

Basic Detail Report

Title Sampler

Date July 1840

Primary Maker Prudence Maria Hollister

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

Description Sampler worked in medium greens, medium browns, red brown, light browns, rust, black, and cream silk threads on a plain-woven linen ground in cross stitches. The sampler is squarish, oriented horizontally. It is laid out with six rows of three alphabets and the numbers 1 through 16, over an inscription, over a horizontal band of pictorial motifs at the bottom. The inscription is "Prudence Maria Hollister was born March 31st 1828 and marked/ this at Miss Cornwall's School in Glastenbury July 1840.". The horizontal band of pictorial motifs includes, from left to right, a tree, a large two-story brick house with a center door, and two trees. A fence runs horizontally on both sides of the house. Certain lines of alphabets, numbers, and text are separated by various narrow, meandering borders. The sampler has a wide berry and vine border on all four sides. The sampler has a 2/8-inch double-turned hem on the top, bottom, and right side edges, and a selvedge at the left edge. The sampler is not framed.

Letters and Numbers: There are three alphabets and the numbers 1-16. The letters are uppercase script in alphabet 1, uppercase block in alphabet 2, and lowercase block in alphabet 3. The letters J and U are present in all alphabets.

Four letters are repeated twice in the first alphabet: H, R, S, and Z; five letters are repeated twice in the second alphabet: CMNQS. Stitches: The principal stitch on

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the sampler is cross stitch over two threads; it is also worked in cross stitch over one thread. Condition: The sampler has minimal to moderate fading, depending on the color. The sampler is not framed.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of ground): 14 x 14 1/4in. (35.6 x 36.2cm)