

U.S. Department of the Interior Museum
Color Our Collections 2024 Coloring Book

#ColorOurCollections



Inspiring and educating visitors and employees about the U.S. Department of the Interior's ongoing stewardship of the nation's public lands, heritage, and natural resources.

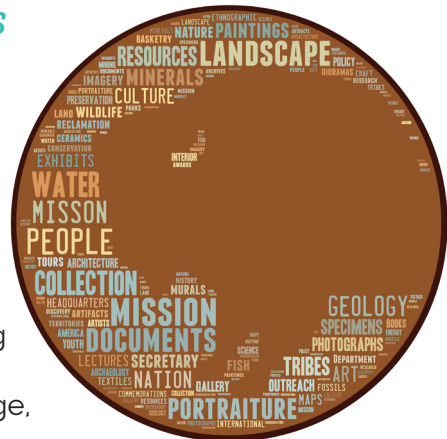
The Interior Museum opened to the public on March 8, 1938, within the U.S. Department of the Interior's newly constructed headquarters building in the nation's capital. The museum was a first for an executive-branch Department and was heralded as an innovative approach to making a large, complex Federal agency more transparent and publicly accessible.

Each year, the museum welcomes thousands of visitors from across the globe. In addition to developing exhibitions, digital resources, publications, and interpretive programs, museum staff care for collections, participate in professional associations, assist researchers, mentor interns, respond to research inquiries, and provide public tours of the Stewart Lee Udall Department of the Interior Building. The museum's collection contains more than 8,400 objects of historical, cultural, and scientific importance documenting the U.S. Department of the Interior's history and missions, the art and architecture of the headquarters building, and the administrations of the secretaries of the Interior since 1849.

For more information, visit our [website](#), and follow us on [X](#) and [Facebook](#): @InteriorMuseum

U.S. Department of the Interior Museum
1849 C Street, N.W., MS-1251
Washington, DC 20240
<https://doi.gov/interiormuseum>

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INTERTWINED

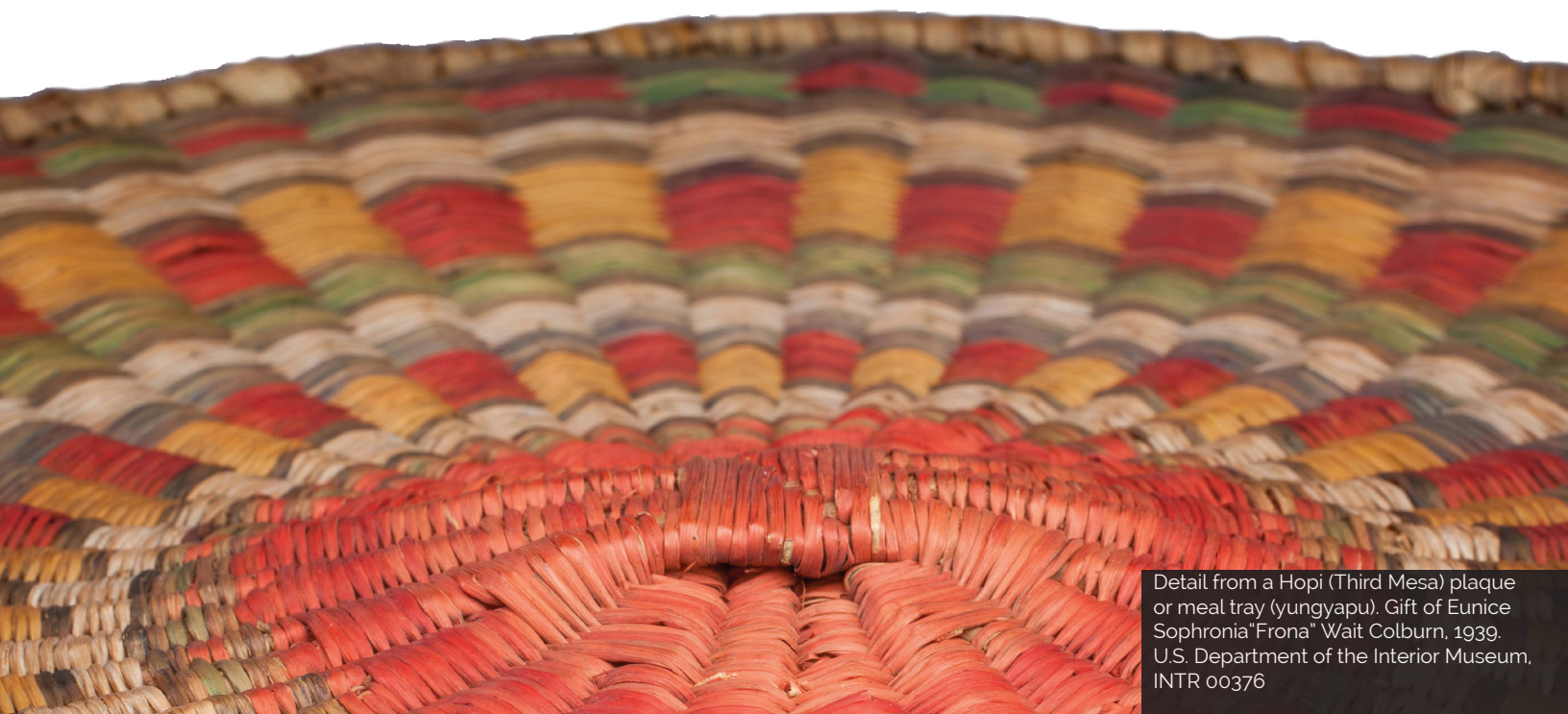
Native American Basketry from the Interior Museum

This coloring book accompanies a new Interior Museum exhibition opening in 2024 featuring an imaginative array of Native American basketry spanning 150 years. Intricately hand-crafted by the finest Native makers—some well-known and some as-yet unidentified—they reflect a diversity of tribal affiliations, materials, and forms that transition from Native use to made-for-sale. The exhibition additionally explores the relationship between the collector and the collectible and demonstrates how contributors with interests ranging from the scholarly to the purely decorative not only influence the Interior Museum's collection but also reflect stories unique to the Department of the Interior. Many of the nearly 100 pieces exhibited have not been on public view in decades.

What follows here are details from 12 of the more than 800 basketry examples in the Interior Museum's collection. In turning the pages, you will be...

