

# Basic Detail Report

## Title Sampler

Date 1816

Primary Maker Cynthia Pond

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

Description Sampler worked in light browns, cream, dark brown, medium brown

and gray silk threads on a plain-woven linen ground in cross and Algerian eye

stitches. The sampler is rectangular, oriented vertically. It is laid out with eight

rows of five alphabets and the numbers 1 through 9, over two inscriptions, over

a horizontal band of pictorial motifs, over a horizontal stylized strawberry/vine

design at the bottom. The first inscription is "Cynthia Pond Burlington/ Her Work

Aged 12 Years 1816". The second inscription is "Vain are the hopes of those who

think to gain/ This noble treasure without taking pains/ Youth is the time for

progress in all arts/ Then use your youth to gain the noblest parts". The

horizontal band of pictorial motifs includes, from left to right, a vase of right-

leaning flowers, a marking motif, a right-facing bird, a vase of left-leaning

flowers, and a right-facing four-legged animal. Certain lines of alphabets,

numbers and text are separated by various narrow borders, including straight

and meandering lines. The sampler has a meandering four-sided border. There

is a selvedge along the left side. The top, bottom, and right side have a 1/8 inch

double-turned hem. The sampler is probably unfinished. Letters and Numbers:

There are five alphabets and the numbers 1-9. The letters are uppercase block in

alphabets 1, 2 and 4, uppercase script in alphabet 3, and lowercase block in

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alphabet 5. The letters J and U are present in all alphabets. The fifth alphabet ends in 'y'. Maker uses long 's'. 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 threads; it is also worked in Algerian eye. Condition: The sampler probably has moderate to severe fading.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of frame): 19 x 16 1/2in. (48.3 x 41.9cm) Primary Dimensions (height x width inside of frame): 18 x 15 1/2in. (45.7 x 39.4cm) Primary Dimensions (height x width of ground): 17 1/2 x 15in. (43.7 x 36.8cm)