

# Basic Detail Report

## Title Sampler

Date about 1815-1830

Primary Maker Harriet Merrill

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

Description Unfinished sampler worked in black, dark blue, pink, yellow, and

light green (bright) silk threads on a plain-woven linen ground in cross (over two

threads) and long arm cross [Katherine - please confirm that these are not

herringbone] stitches. The sampler is rectangular, oriented horizontally. It is laid

out with four rows of three alphabets and the numbers 1 through 8, over an

inscription. The inscription is "Take fast hold of instruction/ keep her for she is

thy life". Certain lines of alphabets, numbers, and text are separated by various

narrow meandering borders. There is a four-sided border. The sampler is

unfinished. The sampler has a 2/8 to 5/16-inch double-turned hem on all four

edges. The sampler is not framed. Letters and Numbers: There are three

alphabets and the numbers 1-8. The letters are uppercase block in alphabet 1,

lowercase block in alphabet 2, and uppercase script in alphabet 3. The letter J is

present in the first and second alphabets; the letter U is present in all alphabets.

All lowercase letters with descenders, such as the letter 'g', are placed so the

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

the sampler is cross stitch over two threads; it is also worked in long arm cross

[confirm that these are not herringbone]. Condition: The sampler has minimal

fading. The sampler is unfinished. It is not framed.

# Basic Detail Report

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of ground): 12 x 17 1/4in. (30.5 x

43.8cm)