



## Embroidered Pocketbook

### Medium

Silk, buckram, gold and silver thread, plied silk thread, and cotton velvet

### Description

A pocketbook of fine black silk over a buckram (stiffened linen) lining, bound with bright pink silk ribbon. The pocketbook is constructed as a single fold case, with divided double compartments on the front and back panels. Both interior and exterior are elaborately embroidered in delicate floral and foliate motifs. On the

front panel, a pair of exotic birds perch along the rim of a stylized urn, while a yellow butterfly lights atop a blue floral blossom above. On the back panel, a pair of exotic birds resembling parrots nestle within an elaborate floral spray curving out of a cone-shaped container. The two inner panels feature a delicate floral and strawberry spray on one side. The other panel includes a shaped medallion panel forming a frame for the pocketbook's embroidered inscription "James Hamilton / 1773." All embroidery is done in fine plied silk threads in shades of dark green, jade green, pale green, rich maroon, salmon, rose, pale pink, peach, lemon yellow, and deep sky blue. In addition, gold and silver threads are used throughout. Stitches include satin, stem, and several couching variations. All silver and gold thread work is couched. Two divider sections contain gusseted side panels in pale blue silk bound with bright pink silk ribbons. Two lengths of black cotton velvet ribbons have been added and crudely stitched in place to the center of each panel edge.

### Dimensions

4 × 7.25 × 0.63 in. (10.2 × 18.4 × 1.6 cm)