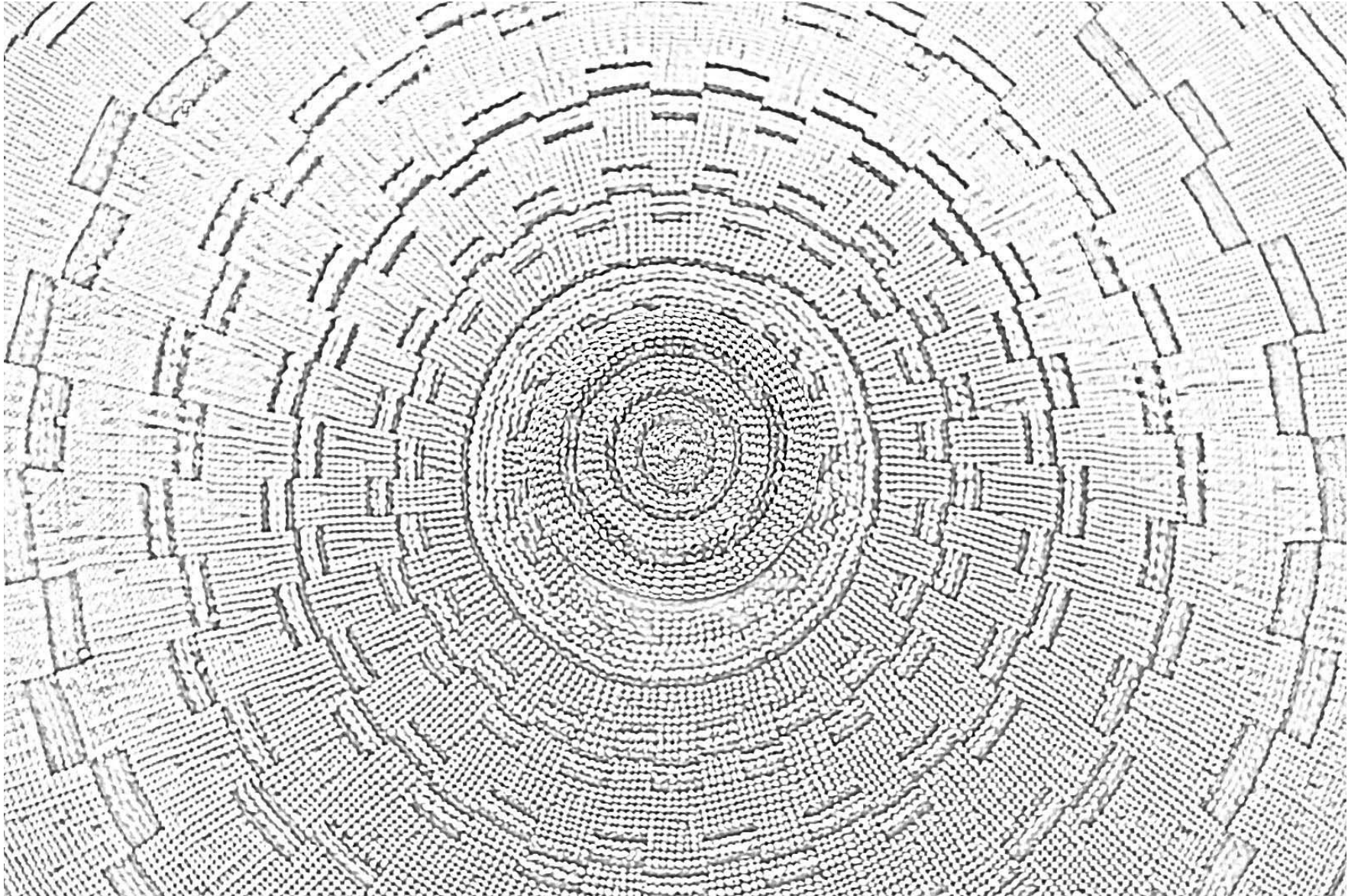
- ...traveling west to east, from the Arctic to the Southeast,
- ...viewing colorful basketry by skilled makers from ten different Tribes,
- ...examining three types of basketry techniques: twining, plaiting, and coiling.

While thumbnail images of the actual pieces are included on each page for historical reference, you are encouraged to use your crayons, colored pencils, or paints to bring new colorways to these enduring works!



Detail from a Hopi (Third Mesa) plaque or meal tray (yungyapu). Gift of Eunice Sophronia "Frona" Wait Colburn, 1939. U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 00376

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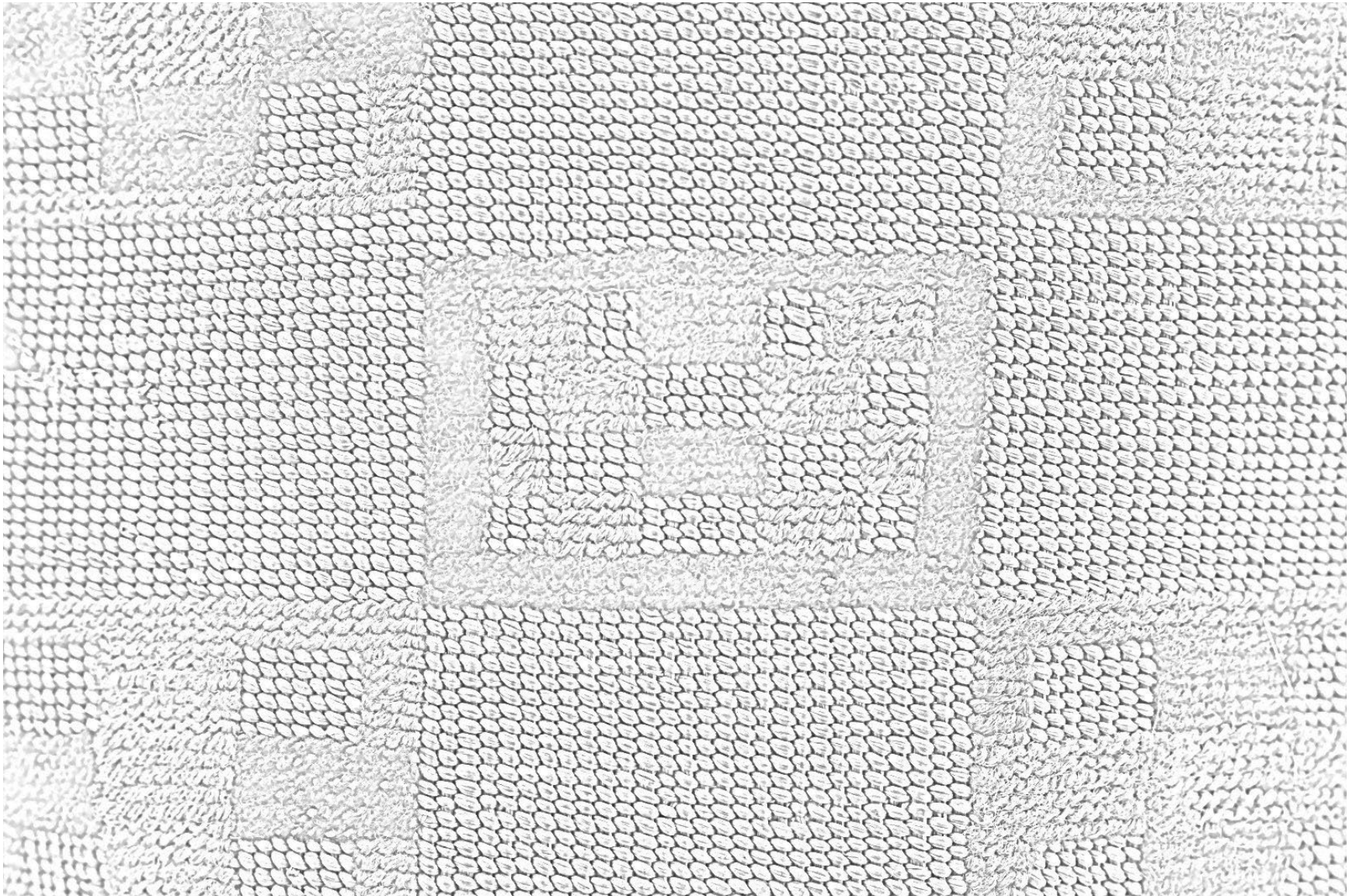


