

Basic Detail Report



Title Headcloth

Date 1795-1815

Primary Maker Punderson family

Medium Hand-stitched embroidery; crewel wool on plain-woven linen; woven tape

Description Headcloth, part of a set of bed hangings consisting of two bedcurtains (.a, .b), a headcloth (.c), three valances (.d-f), a pillowcase (.g) and a fragment (.h). The bedhangings are hand-stitched with crewel, or two-ply worsted wool, on a plain-woven linen ground. The wool on these bedhangings is

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in many colors, including red, pink, dark medium and light blue, blue-green,

light green, dark green, gold, yellow, tan, and cream. The headcloth is nearly square and embroidered with three vertical columns of four floral designs each.

In the center is a baluster-shaped vase containing a spray of flowers. The other, smaller designs consist of flowers and berries on stems with leaves. The

headcloth is constructed of two panels of linen that were hand-stitched

down the center together prior to the embroidery. Each side of the headcloth has a selvedge while the top and bottom each have a 3/16-inch double-turned hem.

The top edge of the headcloth has three tape loops for hanging. Stitches: The

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

roumanian (oriental), buttonhole, and long and short. Condition: Portions of the

crewel embroidery, in the center, bottom center, and lower right corner have

been reinforced with couching stitches in white thread through the ground.

Small areas of crewel wool are missing from scattered areas on the headcloth.

Some of the wool has been abraded and has started to unravel. Some of the

crewel has faded.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width): 60 x 59in. (152.4 x 149.9cm)