

Basic Detail Report



Title Hand-held Fire Screen

Date about 1778-1780

Primary Maker Prudence Punderson

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

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Description Fire screen consisting of a shaped plain-woven silk screen decorated

with hand-stitched silk embroidery and supported by a hand-held wooden

handle. The firescreen is worked in pink, white, green, black, brown, and light

blue silk thread on a plain-woven dark green silk ground, using satin stitch and

other stitches. One side of the firescreen is decorated with two birds, each over a

small spray of flowers; this is surrounded by a circular wreath of purple grapes

or berries on a vine. The opposite side is decorated with twelve sprays of flowers

on a short stem. The firescreen is constructed of a stiff board, or paper, between

the two green silk sides of the screen; these layers are joined at the edge by

hand-stitched light blue, bias-cut fabric binding. The wooden handle is

constructed of a single piece of wood with a slit to support the screen; the upper

portion of the handle has two nails to join the screen to the handle. Stitches: The

principal stitch on the firescreen is satin; it also includes encroaching satin,

outline and flat. Condition: There are a few very small holes in each side of the

firescreen. The binding and handle are replaced.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height including handle x width): 15 3/16 x 10 3

/4in. (38.6 x 27.3cm)