

Basic Detail Report

Title Embroidery Fragment

Date 17th century

Medium Hand-stitched silk velvet with silver threads, linen and wool

Description Dark green velvet embroidered with silver-wrapped silk threads in a design of trefoils and stylized foliate patterns. The embroidery is worked on the velvet, and through a plain-woven linen backing. To give the embroidery a slightly raised and crisp appearance, it is worked over thick paper templates.

This embroidery is actually three strips of fabric that have been cut from the original piece (said to be a "Pilgrim vest") and then reassembled with coarse stitches into a rectangular panel. There are patches of birdseye linen toweling stitched to the back in a rough attempt to mend areas of loss. The embroidery was basted to a parchment interlining, backed with green tammy (plain-woven glazed wool), and bound with dark brown wool tape pieced out with dark brown cotton and a black ribbed silk. At the time of cataloguing, the backing was loosened enough to remove the parchment interlining, which is a fragment of a document. (See "Inscriptions.")

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width): 7 3/8 x 9 1/4in. (7 3/8in., 23.5 cm)