

Basic Detail Report

Title Sampler

Date 1800

Primary Maker Rebecca Porter

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

Description Sampler worked in medium brown, medium olive, dark olive, black, light brown, dark pink, and yellow silk threads on a plain-woven linen ground in cross stitch and other stitches. The sampler is rectangular, oriented vertically. It is laid out with four rows of one alphabet and the numbers 1 through 19, over an inscription, over five rows of one alphabet and an inscription. The first inscription is "Rebecca Porter Aged 8/ Years and 10 Months March/ 16 1800". The second inscription is "There is/ nothing of more worth/ than a mind well/ instructed". Certain lines of alphabets, numbers, and text are separated by various narrow borders, including straight and meandering lines. There is a four-sided border. The sampler has a 3/16-inch double-turned hem on all four sides. The sampler is not framed. Letters and Numbers: There are two alphabets and the numbers 1-19. The letters are uppercase block in alphabet 1 and lowercase block in alphabet 2. The letter J is present in both alphabets; the letter U is present in the second alphabet. The letter A is repeated twice in the first alphabet. Stitches: The principal stitch on the sampler is cross stitch (over two threads); it is also worked in Algerian eye and four-sided stitches. Condition: The sampler has at least two holes; a large hole is in the upper section. It has encroached on some of the first alphabet as well as the numbers. There is stitch

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loss to the numbers. There are some weak areas to the ground. The sampler has moderate fading. It is not framed.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of ground): 12 3/8 x 9 5/8in.

(31.4 x 24.4cm)