Detail from an Unangan lidded basket, twined with rye grass and silk, circa 1900-1920; H 9.625", DIA 11".
Gift of Eunice Sophronia "Frona" Wait Colburn, 1939. U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 00202

For more coloring pages, visit [ColorOurCollections.org](https://www.ColorOurCollections.org)



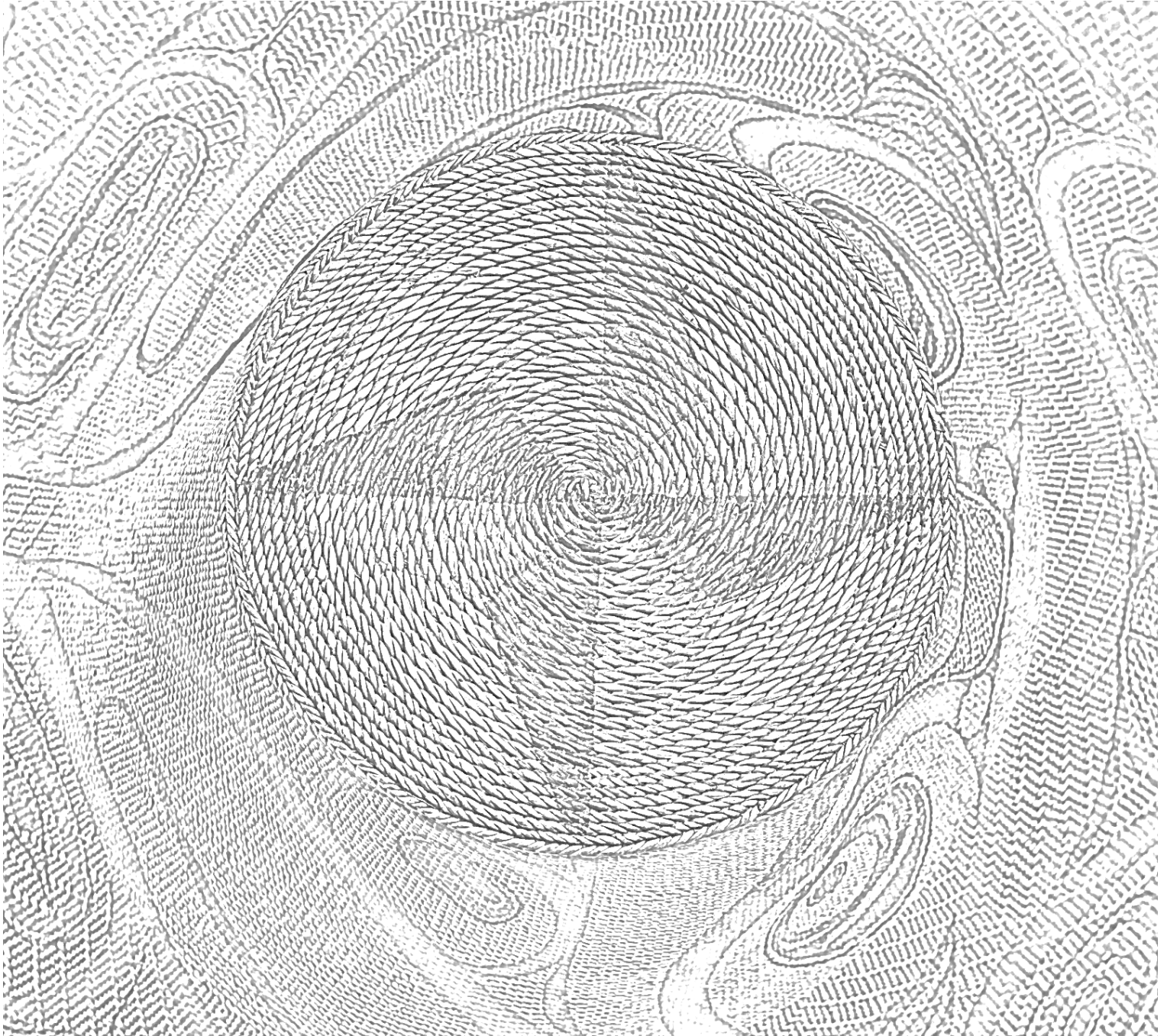
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Detail from an Unangan basket, twined with rye grass and false-embroidered with wool yarn, circa 1900-1920; H 4.53", DIA 6.1". Gift of Eunice Sophronia "Frona" Wait Colburn, 1940. *U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 00434*

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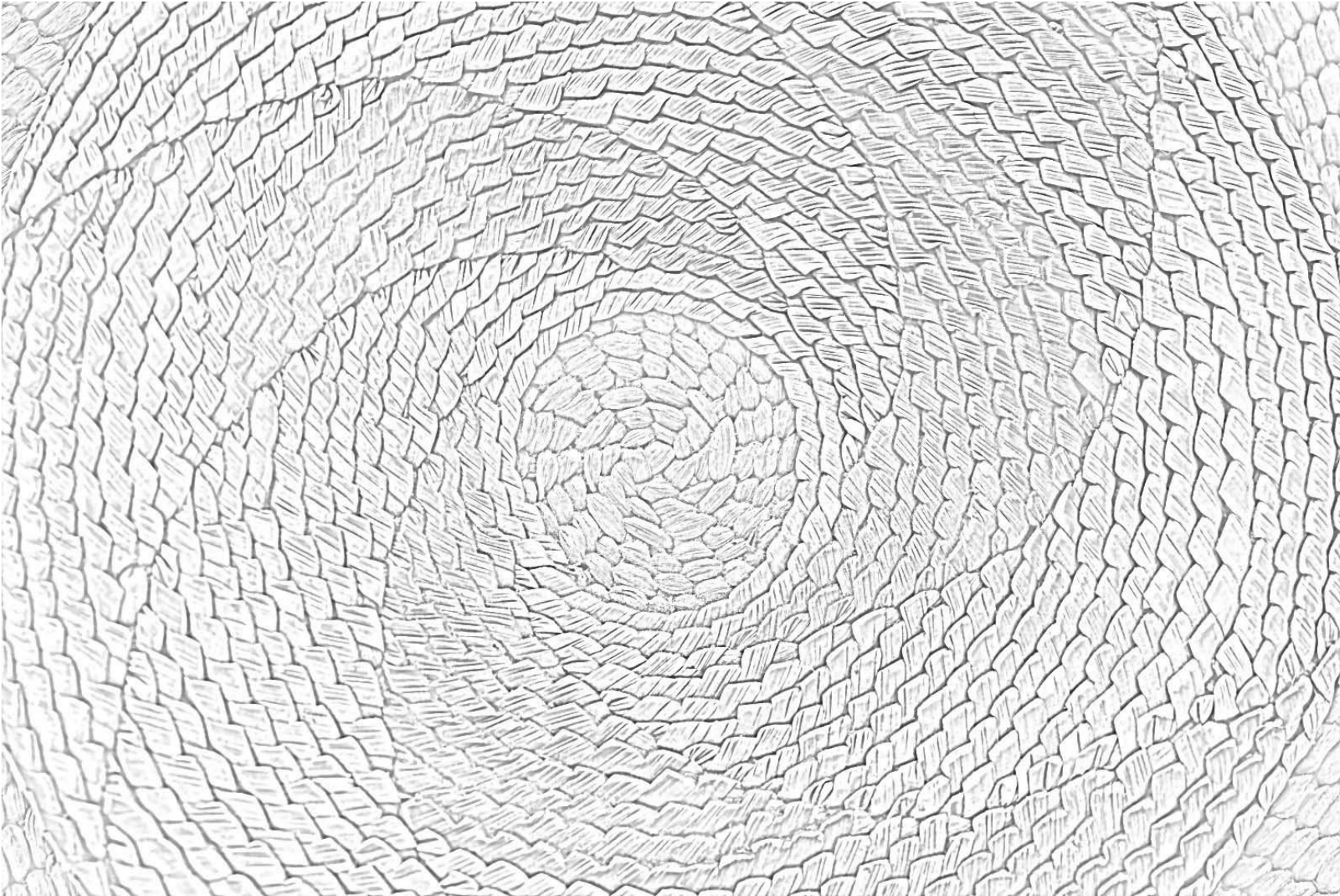




