

Basic Detail Report

Title Sampler

Date 1828

Primary Maker Clarissa Cornelia Loomis

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

Description Sampler worked in terra-cotta, blue-green, dark brown, medium brown, medium blue, light blue, and black silk threads on a plain-woven linen ground in cross stitch and other stitches. The sampler is squarish, oriented horizontally. It is laid out with seven rows of four alphabets and the numbers 1 through 15, over two inscriptions, over a horizontal band of pictorial motifs, over an inscription. The first inscription is "Hail heirs of endless peace ordained to rove/ Round the [illegible] love/ For you the sun first [illegible] the lucid morn/ [illegible] born". The second inscription is "Polly Kingsley"; this may be a teacher's name. The third inscription is "Clarissa C Loomis Aged 9 years Lebanon/ Sept 24 1828". The horizontal band of pictorial motifs includes, from left to right, a woman wearing a dress and holding a parasol, a large tree, three small trees, a large tree, and a three-dimensional two-story house with center door. A fence extends horizontally across the scene. Certain lines of alphabets, numbers, and text are separated by various narrow borders, including straight and meandering lines. There is a narrow four-sided border. The sampler has a 3/16-inch double-turned hem on the top and bottom edges, and selvages on both side edges. The sampler is not framed. Letters and Numbers: There are four alphabets and the numbers 1-15. The letters are uppercase block in alphabets 1

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and 2, uppercase script in alphabet 3, and lowercase block in alphabet 4. The

letter J is present in the first and fourth alphabets; the letter U is present in all

alphabets. The second alphabet ends at X; there is what appears to be an

unusual styled N at the end of the second alphabet. Stitches: The principal stitch

on the sampler is cross stitch over two threads; it is also worked in rice, outline,

queen, half-cross and long-armed cross stitches. Condition: The sampler has

significant stitch loss in the first inscription. The sampler has light fading. It is

not framed.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of ground): 16 1/8 x 17 1/4in. (41

x 43.8cm)