

Basic Detail Report



Title St. Thomas

Date 1776-1780

Primary Maker Prudence Punderson

Medium Embroidery; silk thread, floss and ink on a plain-woven silk ground

Description Needlework picture worked in black, brown, green, blue, pink, red, and cream silk threads on a plain-woven gold silk ground, using a surface satin stitch and other stitches. At the bottom is a hand-written inscription in black ink:

"St. Thomas/ Was thrust through with A Lance". This is one of a group of twelve

Basic Detail Report

silk needlework pictures; each depicts an apostle and has an ink inscription at the bottom with the name of the apostle and a description of their death. The needlework picture is rectangular, oriented vertically. It shows a man sitting on a wooden side chair; the chair has a yoke-shaped crest rail, a vase-shaped splat and turned stretchers. The man is wearing a tan hat with a wide brim and a long black robe, or banyan. He is carrying a spear vertically in his left hand; his right arm is propped on a trestle table that also holds a book. The man is seated between two trees with white blossoms. Three birds fly above, near the trees. A dog with a collar is standing at the base of the rightmost tree. The selvedge is located at the right edge of the ground. All four edges of the needlework are whip-stitched. The picture is hand-drawn with black and red ink and embroidered in untwisted silk thread and floss. The ground has 112 yarns per inch in the warp and 80 yarns per inch in the weft. Stitches: The principal stitch is the surface satin stitch; it also includes satin, stem and some free-form stitches. Condition: There is some fading to the ground and embroidery. The needlework picture has been cleaned gently then stitched to a plain-woven cotton support fabric applied to a rigid mount. The picture is not framed.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of ground): 9 5/16 x 8 3/8in. (23.7 x 21.3cm) Mount (height x width): 9 1/2 x 8 1/2in. (24.1 x 21.6cm)