

Basic Detail Report



Sampler

Primary Maker

Rhoda Ann Fowler

Medium

Plied silk thread on linen

Description

A large square sampler in gauzy linen, worked in plied silk thread in dark brown, medium brown, pale brown, tan, ivory, pale gray, dark green, grass green, light olive green, pale green, deep orange, pale pink, lemon yellow and goldenrod yellow. The original thread colors, which can be seen on the back of the sampler, have faded over time. Three stitches are used, including cross, chain, and

tent. In the center of the sampler is a scene depicting a cat and kitten lapping water from a puddle in front of what appears to be a water pump, set against a background of greenery. Flanking the cat and kitten are several individual elements, including a butterfly, a pecking chicken on the left and a strutting rooster at right, and blue urns topped with floral bouquets. Above the central scene is the embroidery teacher's name and a verse, reading "A. S. Fitz Gibbon, instructress / Duty like a strict preceptor / Sometimes frowns, or seems to frown / Choose her thistle for thy sceptre / While thy brow youths roses crown." On either side of the verse is a tall floral basket. A small stylized floral oval element separates the verse and the central scene. Below the cat and kitten, set within a small floral wreath composed of blue and pink morning glories, is the inscription "Wrought by / Rhoda Ann Fowler / in the 13th year of her age / Flushing L I." To the left of the wreath is worked a parrot perched upon a leafy branch, while to the right of the wreath is a parrot with outstretched wings. A single line of chain stitching forms a narrow band around the inscriptions and motifs. A wide floral border depicting blue and pink morning glories encircles all four sides of the sampler.

Dimensions

17.13 × 16 in. (43.5 × 40.6 cm)