

Finch & C^o



AMERICAN FOLK ART DIORAMA DEPICTING A PENNSYLVANIA HOMESTEAD

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CONSTRUCTED OF STRAW, SEEDS, LICHEN, TWIGS AND GRASS

CONTAINED IN AN EBONISED GLASS FRONTED CASE

CIRCA 1850-70

SIZE: 41CM HIGH, 51CM WIDE, 10 CM DEEP – 16 INS HIGH, 20 INS WIDE, 4 INS DEEP

LITERATURE

FOR MOST OF THE 19TH CENTURY AMERICA REMAINED AN AGRARIAN ECONOMY. THE MEASURE OF ONE'S SUCCESS WAS THE ACREAGE OF FERTILE LAND AND THE USEFULNESS AND HANDSOMENESS OF THE BUILDINGS ERECTED UPON IT.

MANY PEOPLE, PROUD OF THEIR ACHIEVEMENT, WANTED TO DOCUMENT THEIR HOMESTEADS IN WHAT WERE ESSENTIALLY 'PROPERTY PORTRAITS' IN ORDER TO HAVE A PERMANENT AND VISUAL RECORD OF THEIR WEALTH AND DOMAIN.