Detail from the top of a Haida crest hat by Isabella Edenshaw (1842-1926) and Charles Edenshaw (1839-1920); twined with spruce root and painted with formline design, circa 1890-1900, H 7", DIA 16".
Purchase from Helen Geldmacher Gibson, 1936.
U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 00706



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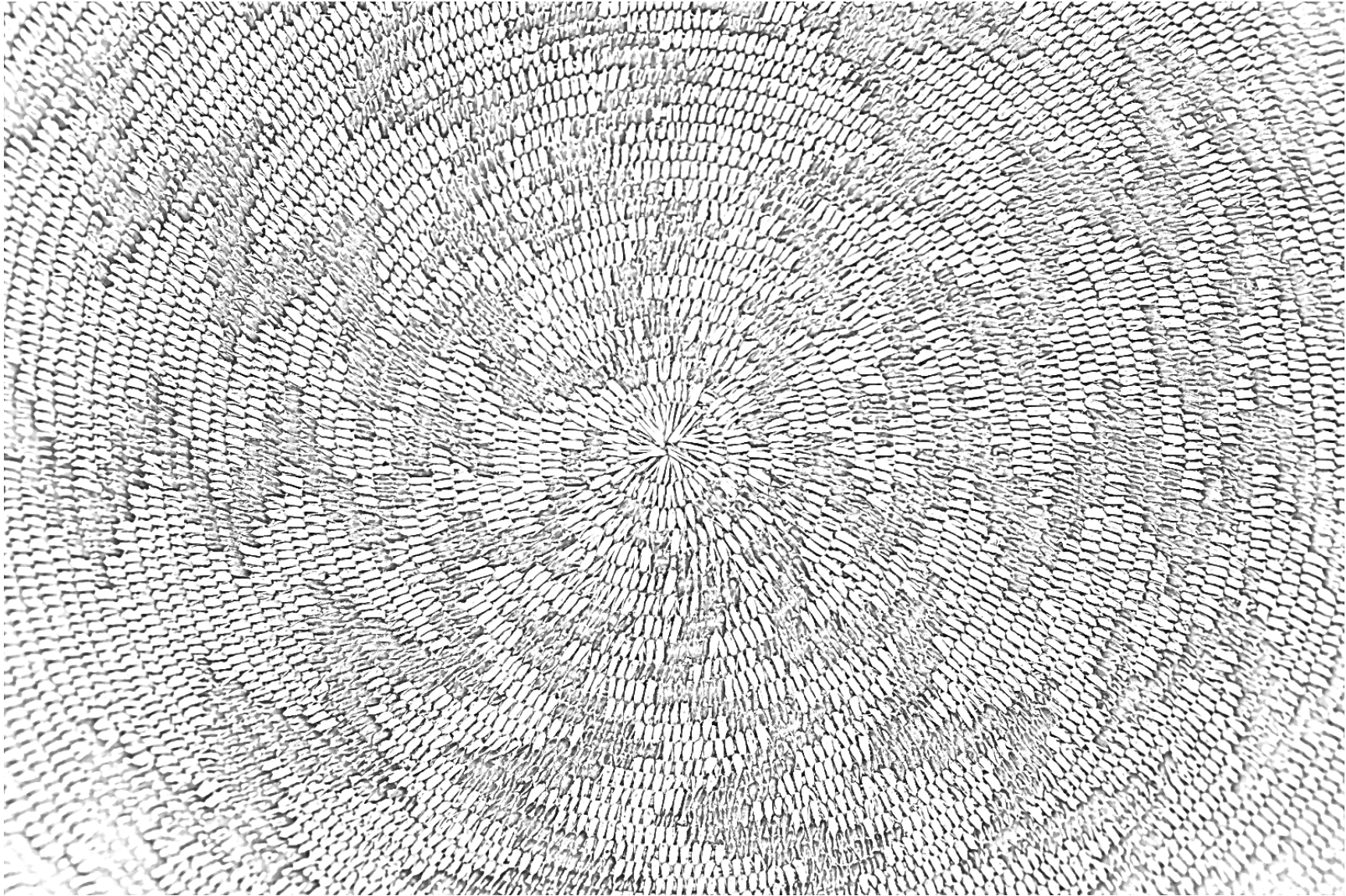


Detail from a Tlingit rattle-top lidded basket, twined with spruce root and false-embroidered with natural-colored and commercially dyed grass, circa 1900-1920; H 3", DIA 6".
Gift of Eunice Sophronia "Frona" Wait Colburn, 1939. U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 00456

