Basic Detail Report



Title St. Simon the Zealot.

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, blue-grey, dark and medium brown, light blue, cream and pink 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. Simon the Zealot./ He was Sawed in two

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Alive." This is one of a group of twelve 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 standing man wearing a long black robe, or banyan, while holding a very long saw. He is standing beneath a tree, to the right, which is sawed off at the top. To the left of the man are low bushes and flowers, including roses. All four edges of the needlework are whip-stitched. The picture is hand-drawn in black ink then embroidered in untwisted silk 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, knot, feather 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 1/4 x 8 3/8in. (23.5 x 21.3cm) Mount (height x width): 9 1/2 x 8 1/2in. (24.1 x 21.6cm)