

Basic Detail Report

Title Sampler

Date 1791

Primary Maker Sarah Lawrence

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

Description Marking sampler worked in medium brown, dark green, purple,

medium green, terra-cotta, and cream silk threads on a plain-woven linen

ground in cross and other stitches. The sampler is rectangular, oriented

vertically. It is laid out with seven rows of two alphabets, the numbers 1 through

10, and a floral and vine design, over two inscriptions. The first inscription is

"Sally Lawrence./ aged 7 years/ Hartford July 28". The second inscription is

"Improve ev'ry momt." The lines of alphabets, numbers, and text are separated

by various narrow meandering borders. There is a narrow four-sided border. The

sampler has a 1/16-inch double-turned hem on the top and both side edges, and

a selvedge on the bottom edge. The sampler is not framed. Letters and

Numbers: There are two alphabets and the numbers 1-10. The letters are

uppercase block in alphabet 1, and lowercase block in alphabet 2. The letter J is

present in the first alphabet; the letter U is present in both alphabets. Five letters

are repeated twice in the first alphabet: MNOTU; one letter is repeated three

times in the first alphabet: S. The letter "s" is repeated twice in the second

alphabet. The embroiderer uses the long 's'. Stitches: The principal stitch on the

sampler is cross over two threads; it is also worked in satin and chain stitches.

Condition: The sampler has light fading. It is not framed.

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Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width): 10 5/8 x 8 1/2in. (27 x 21.6cm)