

Basic Detail Report



Title Memorial Picture

Date about 1805

Primary Maker Nancy Dunham

Medium Embroidery; silk thread, chenille yarn, watercolor on a plain-woven silk ground; glass, black paint, gold paint, wood

Description Memorial picture worked in black, dark green, medium and light brown, blue-green, blue, tan, khaki, cream and white silk threads, brown and green chenille yarn, and blue, white, black and pink paint on a plain-woven white silk ground, using satin stitch and other stitches; the memorial picture is

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labeled "NANCY DUNHAM." and is in the original gold-painted frame (.b). The

picture shows six figures, a man, a boy, two women and two girls, surrounding a

large monument with an urn on top. All of the figures wear black clothing; the

boy also has a blue coat. The faces are visible only on the woman and the boy to

the right of the monument. The man stands behind the urn, and the woman and

girls to the left of the monument are wearing bonnets and holding up

handkerchiefs, so that their faces are covered. A hand-written inscription on the

monument reads "Sacred to the Memory/ of Mrs. Lois Dunham, Obt/ August 25th

AD 1804 Ae 43 yrs/ I will think of thy Departed Virtues and weep to thy/ Memory."

There are weeping willows in the background. In the far back, at left, is a cluster

of buildings, and at right, a small hill. The sky, faces, arms and inscription are

hand-painted directly onto the silk ground. The memorial picture is worked

inside a round area on a square ground; the ground has a strip of canvas sewn to

the top and bottom edges. The picture is behind glass (.c) that is painted black

around the embroidered picture; the embroiderer's name is hand-painted in

gold at the bottom. The frame (.b, original) consists of one deeply curved band

of molding with an applied rope-twist lining the inside of the molding, and has

been overpainted with radiator paint. Stitches: The primary stitch on the

memorial picture is a satin stitch; it also includes encroaching satin, long and

short, outline, daisy, and french knot. Condition: The silk thread has moderate

fading. The ground is removed from a stretcher. A small portion of the rope-twist

molding is missing from the top left corner of the frame. The paint on the frame

is flaking. The backing is replaced.

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Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width): 16 3/4 x 16in. (42.5 x 40.6cm)