

Basic Detail Report

Title Sampler

Date 1791

Primary Maker Susan Olcott

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

Description Marking sampler worked in medium blue, black, medium browns,

cream, mint, red, and gray silk threads on a plain-woven linen ground in cross

and other stitches. The sampler is rectangular, oriented vertically. It is laid out

with three rows of one alphabet, over an inscription, over the numbers 1

through 10, over an inscription. The first inscription is "SUSEY OLCott/ in the 14

Year/ Of her age/ 1791". The second inscription is, in initial caps, "Beauty is vain/

Their prety eyes may rol/ Charm strikes the/ Sight but merit/ twains the soul".

There is a vertical marker between the numbers 1-5 and 6-10. Certain lines of

alphabets, numbers, and text are separated by various narrow borders. There is

some practice stitching in the bottom section. There is a four-sided border. The

sampler has a 3/16-inch double-turned hem on both side edges and the bottom

edge, and a selvedge on the top edge. The sampler is not framed. Letters and

Numbers: There is one alphabet and the numbers 1-10. The letters in the

alphabet are uppercase block. The letter J is not present; the letter U is present.

The letters U and V are reversed. The "10" is shown as "01". "may rol" is placed

immediately above "eyes"; the "e" in "the" is above the "h" in "the". Stitches:

The principal stitch on the sampler is cross over two threads; it is also worked in

cross over one thread, eyelet, and Algerian eye stitches. Condition: There is at

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least one hole and some mended areas. There is some green colored thread

sewn through the ground at "Beauty is vain". The sampler has minimal fading.

The sampler is not framed.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width): 10 1/4 x 7 1/4in. (26 x 18.4cm)