

Basic Detail Report



Sampler

Primary Maker

Lucy Burtiss

Medium

Silk and linen

Description

A large rectangular sampler worked in silk thread on a natural linen ground. The sampler features central image of a house, with large windows, a central door, and broad stone steps. The house is flanked by narrow vines. In front

of the house, a broad green lawn worked in glossy raveled silk, is populated by a variety of creatures, including birds, sheep, and miniscule dogs, amidst tiny flowers and floral urns. Two curving streams, also worked in raveled silk, can be seen on either corner of the lawn. A number of individual floral elements are worked throughout the linen panel. Along the top of the sampler is the central inscription "Lucy Burtiss. Work done / at Bennington School in / the 10th year of her age" and the verse "Good is the lord our king / Who makes the earth his care / Visits the pasture every spring / And bids the grass appear" on the left, "Arise and serve the lord of light / Who is beautiful to behold / Thou shalt be cloth'd; in robes of White / and deck'd in chains of gold" at right. The initials of the Burtiss family are worked in dark brown thread and are grouped vertically. The initials "AG," "EG," "MT," "ET," "DTB," "MB," and "MB" run down the left side, while the initials "EAB," "AGB," "MSB," "WTB," and "AMB" run along the right side. Lucy's own initials "LB" appear alone to the upper right of the house, while the initials "WB" are worked just below the portion of verse embroidered to the right of the signature. A stylized floral border runs along all four edges of the panel, with a narrow triangle band forming an inner border.

Dimensions

Framed: 23 × 25.5 in. (58.4 × 64.8 cm)