

Basic Detail Report



Sampler

Primary Maker

Harriet Farnham

Medium

Plied and flat silk thread on linen with diaper weave cotton backing

Description

A rectangular sampler on rough woven linen in both plied and flat silk threads in cross, Algerian eyelet, and satin stitches. The plied silk thread appears in medium green, pale green, light blue, dull pink, tan, and off white. The flat silk thread colors include six shades of green from dark forest green to pale apple green, medium blue, light sky blue, medium brown, golden tan, pale dull pink, pale yellow, and off white. The upper two thirds of the sampler

is made up of two alphabets. The first, a three-fourths inch upper case alphabet, runs from A to J on the first row, K through S on the second, and T through Z on the third line. The fourth and fifth lines contain a 5/8 inch upper case italic alphabet, from A through L and M through U. All five lines are separated by narrow cross stitch bands in a variety of patterns. Below the alphabet lines is the verse "Jesus permit Thy Gracious / Name To stand as the First / Effort Of an Infant Hand." The "t" in "First" floats just above the "s," in an effort to fit all the letters. Below the verse is the signature "Harriet Farnham Born Sept 3." The lower third of the sampler features a pictorial scene entirely worked in flat silk, depicting a striped black and white urn topped with floral sprays, flanked by two large fruiting trees. Urn and trees rest upon a shaded grassy lawn. Animals, most likely deer including three adult deer and a fawn, graze between urn and trees. On close inspection, inked pattern lines are clearly visible beneath many areas of the pictorial scene elements. A stylized strawberry vine border is worked along the left, top, and right sides of the sampler. A single row of cross stitches forms an edging along the right, left, top, and bottom of the linen panel. A lining of diaper woven cotton has been added to the linen panel.

Dimensions

15.5 × 12.63 in. (39.4 × 32.1 cm)