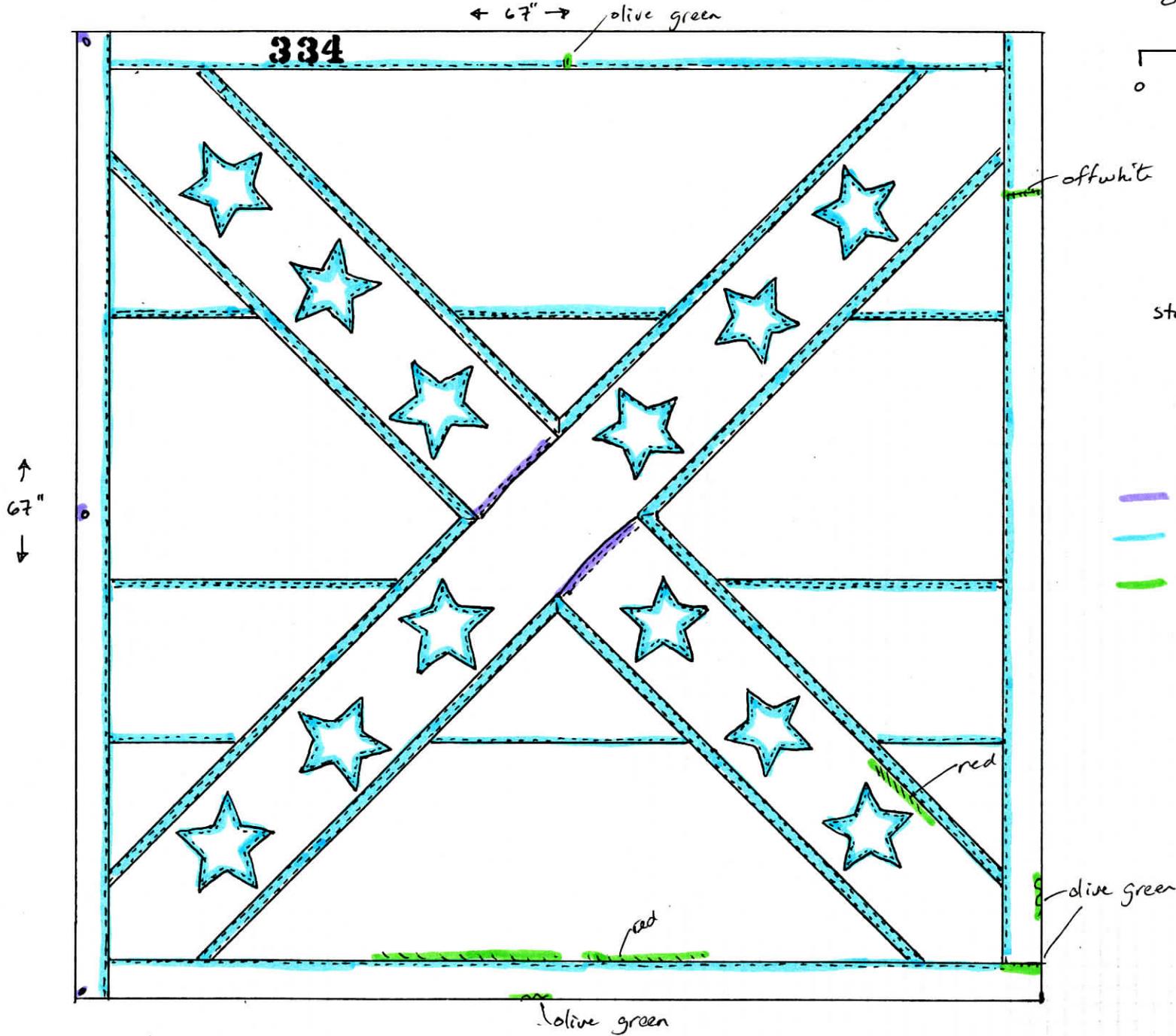
TPA # 920
Cat. # M-76-81

1st Regiment Texas Vol. Infantry, Hood's 3rd Bunting

Diagram 5

OBVERSE

scale:
1/2" = 5"

