

Basic Detail Report



Sampler

Primary Maker

Sarah Throckmorton

Medium

Silk plied thread on linen with muslin support

Description

This restrained and beautifully executed sampler is worked in silk plied threads in shades of red, blue, green, black, brown, off-white, pink, and tan on a finely woven linen ground. At the top of the sampler, worked in red, is the verse "Grant me to live, and if I live, to find / The dear lov'd portion of a peaceful mind / That health, that sweet content, that pleasing rest / which God alone can give, as suits me best." Below, within a Greek key border worked in off-white, is an upper case alphabet worked in pale ochre, flanked by two topiary shrubs in two-handled urns.

Below the alphabet is the inscription "Sarah Throckmorton. Aged Thirteen. March 1803" worked in pale blue. In the bottom half of the sampler is worked a pictorial image of a brick Federal style mansion flanked by trios of distinctive feathered trees, with four formal garden beds in the foreground. A flock of small black birds fly over the mansion. Below the scene runs a light blue dovetail band. A tiny lower case alphabet worked in off-white appears in a single line below the blue band. Three borders enclose the sampler: a narrow off-white inner border of single worked cross stitches, a medial large border of a dark brown lozenge chain enclosing small floral sprigs, and an outer border of a zig zag cross stitch band worked in light blue. The sampler is mounted on its original wooden strainer assembly, backed with original off-white muslin support fabric and held in place by the original iron tacks. The sampler's frame, of black painted pine with a narrow gilded inner border, appears to be original to the piece.

Dimensions

Sight: 19 × 15 in. (48.3 × 38.1 cm)