HANDOUT Title: Burlap Bag- Item Label Handout #: 18a

Content:

Burlap Bag, Sewing Needles, String for Lima Beans

MVC Collection, donation of Mrs. Richard Gould

Lima Beans were originally harvested and threshed in the field by large crews of men using steam powered threshing machines. The machine separated the beans from the stalks and chaff and shot the out a metal tube into burlap sacks which were quickly sewn closed by skilled workers.

Chunk #1 Photo of lima bean threshing crew in the field with bean sacks

Chunk #2 Newspaper article about bean growers using larger sacks, dated September 29, 1911

Chunk #3 Excerpt from 1988 oral history of William Miller where he speaks about the beans being loaded in the wagons and coming out of the “dog house” on the thresher.