

**MAKE MUCH OF PRECIOUS TIME
WHILE IN YOUR POWER:
EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN
NEEDLEWORK SAMPLERS**

JUNE 7- SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

A CATALOGUE OF THE EXHIBIT

LYCOMING COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

858 WEST FOURTH STREET

WILLIAMSPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

CURATED BY GARY W. PARKS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#1: BAND NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Sarah RELPH, in her 10th year, [England, or possibly Rhode Island], October 30, 1745

Linen ground with silk thread

Known as a band sampler, this was a primary learning tool for a young woman of the 17th through the 19th centuries. Through a basic marking sampler, the young lady would learn to sew and use darning stitches, necessary for her future roles as wife, mother, and housekeeper. As samplers continued to be made, religious verses and maxims were added to guide her toward a purposeful life. Decorative bands of geometrical motifs were copied across the width of the sampler and served as a reference when the young woman wished to embellish an article of clothing or household linen.

Inscription: *“Make Much of Precious Time While in Your Power/ Be Careful Well to Husband Evry Hour/ for Time Will Come When You Shall Sore Lament/ The Unhappy Minutes That You Have Mispent*

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#2: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Ellen Elizabeth JACKSON, [Norfolk, England], 18[0]6

Linen gauze with reinforced woolen backing ground, applied silk thread

Stitches: Cross stitch, crewelwork- satin and stem

Description: Ellen Jackson’s sampler belongs to a large body of needlework produced in Norfolk, England. The diamond-shaped inner border is one of the elements tying them together, as well as the bouquets of flowers in each corner. Ellen’s sampler was featured in Joanne Lukasher’s pioneer work *Imitation & Improvement: The Norfolk Sampler Tradition* (2013).

Ellen was baptized 15 January 1790, the daughter of Robert and Sarah Wallen Jackson. She married William Claxton on 13 October 1817, and in the 1851 census is listed as a schoolmistress. Note that as she aged, she apparently became more self-conscious about her age. She deliberately picked out the ‘tens’ digit of the date she produced her sampler.

Verse in full reads:

Let gratitude in acts of goodness flow, / Our love to God in love to Man below, / Be this our joy to calm the troubled breast, / Support the weak, and succor the distrest

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#3: BAND/ALPHABET SAMPLER- Elizabeth MESSENGER, aged 14, [England], 1753

Linen ground with wool thread

Stitches: Lower case letters, name, date, last row's designs, and designs at the top are cross stitch; upper case letters A-Z are eyelet stitch

Description: This is another classic band sampler, with bands of geometrical motifs running across the width of the sampler.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#4: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Elizabeth BILLINGS, [England], 1808

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross stitch

Description: Elizabeth Billings created this sampler in 1808. It features the Biblical scene of Adam and Eve at the Tree of Knowledge. An exceptional gold floral vine wraps around the tree, bursts out from it, and encircles a poem that Elizabeth has cross-stitched in black. Some have suggested that this sampler is most probably English. It also uses the Quaker Roman style lettering. The seller stated that the sampler had once been part of the Marsha Van Valin collection, owner of *The Scarlet Letter*, a shop which specializes in reproduction sampler kits based on originals.

Collection of Bea Parker

#5: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Ann BRYANT, [England], 1816

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: Verse reads in full (Isaac Watts interpretation of Job 19:25-27)

GREAT God I own thy sentence just, / And Nature must decay: / I yield my Body to the Dust, / To dwell with Fellow Clay. / Yet Faith may triumph o'er the Grave, / And trample on the Tombs, / My Jesus my Redeemer lives, / My God, my Saviour comes. / The mighty Conqu'ror shall appear / High on a Royal Seat, / And Death, the last of all his Foes, / Lie vanquish'd at his Feet. / Tho' greedy Worms devour my Skin, / And gnaw my wasting Flesh, / When God shall build my Bones again, / He clothes them afresh // Ann Bryant Oct Vth [5th] 1812

Note that the capital 'N' in Nature has been stitched backward. The teacher did not catch this flaw (and perhaps did not know any differently!). Thus, it remains for over two hundred years!