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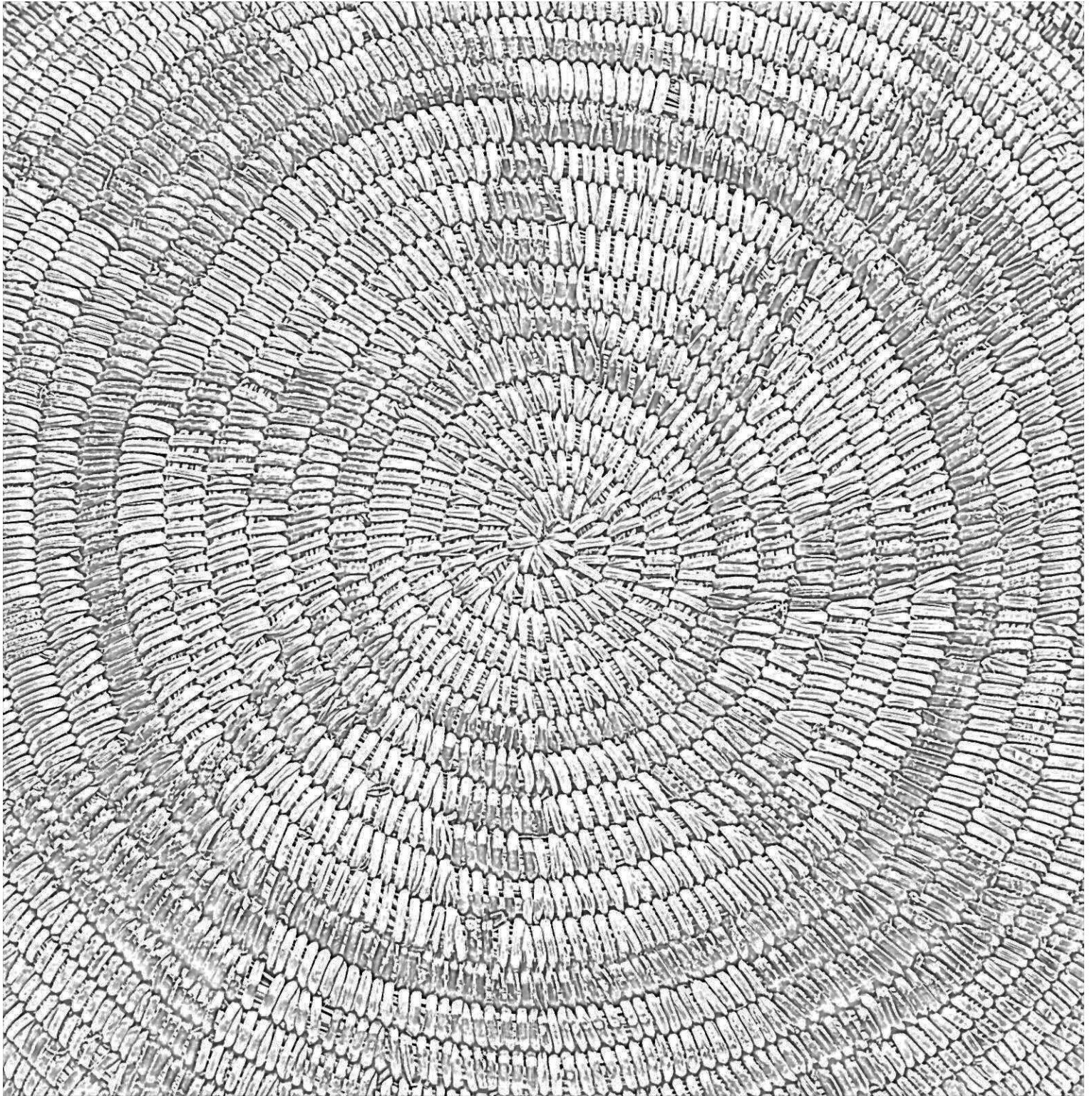
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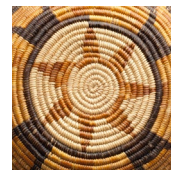
Detail from a Mono Lake Paiute or Western Mono basketry bowl, coiled three-rod willow foundation with stitches of willow and either devil's claw or bracken fern, circa 1900-1920; H 5.1", DIA 13.39".
Gift of Eunice Sophronia "Frona" Wait Colburn, 1939. U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 00168

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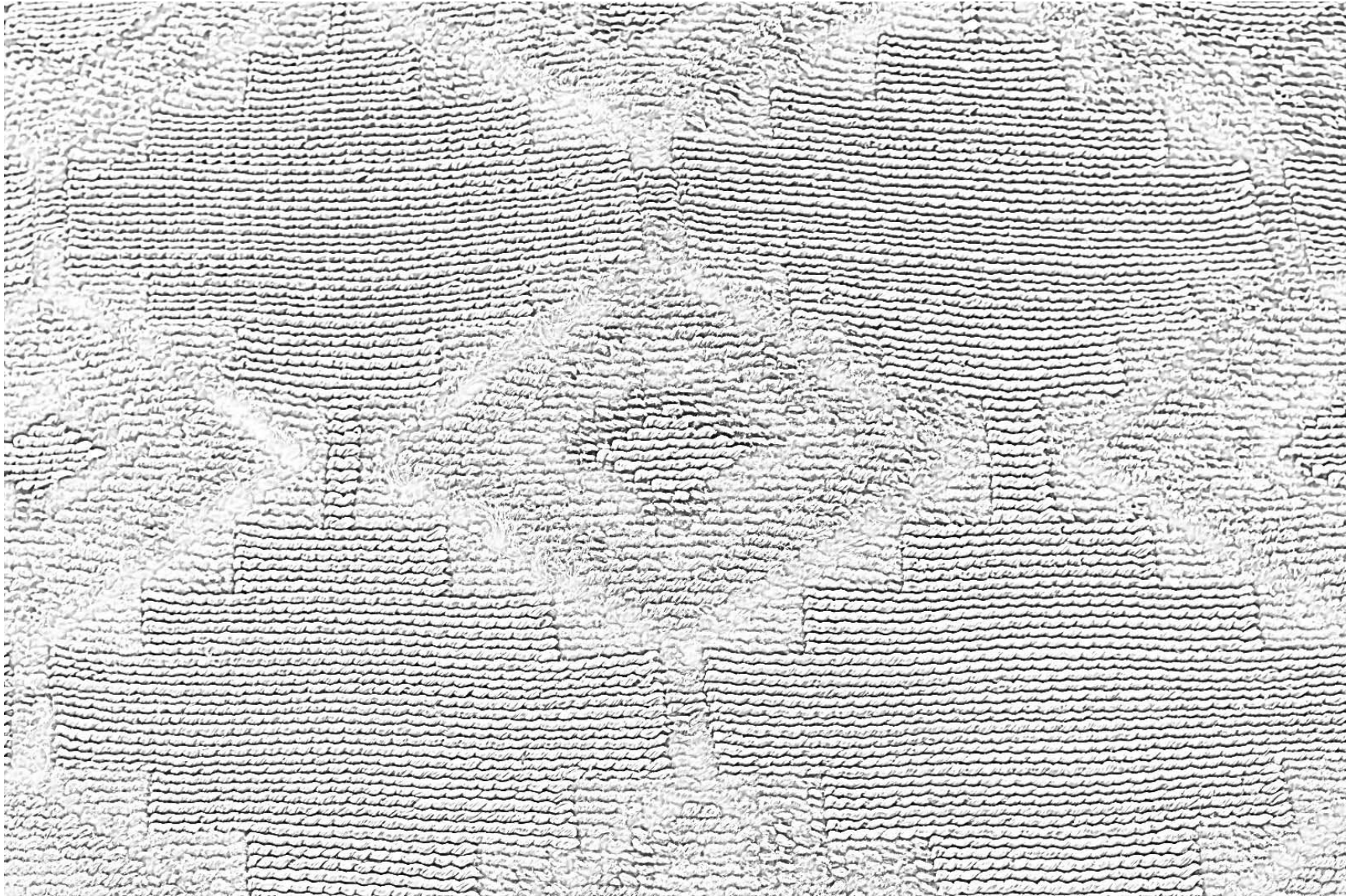




