

Basic Detail Report



Title Sampler

Date late 18th-early 19th century

Primary Maker Sarah Mitchell

Medium Embroidery; silk thread on a plain-woven, undyed linen ground

Description Sampler worked in medium browns, light browns, dark blue, black, medium greens, dark green, purple, and rust silk threads on a plain-woven linen ground in cross stitches over two threads. The sampler is squarish, oriented horizontally. It is laid out with six rows of three alphabets and the numbers 1 through 9, over an inscription, over a horizontal band of pictorial motifs at the bottom. The inscription is "Sarah. Mitchells Aged 11 Years". The horizontal band

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of pictorial motifs includes, from left to right, a right-facing lion, a tree, a right-facing four-legged animal (probably a dog), a basket, a left-facing four-legged animal (probably a dog), a tree, and a left-facing lion. Also included in the band are four four-legged animals. The motifs are not to scale. The lines of alphabets, numbers, and text are separated by various narrow borders, including straight and meandering lines. There is a narrow border at the top. The sampler has a 3/16 - 2/8-inch double-turned hem on the top, bottom, and right side edges, and a selvage at the left edge. The sampler is not framed. Letters and Numbers: There are three alphabets and the numbers 1-9. The letters are uppercase block in alphabets 1 and 2, and lowercase block in alphabet 3. The letters J and U are present in all alphabets. The letter A is repeated thrice in the first alphabet; twenty-five letters, B-Z, are repeated in the first alphabet. The first and second alphabets present the letter V before the letter U. The second and third alphabets end at the letter X. The letter "s" in "Years" is positioned immediately above the "r" in "Years". Stitches: The sampler is worked in cross stitches over two threads. Condition: The sampler has extensive damage, particularly in its bottom half. It has light fading. The sampler is not framed.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of ground): 11 1/4 x 11 1/4in.
(28.6 x 28.6cm)