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#6: MAP SAMPLER OF ENGLAND & WALES- Anne HOLDITCH, 1819

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: "A MAP/ of/ ENGLAND and WALES/ by/ ANNE HOLDITCH/ 1819"

Description: As sampler-making progressed, the sampler took variant forms. What a great lesson in geography to actually stitch a map of the world, the country, or the state you lived in! Although the young lady might not have thought so! Map samplers exist in far fewer numbers. In Westtown School, a school in Chester County established by the Society of Friends, three-dimensional stitched globes of the world were produced.

Anne Holditch is likely the child born 15 November, 1800, to Richard and Grace Holditch, in Buckfastleigh, Devonshire, England. She was baptized 9 October 1805.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#7: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Mary HUDSON, [England], 1831

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: Verse reads in full:

Oft as the bell with solemn toll/ Speaks the departure of a soul, / Let each one ask himself_ "Am I/ Prepar'd should I be call'd to die?" / Then leaving all I lov'd below, / To God's tribunal I must go, / Must hear the Judge pronounce my fate/ And fix my everlasting state. / Lord Jesus! help me now to flee, / And seek my hope alone in Thee; / Apply thy blood, thy Spirit give, / Subdue my sin and let me live.

Note that the passion flower in the left-hand border has been penciled in and unfortunately, never finished. This indicates that Mary lost interest toward the end of the project, simply overlooked it, or perhaps, sadly, became too ill to finish it.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#8: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Sarah DABBS, aged 13, [England], 1838

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Border, letters cross stitch, crewel flowers, leaves- satin stitch; also split stitch, French knots; Birds and nest- long and short stitch; outlined with stem stitch

Inscription: The verse reads in full:

When O dear Jesus when shall I/ Behold thee all serene/ Blest in Perpetual Sabbath day, / Without a veil between./ Assist me while I wander here/ Amidst a world of cares/ Incline my heart to Pray with love / And then accept my Prayers

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#9: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Lydia DAVISON, [Great Smeaton, Yorkshire, England], 1820

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Trees- French knots, satin stitches

Description: This elaborate needlework is attributed to Lydia Davison, born March 14, 1809 in Great Smeaton, Yorkshire, England. Lydia created an amazing three-dimensional scene featuring Greek muse-like figures dancing under heavy branched trees. Within it is another scene encased in an oval. It depicts a girl standing on a grassy field holding three wheat sprigs. A thatched roof cottage is next to her along with two birds and a large rabbit by her feet. A white building with a cupola, which may have been her school, is seen in the background.

Lydia's parents were Robert Davison (b. 1785) and Ann Egley (b. 1785).

Collection of Bea Parker

#10: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Mary WEARY, [England], 1837

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: "*CHRISTIAN UNION / 'T is not nature to reveal/ The source of Christian union. / She only knows its power to steal/ Oer all her woes_ those woes to heal_/ And in her darkest hours to feel/ This holy calm communion/ Mary Weary/ 1837*"

Mary Weary's name and verse are quite demurely stitched. It is apparent that at a later date, Mary embellished her sampler with robust lilies and roses with a rich palette of Berlin wool threads. Alternately, perhaps someone else in the family added to the sampler.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#11: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Margaret GOODSIR, [Scotland], 1760

Linen ground with wool thread

Description: Scottish samplers are often characterized by the overwhelming use of red and green threads as well as the beautifully formed upper case letters of the alphabet, with very distinctive curlicues, the peacock fanning his tail, and a hillock with pine trees and rabbits. The Goodsir family, in large part, resided in Fife, many of them noted surgeons and medical professors.

Collection of Kay Boyles

#12: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Barbra BRAND, [Edinburgh, Scotland], 17[8]0

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: “*Edinh [Edinburgh]/ Jully 25// [?][?][?]0*”

Description: Sensitive about her age as she got older, Barbra picked out the first three digits of the date of production. She was clearly residing in Edinburgh.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#13: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Janet GREENLIE, [Scotland], c. 1810

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: Verses read in full (first is from an unknown source, second is from Isaiah 55:6-7 [King James Version of the Bible])

Spring up, O well; with living water flow/ And sweeten all the desert here below; / Not Sychar's fount, which Jacob dug and used, / But Heaven's best spring, distasteful Jews refused/ The generous Spirit's voice says yet there's room, / The bride's soft, kind, and winning voice says, come// Janet Greenlie sewed this sampler// Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, / Call ye upon him while he is near.

