

Basic Detail Report



Sampler

Primary Maker

Eleanor L. Coward

Medium

Silk on linen

Description

A rectangular needlework sampler worked in what was originally black, brown, dark and light green, light blue, yellow, rose pink, and off-white silk embroidery thread on a moderately open weave bleached linen ground. The top third of the sampler includes the verse "Teach me oh thou! that teacher art / Of every duty here below / Thy bounteous grace to me impart / Be thou my guide where ere I go / I ask no gold nor wealths array / I meet thy will thy will be done / I know that time itself decays / And gold but sparkles in the sun / When chasten'd let me kiss the rod / I wish no transient joy to claim / Be thou my portion oh my god / Thro' Heavens eternal year the same." The signature line "Eleanor L. Coward March 1st 1822" appears immediately below the verse. To the left of the verse are the names "Enoch Coward / April 1st 1769," "Enoch L. Coward," and "Elizabeth L. Coward," and to the right of the verse are the names "Eleanor Coward / Novr 21st 1768" and "Clemence S. Coward." The second third of the sampler features a central three-story building surmounted by a cupola and spire, two chimneys, and a decorative roof railing. A small lean-to structure can be seen attached to the side of the main building. Several smaller outbuildings are partially hidden by four conical trees. On the right, a barn or carriage building sits between two large leafy trees. A picket fence runs in front of the buildings. The bottom third of the sampler depicts a dark green field with a central basket of strawberries, flanked on both sides by strawberry vines. The sampler is bordered on all four sides by an undulating floral vine.

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Dimensions

Sight: 25 × 22 × 1.38 in. (63.5 × 55.9 × 3.5 cm)