

Basic Detail Report



Title Overmantel

Date 1761

Primary Maker Faith Trumbull

Medium Embroidery: silk thread, mica and paint on a satin-woven silk ground

Frame: black and gilt wood, original glass

Description Overmantel needlework picture worked in shades of blue-green, dark medium and light green, gold, cream, khaki, medium and light brown, grey, dark red, red and black, and, medium and light blue silk threads, silver metallic threads, mica, and gouache on a black, satin-woven silk ground. The picture shows a pastoral scene in a wide landscape, with three vignettes described here from left to right. The first vignette is in the left foreground; it consists of a seated woman in a red striped dress, next to a man holding a square birdcage. To the right is a shepherdess surrounded by a sheep and four additional animals, possibly a dog or other sheep. The second vignette consists of a young woman milking a cow; the cow is facing the viewer. The third vignette consists of a woman and a shepherd next to three sheep and a goat, all standing on the shore of a large lake in the middle distance. The vignettes are not all drawn to

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scale. In the right center distance is a saltbox-style house with mica windows. In the right far distance of the landscape is a small town, including a church with steeple and two small buildings. Various trees decorate the landscape. The picture is completely embroidered to cover the black ground, except for the bird catcher's hat, pants, and shoes. The ground consists of a black satin-woven silk that is stretched horizontally in the war direction. The ground has selvages on top and bottom edges; each selvedge contains four flat-metal wire warp threads. The embroidery is joined to the stretcher (original) by lacing the ground around the back of the stretcher. The embroidery is in the original frame.

Stitches: The principal stitch on the needlework picture is satin stitch; it also includes encroaching satin, flat, outline, stem, whip, seed, split, and couching.

Condition: The gouache is cracked, but not flaking. The silk thread has moderate to severe fading. The needlework picture has been conserved, retaining the original laced mount, and re-installed in the original frame. The strainer is repaired. The glass is replaced.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (embroidery height x width): 19 x 52in. (48.3 x 132.1cm) Component (frame height x width): 21 1/4 x 54 7/8in. (53.8 x 139.4cm) Other (height x width inside frame): 18 1/4 x 51 1/4in. (46.4 x 130.2cm)