Description: This depicts a large building which is marked “St. James” in the upper cartouche. Park benches and trees create a park-like setting. The building has not yet been identified.

Collection of Gary Parks

#14: MARKING SAMPLER- Member of the GLOAG Family, [Scotland], c. 1830-1860

Linen ground with Berlin wool

Stitches: Cross, buttonhole, running

Description: Scottish samplers are often stitched in red and green thread, this one is even more colorful with the addition of black and bold blue thread. The alphabets at the bottom are a probable later addition.

A wonderful paper label on the reverse indicates:

[DG] David Gloag 6 line

[H] B. Helen Brown

JT Jean Tod (2nd wife of D.G.)

J.L. James Low

E.M. Elizabeth Mitchell

D.G. David Gloag 6 Sep. 1811 d. 21 Dec. 1877 aged 66 yrs

M.L. Mary Lord 17 Aug. 1812- 12 Apl. 1887 age 76 yr

D.G. David Gloag 10 Feb. 1860- 20 Mar 1930 aged 90

J.G. James Gloag 16 Dec. 1841- 10 Apl. 1876 age 36-1/2

J.B.G. John Brown Gloag 14 July 1846- 11 Mar ag 72-1/4

M.G. Mary Gloag 13 May 1851-18 Sep. 1935 age 84 1/2

Framed by E. Hannaford & Sons, 84 Rose Street, Edinburgh [Scotland]

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#15: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Hannah BOYLES, aged 10, c. 1830

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross, split, eyelet, chain, herringbone stitches and drawnwork.

Description: This delightful Scottish sampler suggests that size and proportion were not as important as the stitchery. Note the red house is smaller than the bouquets of flowers which flank it.

Collection of Kay Boyles

#16: VERSES- Elisabeth COLEFOR, [Pennsylvania German], 1813

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: *“May THE 15 1813/ ALL hail the power of Jesus/ name Let angels prostrate/ fall bring forth the royal/ diadem and crown him Lord/ of all/ sinners whose love can neer/ forest the wormwood and the/ gall go spread your drophis/ at his feet and crown him/ Lord of all/ Let every tribe and every/ tongue throughout this/ earthy ball unite in one/ harmonious song and crown/ him Lord of all/ But sick ye first the kingdom/ of god and his righteous/ and all these things shall/ be added unto you MATH 6/ VERS 32/ 3 chap JOE VERS 17/ There the wicked ceas from/ troubling: and there the weary/ be at rest/ JOB 14 MAN that is born/ of a woman is of few days/ and full of trouble/ 2 He cometh fort like a/ flower and is cut down he/ fleeth also as a shadow and/ continueth not by me EC// 1 The songs songs which is so/lomon 2 Let him kiss me with/ the kises of his mouth for thy/ love is better than wine/ 5 I am black but comely O/ ye daughters of Jerusalem/ 25 the tents of kedar as the/ curtons of Solomon/ 9 I have compared thee O my/ love to a company of horses/ in pharaohs chariots/ 10 Thy cheeks are comely/ with rows of jewels thy/ neck with chains of gold/ 11 We will make thee borders/ of gold with studs of silver/ while the king stilleth at/ his table my spikenard sendeth/ forth the smell thereof/ 14 My beloved is unto me as/ a cluster of camphier in/ the vinyard of engedi/ 15 Behold thou art fair my love/ behold thou art fair thou has dovs eyes/ 5 stay me with flagons comfort/ me with apples for I am sick of love/ 6 His left hand is under my head/ and his right hand doth embrace me/ 1 and 2 chap in Solomon by me/ ELISABETH COLEFOR”*

Caption under depiction of Adam and Eve reads *“Adam and Eve wh/ilst innocent in p[aradise?]”*

Note the numerous misspellings, with a lot of words being spelled phonetically- *“drophis”* for ‘trophies’; *“sick”* for ‘seek’.

