Basic Detail Report



Title The Parting of Hector and Andromache

Date 1810

Primary Maker Maria Bissell

Medium Embroidery; silk thread, chenille yarn, velvet, and paint on a plain-woven silk ground; glass, black and gold paint, wood

Description Needlework picture worked in brown, blue, khaki, tan, gold, yellow, white and light blue silk thread, light brown, metallic thread, dark brown and green chenille yarn, and brown velvet on a plain-woven silk ground, using satin stitch and other stitches; the picture is labeled "The Parting of Hector and Andromache/ M. Bissell/ 1810" (on original glass, now replaced). The picture shows a man and a woman standing to the right of a woman holding an infant;

the man's arms are reaching out to the child. The women are dressed in classically styled dresses while the man is wearing military costume, including a helmet and shin guards. The figures are standing beneath an arch supported by a pair of ivy-wrapped columns. In the background is a mountainous landscape which includes buildings. The foreground is made of chenille yarn and applied velvet. The remaining ground, portions of the figures, and landscape are worked in silk thread and chenille yarn. Portions of the figures, some of the costume, and the distant landscape and sky are hand-painted onto the ground. The picture is behind glass that is painted black and gold at the edges (replaced). The frame (.b) includes one deeply curved band of molding with a rope-twist molding applied inside. Stitches: The primary stitch on the needlework picture is satin stitch; it also includes flat, long and short, encroaching satin and some overlay work. Condition: The silk thread has moderate fading. The glass is replaced. The backing is replaced.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width): 26 x 30in. (66 x 76.2cm)