

Basic Detail Report

Title Sampler

Date 1847

Primary Maker Louisa V. Miller

Medium Embroidery; wool thread on a plain-woven, undyed linen ground

Description Sampler worked in red, dark green, medium green, black, light blue,

dark blue, medium blue, dark browns, orange, white, yellow and gray wool

threads on a plain-woven linen ground using cross over two threads, tent and

other stitches. The sampler is squarish, oriented horizontally. It is laid out with

four rows of three alphabets, over a wide horizontal band featuring a landscape,

over an inscription on the bottom. The inscription is "Wrought by Louisa V Miller

in the 10th year of her age/ 1847". The landscape scene has foreground,

midground and background, and includes, from left to right, a mallard duck, a

tree, a three story building with center door, a two-story building with center

door, a bird atop a tree, a large church, a rose bush, a tree and a smallish two-

story building with center door. The first two buildings have fences in front of

them. The large church is in the gothic revival style, with pointed arched

windows and a crenellated roof line. The lines of alphabets are separated by

straight horizontal lines. There is a wide four-sided border of a meandering vine

and flowers or berries. The sampler has a 2/16-inch double-turned hem on the

top and bottom edges, and selvages on both sides. It is not framed or

mounted. Letters and Numbers: There are three alphabets. The letters are

uppercase script in alphabet 1, uppercase block in alphabet 2, and lowercase

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block in alphabet 3. The letters J and U are present in all alphabets. The

ampersand is repeated twice after the first alphabet. Alphabet 3 ends at the

letter "y". All lowercase letters with descenders, such as the letter 'g', are placed

so the descender does not extend below the baseline. Stitches: The principal

stitches on the sampler are cross over two and tent; it also includes satin, back,

herringbone and cross (over one) stitches. Condition: The sampler has minimal

to light fading. The ground has darkened, especially on the top edge. It has

uneven nail holes along all four edges. It is not framed or mounted.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width): 16 3/8 x 17 1/2in. (41.6 x 44.5

cm)