Loan of Gary W. Parks

#17: SHOW TOWEL- Susannah BOYER, 1825

Linen runner with crocheted end

Pennsylvania Germans also produced needlework samplers. The Historical Society does not have a Pennsylvania German sampler. But like their other American counterparts, they practiced the alphabet and numbers. Their samplers often incorporated representations of household objects, barnyard animals, and the more usual birds and flowers. A second project was the show towel, an elongated piece of homespun linen embellished in red and blue thread with geometrical bands of design, family initials, pots of flowers, birds, etc.... The bottom portion of the show towel was made fancier with cut- or drawn-work, crocheting, or lace. The show towel was then placed on a door with the addition of two loops at the top, and could then be carefully examined by the potential suitor/future husband of the young woman who made it.

2017.84.1, Collections of the Lycoming County Historical Society, gift of Ruth Elaine Probst Dunlap Probasco

#18: SHOW TOWEL- Member of the BROOKS Family, 1836

Linen runner with crocheted end

1981.148, Collections of the Lycoming County Historical Society, gift of Kathleen Brooks Davis

#19: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- possibly by Elizabeth POWELL, [Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania], 1842

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross stitches

Inscription: “TP” “EP”/ “*Cultivate the love of truth*”/ “*Catherine Chambers/ Thomas Powell/ Charity N. Powell/ 1842/ William C. Powell/ Elizabeth Powell*”

Description: Genealogical information indicates that Elizabeth Powell, the daughter of Thomas and Charity Chambers Powell, is likely the stitcher of this sampler, which was made in 1842. She was born February 11, 1828, making her approximately 14 years of age when she made the sampler. Elizabeth married Jonathan Schnoke. She died March 22, 1880 and is buried in Saint Peters Cemetery, Pine Grove, PA.

Note the eight-pointed star motif bordering the left and right margins. These stars are often seen on other Pennsylvania textiles, including show towels and quilts.

1971.136, Collections of the Lycoming County Historical Society, gift of Laura Litchard

#20: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Priscilla KEPNER, [Pennsylvania], 1848

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: This wonderful Pennsylvania sampler stitched by Priscilla Kepner (1824-1892) in 1848 includes a family tree with locks of hair sewn next to the family members’ initials. Satin ribbons hold the hair in place. Bright red, green, yellow, gold and black silk threads highlight the flowered border and compartments containing verses and alphabets.

Priscilla was the daughter of John Kepner (1775-1854) and Elizabeth Loy (1783-1866). She was one of nine surviving siblings. Her father John owned large farms in adjoining Perry and Juniata Counties, which are about 50 miles northwest of Harrisburg, near Lewistown and Mifflintown. They were prominent members of the community involved in city councils, banking, and political affairs. Census records indicate Priscilla was unmarried, keeping house, and living in her own home in Tyrone Township, Perry County in 1870. At some point after that she marries George Ritter. She died on September 13, 1892 at age 68. She is buried at the Lebanon Lutheran and Reformed Churchyard located in Loysville, Perry County, Pennsylvania.

Collection of Bea Parker

#21: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER-Esther MICHENER, aged 14 years old, [Chester County, Pennsylvania], 1819

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Esther Michener (1805-1872) stitched this sampler in 1819 at age 14, while living in Chester County, Pennsylvania. Esther's needlework features Quaker motifs such as the "Bunch of Pinks", basket of fruit, and flying bird holding a leaf sprig. Two rows of alphabets and her parents' initials are worked in the top half followed by a large rectangular cartouche with a verse inside.

