

Basic Detail Report

Title Sampler

Date 1812

Primary Maker Esther Maria Bull

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

Description Sampler worked in medium green, cream, dark green, rust and tan silk threads on a plain-woven linen ground in cross stitches. The sampler is rectangular, oriented horizontally. It is laid out with four rows of three alphabets, over, from left to right, a tree and a large, two-story institutional building in the Palladian style, over an inscription at the bottom. The inscription is "Esther Bull May 1812". The lines of alphabets are separated by various narrow borders, including straight and meandering lines. The sampler has a wide geometric flower and vine three-sided border on the sides and the top. There is pulled thread work finished with hem stitches on all four sides. The sampler has a 3/16-inch double-turned hem on all four edges. The sampler is mounted with whipped stitches to an acid-free board. It is in a modern frame.

Letters and Numbers: There are three alphabets. The letters are uppercase script in alphabet 1, uppercase block in alphabet 2 and lowercase block in alphabet 3. The letter J is present in the second alphabet only; 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); it is also worked in

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cross stitch (over one). Condition: The sampler probably has minimal to light

fading, depending on the color. The sampler is mounted with whipped stitches

to an acid-free board. It is in a modern frame.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of frame): 19 1/2 x 27 3/4in.

(49.5 x 70.5cm) Primary Dimensions (height x width inside frame): 13 1/2 x 21 7

/8in. (34.3 x 55.6cm) Primary Dimensions (height x width of ground): 12 3/4 x

21in. (32.4 x 53.3cm)