

Basic Detail Report

Title Overmantel

Date 1754

Primary Maker Faith Trumbull

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

ground Frame: black and gilt wood, glass

Description Overmantel needlework picture worked in shades of gold, light

brown, medium brown, cream, khaki, dark brown, dark medium and light blue,

blue-green, grey, red, yellow and black silk threads, mica, and gouache on a pale

blue, satin-woven silk ground. The picture depicts a pastoral scene in a wide

landscape. In the foreground is a pair of trees; at the foot of the tree is a woman

playing a musical instrument and a young woman milking a cow. In the

foreground to the right of the milking woman are several sheep, a shepherd, and

a dog. A pond is located in the middle distance across the width of the picture;

four cows are standing in the water to the left, while two swans float in the water

on the right. Three gentlemen, probably herders, stand on the shores of the

pond; one is on the near shore while two are on the far side of the pond. In the

right middle and far background are three buildings, probably a residence, each

with mica windows. Various trees and hills decorate the landscape scene. The

sky consists of the unembroidered light blue satin-woven silk ground. The

ground consists of light blue satin-woven silk that is stretched horizontally in the

warp direction. The ground has selvages on top and bottom edges; each

selvedge contains four flat-metal wire warp threads. Each edge of the ground is

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sewn to strips of heavy linen. The frame and stretcher are original; the glass is replaced. Stitches: The principal stitch on the needlework picture is whip stitch (a variation of outline stitch); it also includes surface satin, flat, outline, and split. The picture includes some laid work. Condition: The gouache is cracked, but not flaking. There is consistent loss of the brown silk thread that forms the pond. The ground has been stitched to a cotton support. A band of woven silk ribbon is added to each side of the needlework; this is used to join the needlework to the strainer. The needlework picture is re-installed in the original frame. The glass is replaced.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of frame): 23 1/8 x 54in. (58.7 x 137.2cm) Primary Dimensions (height x width inside frame): 20 3/8 x 51 1/16 in. (51.8 x 129.7cm)