Esther was born in Chester County, the daughter of Joseph Michener (1757-1853) and Rebecca Good (1769-1858). She was the second oldest of four daughters. Joseph is listed in censuses as a farmer and landowner in London Grove, Chester County and Quaker records show them attending the London Grove Monthly Meeting. The Micheners were a prominent family with many commercial, political and social interests. The Joseph Michener farm in London Grove is described as "extensive". Esther married Marshall Lambourn (1800-1845) on March 16, 1826 in Chester, Pennsylvania. They lived in Upper Darby, Chester County where they raised nine children, some of whom eventually moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota. She died while living in Upper Oxford, Chester County in 1872 at the age of 66. The sampler was passed down in the family until it was recently auctioned in 2019, at an estate sale in Minneapolis.

Collection of Bea Parker

#22: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Hester Beale WHITE, [Chester County, Pennsylvania], 1830

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Hester Beale White (1819-1904) of Chester County, Pennsylvania created this Quaker sampler in 1830. It features paired birds, symmetrical evergreens, open faced flowers in decorative urns, flower-filled baskets, and a wonderful heart-shaped cartouche that encases her name, age and date. Two sets of alphabets followed by family initials grace the upper portion, while a meandering vine surrounds the whole needlework.

Hester was the third of five children of William White (1798-1856) and Edith Spackman (1787-1841). She lived in Philadelphia and the East Caln areas of Chester County, Pennsylvania all of her life. She never married. She died on January 10, 1904 at age 84.

Collection of Bea Parker

#23: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Rebecca van REED, [Lower Heidelberg Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania], 1841

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: "*Rebecca van Reeds work done/ under the care of Miss/ C.L.U. W. in Heidelberg 1841*"

Rebecca van Reed was from a prominent Berks County family. Especially frustrating is the 'clue' to the teacher which has provided no help in the identification of the teacher's name beyond 'Miss C.L.U.W.!'!

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#24: MARKING SAMPLER- Emily L. THARP, aged 9 years old, Miss Jones' School, [Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania], 1826

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Eyelet and cross stitches

Description: Nine-year-old Emily Lindsley Tharp (b. 1817 d.1887) stitched this simple marking sampler while a student at Miss Jones' School in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania on July 30, 1826. She included four sets of alphabets in multiple colors, and finished the bottom with a sawtooth border.

Emily, the youngest of the three daughters of Michael Rose Tharp (b. 1780 d. 1870) and Jerusha Lindsley (b. d. 1824) was born in Athens, Bradford County, Pennsylvania. Athens is located a bit east of the center of the state, about 25 miles from the New York state line. Her father was a wealthy land agent. Her mother, who was from a prominent family in Lindsleytown (now Lindley), Steuben County, New York, attended Sarah Pierce's Female Academy in Litchfield, Connecticut. Her mother died when Emily was only seven years old. She was sent away to boarding school soon after, when her father remarried. She was at Miss Jones' School in Wilkes Barre at least until age nine. She then attended the Owego Academy in Owego, New York. Due to a group of existing letters written by Emily to her maternal grandmother, Eunice Lindsley of Lawrenceville, Tioga County, Pennsylvania, we have a peek at her personality and her life at the Owego Academy. After graduation from the Academy, Emily lived with her grandmother Eunice until she married the Reverend Samuel J. McCullough (1809-1869) in October of 1844. The Reverend was ordained in the Presbyterian Church. They lived in Tioga, Pennsylvania where they raised two sons. After the death of her husband in 1870, Emily moved to the family home in Lindley, Steuben County, New York where she died in 1887 at age 69. She is buried at the Colonel Eleazer Lindsley Burying Ground in Lindley, New York.

Collection of Bea Parker

#25: MOURNING EMBROIDERY- Caroline ALBRIGHT, 13th year of her age, Moravian Girl's School, [Lititz, Pennsylvania], 1824

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: This needlework is a mourning embroidery. Inscribed on the monument is "*Sacred to the Memory of Major J.W. Albright, who departed this life June 3d, 1823. By his affectionate daughter, Caroline M. Albright. In the 13th year of her age 1824*"

Caroline Maria Albright, born February 14, 1810 in Harrisburg, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania created this needlework while a boarder at the Moravian Girl's School in Lititz, Pennsylvania. Her embroidery displays trees and grass stitched in silk chenille giving a three-dimensional effect. The two figures are done in watercolor. They wear dresses with elaborate draping, one holding a floral basket, the other placing roses at the foot of the monument. The school chapel is seen in the background.

