

Basic Detail Report



Sampler

Primary Maker

Elenor M. Page

Medium

Plied silk thread on linen

Description

A large square sampler worked in black, brown, green, blue, pale yellow, tan, and off-white plied silk threads on an loose weave linen ground. The sampler's silk threads vary wildly in thickness, ranging from fine to heavy. A large cursive upper case alphabet runs across the top of the sampler, ending on the second line, with a tiny lower case alphabet following a flower sprig spacer. A large

floral and foliate oval encircles the sampler's verse: "This day be bred and peace our lot / All else beneath the sun / Thou knowest if best bestowed or not / And let thy will be done." The inscription immediately follows below, reading "Elenor M. Pages work wrought / in the 11th year of her Age 1818 / cross Roads School." Below the verse and inscription within the oval border are various single motifs including a chevron and a small circular medallion, two mirror image birds, two floral buds, and a central floral element. In the bottom portion of the sampler is worked an imposing Federal style brick school building, featuring three stories of green shuttered windows flanking a central entry door with a fanlight above and three steps below. In front of the school is a swath of green grass on which appears four sheep, a small black and white picket fence, and four small white birds. Two tall trees with feathery branches, suggesting pine trees, flank the building on either side. Worked along the left and right sides of the sampler and in the space between the verse oval and the building are numerous single motifs including pairs of kissing birds, floral baskets, butterflies, roses, and two tiny black dogs. An exuberant wavy floral vine borders the left and right edges, while two large satin-stitched roses and single floral motifs form a border along the top. Stitches used in the sampler include cross, stem, queen, satin, and feather.

Dimensions

21.63 × 20.5 in. (54.9 × 52.1 cm)