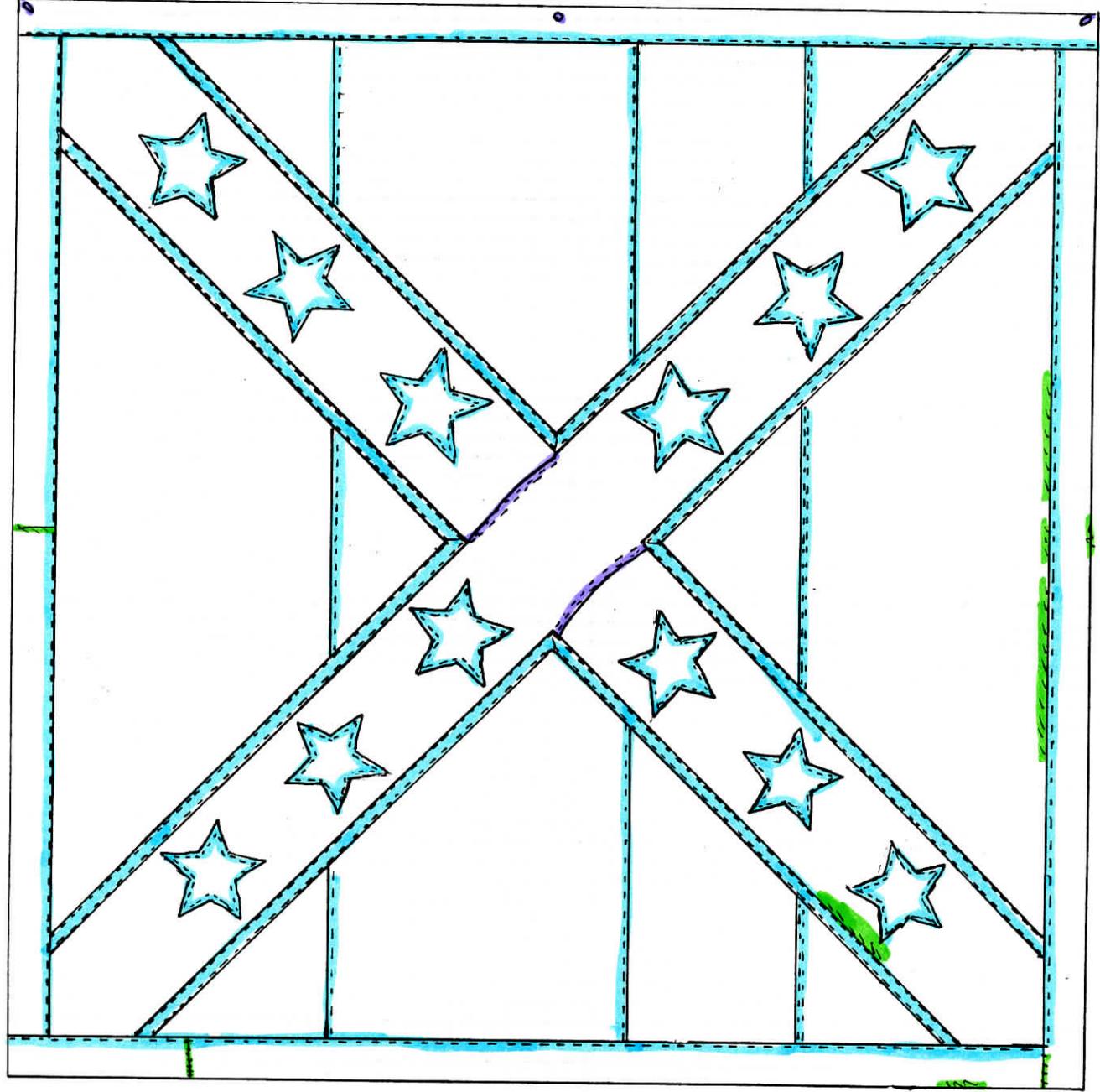


TPA # 920
Cat. # M-76-80

1st Regiment Texas Vol. Infantry, Hood's 3rd Bunting

Diagram 6

REVERSE



scale:
1/2" = 5"

- 3/2 S cotton
- 3 S cotton
- 3 Z cotton, mercerized
repair
(removed)