

Basic Detail Report



Sampler

Primary Maker

Leah Conover

Medium

Silk thread on linen

Description

This square sampler is worked in plied silk thread on a closely woven fine natural linen ground. The original thread colors appear to be light, medium, and dark blue, medium, light and olive green, pearl white, tan, and medium brown. The top two-thirds of the sampler contains a rectangular border enclosing an upper case

alphabet worked in Algerian eyelet stitch, letters A through M running along the top of the rectangle. Immediately below is a small upper case alphabet A through X worked in box stitch. In the center of the rectangular panel is a scalloped oval worked in chain stitch, enclosing the inscription "LEAH CONOVER / August 1826 / Done under the tuition / of / M. A. JENKINS." Along the left of the rectangular border, running 90 degrees from horizontal, is the inscription "Middletown," and along the right "Academy." The sampler's verse is also worked 90 degrees from horizontal, flanking the center oval, with "Favour is deceitful and / beauty is vain but a wo- / man that feareth the LORD / she shall be Praised" to the left and "Give her of the fruit of / her hands and let her own / works praise her in the gates" at right. Along the bottom of the rectangular border runs the second portion of the large upper case alphabet, from N through U and W, X, and Y. The bottom third of the sampler includes a pictorial scene featuring an elaborate three-story building topped with a cupola, fronted by three broad white steps. The building is flanked by stylized floral sprays and smaller foliate elements. The sky in the pictorial scene is fully worked in heavy pearl white thread. A diamond chain border runs along all four sides of the sampler.

Dimensions

Sight: 16.5 × 15.75 in. (41.9 × 40 cm)