Detail from the base of a Mission Indian basketry bowl by Chico Marlinas; bundle-coiled juncus with juncus and sumac stitches, 1890-1910, H 5.5", DIA 9.75".
U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 00205



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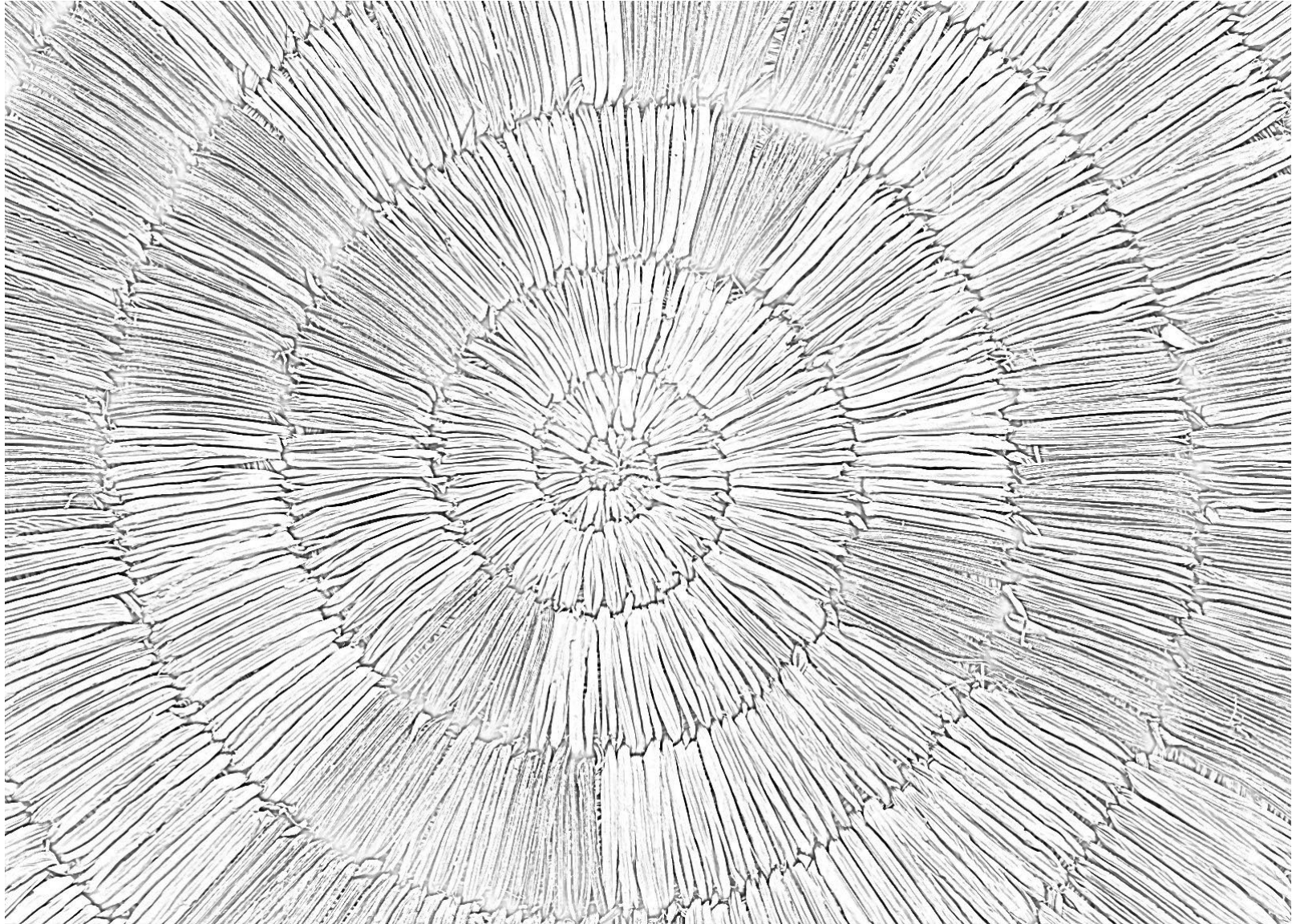
Detail from an Umatilla "Plateau bag," made with hemp and undyed corn husks and decorated with motif in wool yarn, circa 1900; L 12.5", W 11".

U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 00810

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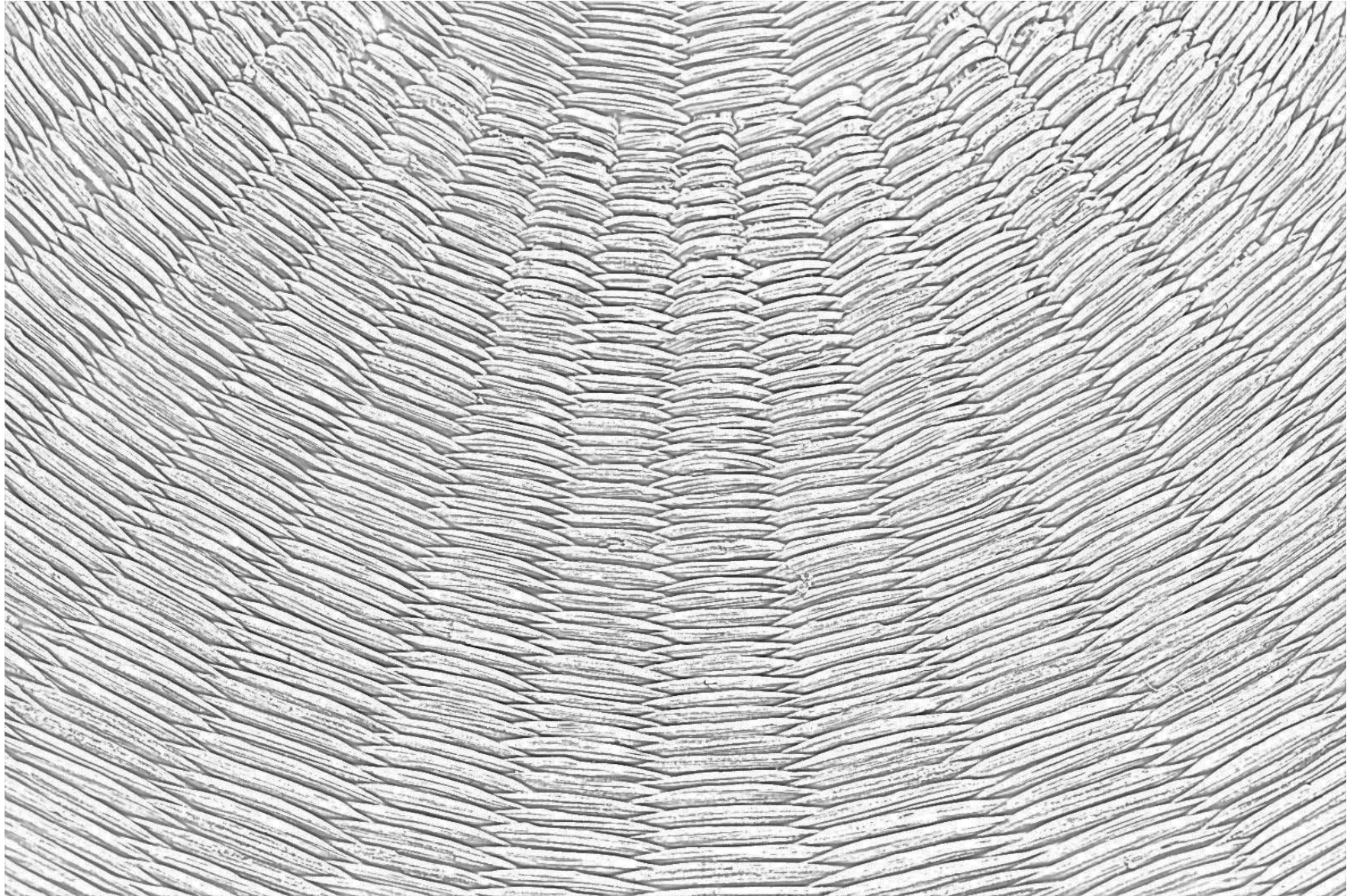


