

Basic Detail Report



Sampler

Primary Maker

Mary Clayton

Medium

Plied cotton thread and plied silk thread on coarse natural linen

Description

A small square sampler worked on coarse natural linen, with the selvedge edge visible along the right while the top, left, and bottom edges have been left raw. Virtually all the embroidery is done in tightly plied cotton thread in

olive green, pale brown, and tan. A small portion of one of the leaves in the floral basket motif were stitched in cream white plied silk thread. All embroidery is worked in cross stitch. The upper half of the sampler includes five rows of alphabet. A half-inch upper case alphabet runs from A to K on the first line, L to X on the second line, and W to Z on the third line. Immediately following Z is a numeral run from 1 to 9 and 0. A half-inch lower case alphabet is worked on the fourth line, running from a through u. On the fifth line, letters V through Z appear, although worked as upper case letters. The year "1840" follows Z. Two bands of single-row cross stitch separate the upper from the lower case alphabets. On the lower half of the sampler, six distinct and separate design motifs are worked. In the center, an eight-pointed star in contrasting colors of olive green and light brown hovers above a small bird. On the left is worked a large floral basket with two handles. A small animal, possibly a cat, appears on the far left. To the right, a stylized flower spray arches above a double-handled urn. A small green bird perches on a floating branch above the floral spray. A narrow row of alternating green cross stitches separate the motif grouping from the name signature "Mary Clayton" worked at the bottom right of the linen panel. A line of single cross stitching runs along all four edges.

Dimensions

8.63 × 9.75 in. (21.9 × 24.8 cm)