Caroline's mother was Frances Chamberlain Albright (1789-1862). She was an only child. They lived in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Major Jacob W. Albright (1781-1823) was a career military man and was with the Army First United States Infantry from Pennsylvania. He fought in the War of 1812. Due to ill health, he resigned from the military three weeks before his death on June 3, 1823. The last records listing Caroline show her as unmarried and living in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. No death date is known.

Collection of Bea Parker

QUAKER SAMPLERS

#26: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Lydia MOORE, [Chester County, Pennsylvania], 1801

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Lydia Moore's sampler is a fine example of the bell decorated cut-cornered form derived from the Ackworth School prototypes. The Ackworth School is located in the village of High Ackworth, near Pontefract, West Yorkshire, England and is well known for its samplers. This particular form is seen at the very top, with her name stitched right below. She also uses the Roman style lettering common to Quaker work in the larger alphabet stitched in the lower half of the sampler. Initials of her family are included as well.

Lydia was born on January 22, 1790 in Sadsbury Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. The third of nine children of James Moore and Lydia Sharpless Moore, she married Joseph Spencer in 1811 and had nine children. She died on June 15, 1873 at the age of 83.

Collection of Bea Parker

WESTTOWN (CHESTER COUNTY) BOARDING SCHOOL

Westtown (Chester County) Boarding School is run by the Society of Friends (Quakers) and believed in education for boys and girls. It opened in May 1799. If a young lady's family was fortunate, she might attend for a number of 'semesters'. Each semester's needlework tuition taught different needlework skills. An 'Extract' sampler was normally the first efforts of her hand. The darning sampler would be produced during the second semester. In the third semester the young lady would have to produce a sampler with a number of geometrical motifs, often halved. As an elaborate final semester effort, the student might produce a pair of three-dimensional globes or an elaborate production featuring a rendition of the school itself.

#27: DARNING SAMPLER- Hannah HOOPES, Westtown School, [Westtown, Pennsylvania], 1814

Linsey-woolsey ground with cotton and silk thread, cross-stitch silk, cotton darning squares

Stitches: Variations of diamond darning stitch, straight darning stitch, chevron stitch

Inscription: "*Hannah Hoopes/ 1814*"

Description: Westtown School was founded in May 1799 by the Society of Friends (Quakers). They believed in education for both boys and girls. As the years passed, it became noted for the fine needlework produced by the young ladies. If a young lady were fortunate, she might attend two years, producing one sampler per semester. The darning sampler would be produced during the second semester. The teacher would cut holes in the linsey-woolsey ground and then the student would darn it shut. Linsey-woolsey is a fabric made of a linen weft and a woolen warp. Notice the different darning patterns on this sampler.

Unfortunately, there were two Hannah Hoopes in attendance at Westtown in 1814 and so, it is not quite possible to determine which one produced this sampler. The sampler is in its original frame with the original glass covering it.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#28: NEEDLWORK SAMPLER-Mary BAILY, Westtown Boarding School, [Westtown, Chester County, Pennsylvania], 1809

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Mary Baily stitched this sampler in 1809 while a student at Westtown Boarding School in Westtown Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. It features an undulating vine and leaf border seen in many Westtown samplers. She also names her parents Elisha Baily (b. 1751) and Hanna Starr Baily (b. 1756) along with her extract verse. Mary Baily was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania on March 19, 1793. She married Joseph Jefferis (b. 1787) in 1812 and had 12 children. They lived in Chester County, Pennsylvania all their lives. She died on October 5, 1865 in Londonderry Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania at the age of 72.