Detail from a Hopi (Second Mesa) meal tray, coiled galleta grass bundle with yucca stitches, circa 1910-1930; H 1.5", DIA 15.25".
U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 00876

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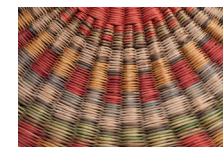
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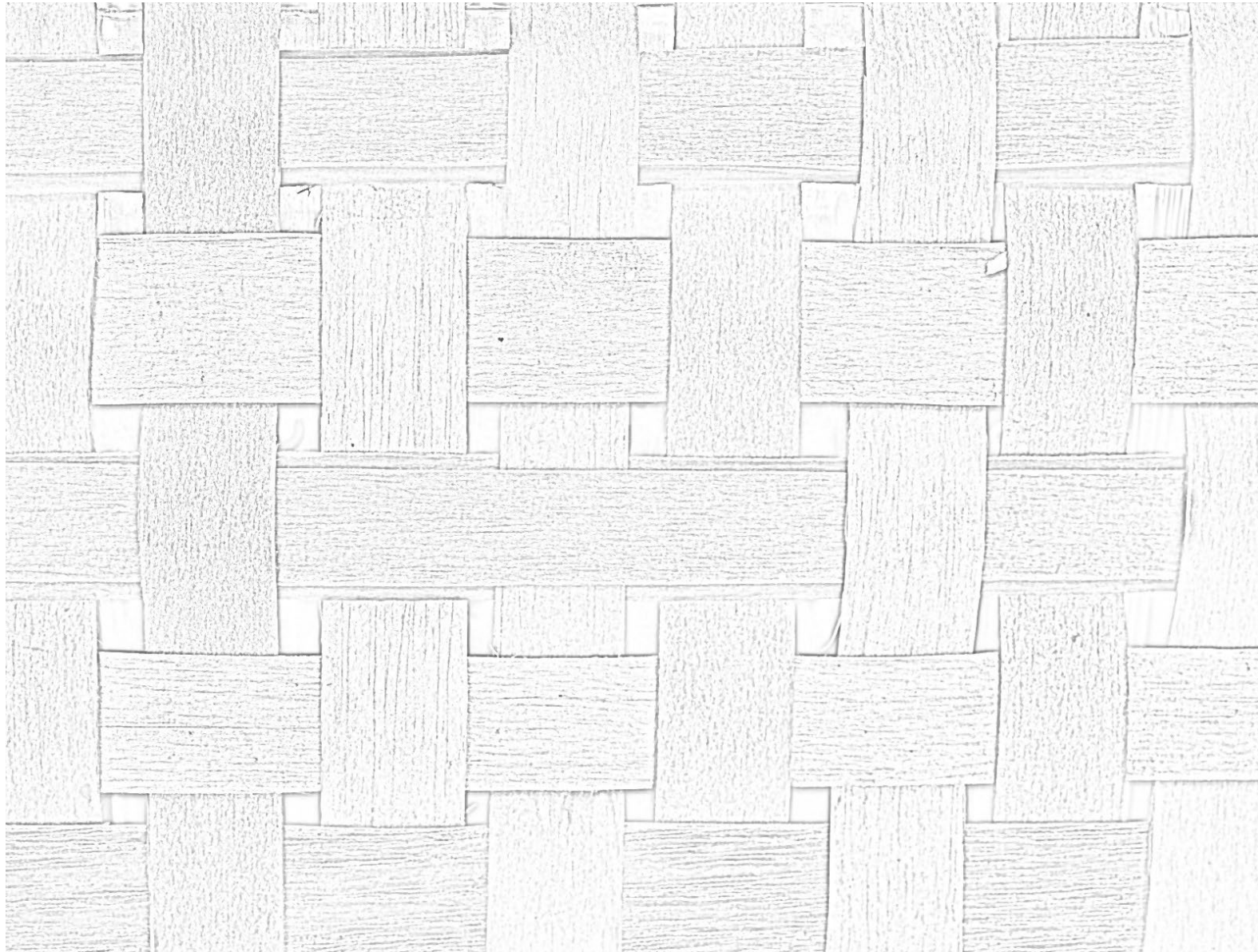
Detail from a Hopi (Third Mesa) plaque or meal tray (*yungyapu*), wicker plaiting with dyed rabbitbrush and sumac or dunebrush, circa 1900-1920s; H 1.77", DIA 17".

Gift of Eunice Sophronia "Frona" Wait Colburn, 1939. U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 00376

