

Basic Detail Report



Sampler

Medium

Plied, flat, and unraveled silk thread on linen

Description

A large square sampler worked in plied, flat, and unraveled plied silk thread on gauzy natural linen in dark green, grass green, medium green, light green, bright sky blue, lemon yellow, pale peach, light pink, purple, lilac, dark brown, and off white. The embroidery is worked in a variety of stitches, including cross, tent, satin, chain, and basket. In the upper half of the sampler is worked the verse "PETITION / Jesus permit Thy Gracious name to

stand / As the First effort of a youthful hand; / And while her fingers on the canvafs [sic] move / Engage her tender heart to seek Thy Love: / With Thy dear Children Let her have a part / And write Thy name Thyself upon her heart / Worked by Lydia S. Barnes AD 1828." Surrounding the verse and inscription is an exuberant grapevine, the leaves of which are worked in pale green with boldly contrasting dark green outline stitching. Lush bunches of grapes still retain much of their original purple and lilac coloration. The lower half of the sampler includes a large fruit basket, with a peach, an apple, a small cluster of strawberries, and two bunches of grapes with leaves and tendrils overflowing the rim of a straight-sided woven basket sporting two loop handles, worked in basket stitch, resting atop a small grassy base. Small floral basket elements are stitched on the left and right sides of the linen panel between the verse and basket. Along the bottom edge at right is worked a small floral spray, while in the lower left corner is a commercially printed cutout of a woolly ram, held in place with small tack stitches. Along the left, top, and right edges is embroidered a brightly-colored flowing floral vine, the sky blue and bright yellow blossoms possibly depicting forget-me-nots. On close inspection, evidence of original inking for the sampler design can be seen, particularly beneath and around portions of the outer floral border and beneath the grape bunches in the verse border. All four edges of the sampler have been sewn to sturdy woven cotton tape as reinforcement for the panel's original framing. The left and right sides of the linen panel retain the selvedge, while the top and bottom edges have been narrowly hemmed. Dark staining can be seen around the small tack holes along all four edges, from the sampler's original framing mount.

Dimensions

22.5 × 23.5 in. (57.2 × 59.7 cm)