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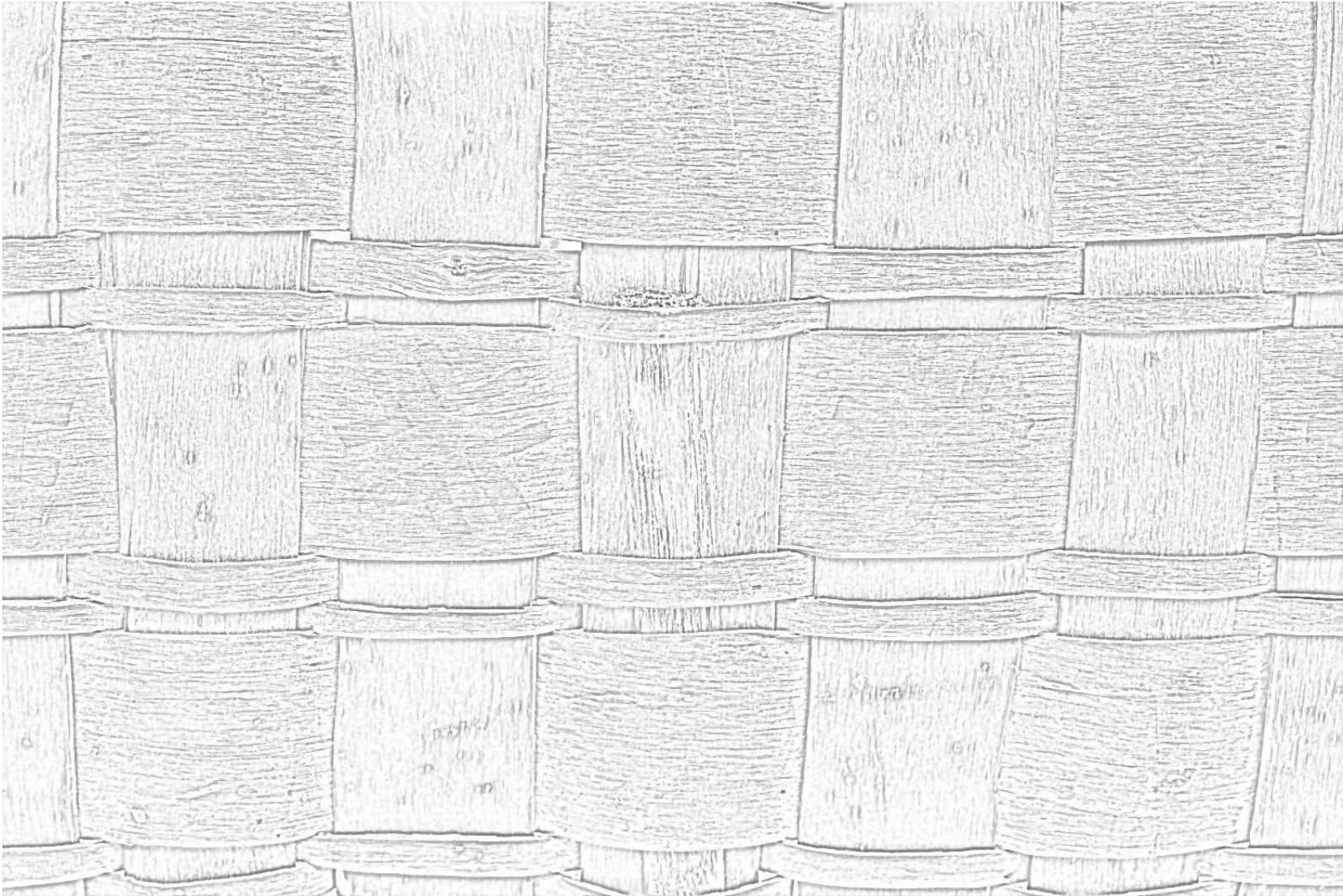
Detail from the base of a Micmac basketry box with hinged lid; plaited with dyed black ash splints and trimmed with sweetgrass, circa 1920-1935; H 2.25", W 6.75", L 9".
U.S. Department of the Interior, INTR 00514

Note: the original colors have faded but are still vivid on the base.

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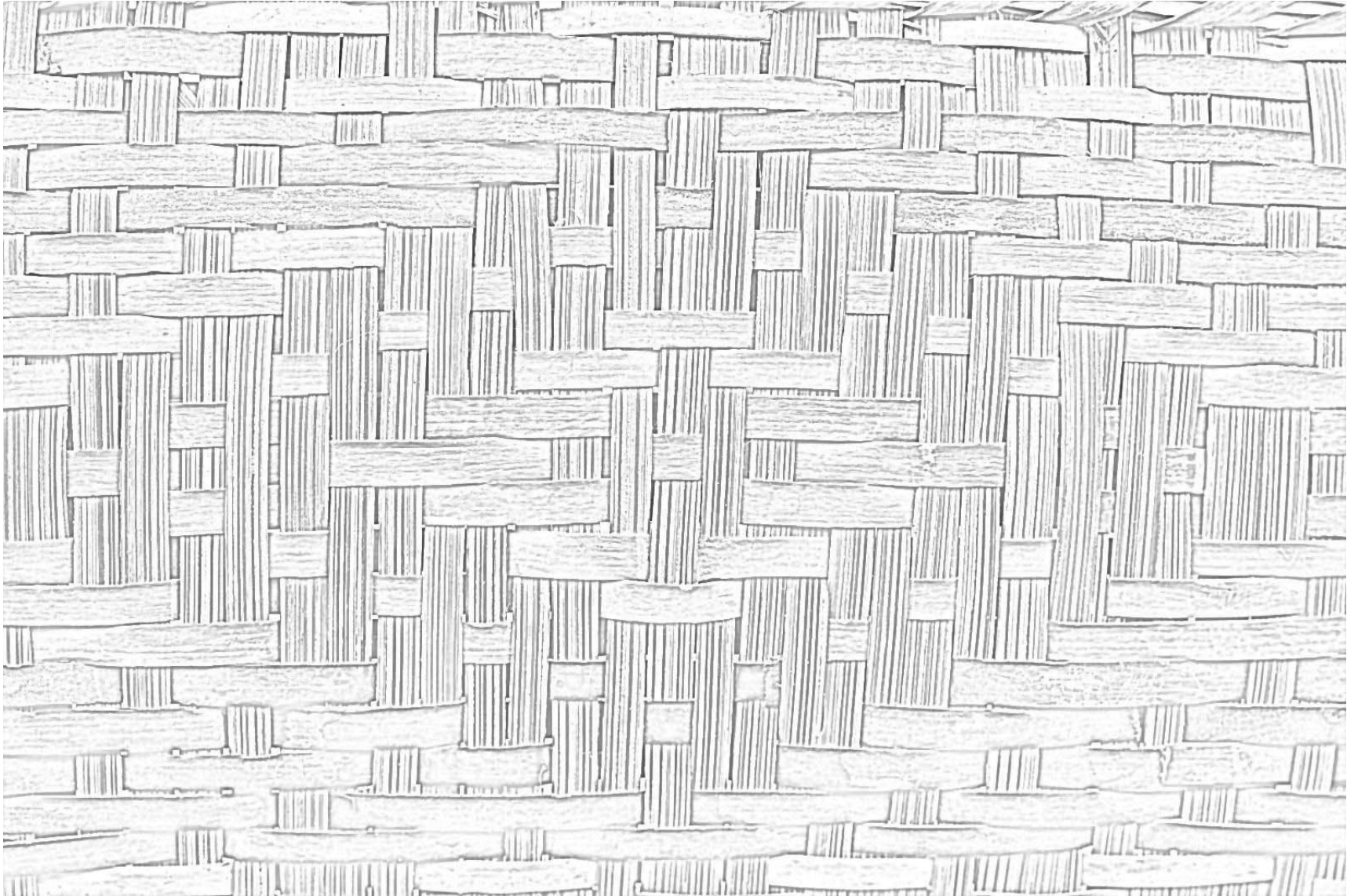


Detail from a Seneca carrying basket, plaited with black ash splints and a swabbed and block-stamped design, circa 1870, H 5.375", L 4.5", W 9.125".
Gift of Sarah Peabody Turnbaugh and William Turnbaugh, 2023. *U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 07185*

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Detail from a Chitimacha utility tray, twill-plaited in rivercane and decorated with natural dyes of black walnut and bloodroot, circa 1900-1915; H 6", L 13", W 11.25".

U.S. Department of the Interior Museum, INTR 00207

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