Collection of Bea Parker

#29: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER-Hannah PASSMORE, [Edgemont, Delaware County, Pennsylvania] 1812

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: This Quaker sampler was made by Hannah Passmore (b. 1787-89) of Edgemont, Delaware County, Pennsylvania in 1812. She was the daughter of Richard Passmore (b. 1754) and Deborah Griscom (b. 1758) whose names along with her grandparents and many siblings are stitched on the sampler. Hannah has included an alphabet, Quaker baskets, birds and flowers, along with an oval cartouche in which she featured a beautiful scene of a two-story house with a fence, trees blowing in the wind, evergreens, flowers and birds in the yard. Although some of her siblings are listed as students of the Westtown Boarding School, Chester County, Pennsylvania, her name does not appear in their catalogue. Her sister Beulah stitched a similar sampler while a student at Westtown in 1812.

Hannah married Samuel Williams in 1817. They had two children, Deborah (b. 1818) and Samuel. Deborah married Yeaman Moon Gillingham (b. 1817), a merchant, around 1849. The sampler was passed down in her family until descendant Harold W. Gillingham sold it at auction in 1945. Mr. Gillingham's wife was a well-known sampler collector.

Collection of Bea Parker

#30: EXTRACT SAMPLER- Ann WALMSLEY, [Byberry Township, Pennsylvania], 1821

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross stitch

Inscription: Verse reads in full

When beauties charms decay, as soon they must,/ And all its glories humbled in the dust,/ The virtuous mind, beyond the rage of time,/ Shall ever blossom in a happier clime,/ Whose never fading joys no tongue can tell,/ Where everlasting youth and beauty dwell, / Where pain and sorrow never more shall move/ But all is pleasure, harmony and love

Description: Ann Walmsley was born 26 December, 1809, the daughter of Benjamin and Beulah Niebold Walmsley. They were members of the Byberry Monthly Meeting, near Philadelphia. Her needlework sampler has definite traits that would associate it with the Society of Friends (Quakers), including the 'Extract', a verse of moral guidance, half-medallions, and a pair of birds facing one another.

Benjamin Walmsley, the son of Thomas and Agnes Walmsley, was born 2nd month, 3rd day, 1769 and departed this life 11th month, 14th day, 1841. Beulah Niebold Walmsley was born the 7th month, 24th day, 1777. Ann never married and in later years lived with her brother Charles. She died 30 December, 1882 and was buried 3 January 1883 in Fair Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia.

Ann had at least three siblings. Her brother Charles was born 9 month, 27th day, 1802 and died 9 month, 27 day, 1822. Agnes, her sister, was born 4 month, 12th day, 1804. Another brother Charles was born circa 1803-1804. According to the 1870 Federal Census, Ann(e) was living with him and his family in 1870 in the 20th Ward of Philadelphia. Charles and Tacy were the apparent parents of Elizabeth (b. ca. 1837), Agness (b. c. 1840), Susan (b. c. 1843) and Beulah (b. c. 1844). Records of the Byberry Monthly Meeting were found on line on www.ancestry.com.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#31: ALPHABET SAMPLER- Rosamond HEACOCK, [Greenwood, Columbia County, Pennsylvania], 1832

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross stitch; birds and flowers- crewel; split stitch; leaves- satin stitch

Inscription: "*Rosamond Heacock Aged 16 Years 9th month 1832*"

Description: Rosamond Heacock was born September 27, 1816, the daughter of Josiah Morgan and Jane Green Heacock. She resided in Greenwood, which is adjacent to the border between Columbia and Lycoming Counties. It is possible that Rosamond received her needlework education in Muncy or possibly Williamsport; however the Greenwood School was not in operation until later. Rosamond married George Kester on 4 October 1833. This brought disfavor toward the Society of Friends. According to the Minutes of the Fishing Creek Monthly Meeting, circa 1st month, 1839, "Fishing Creek preperd meeting, also informs us that Rosemond Kester late Heacock has married a man in membership with friends, contrary to the rules of our discipline..." However, it was resolved several months later as reported in the Minutes, "An acknowledgement was read in this meeting, from Rosamond Kester condemning her deviation from the order of the society in accomplishing her marriage, which this meeting in conjunction with mens meeting is willing to accept, and she is received into membership." George and Rosamond had children Jane A., Samuel B., Elizabeth Heacock, Joseph Barclay, and Mary Cordelia. Rosamond died May 11, 1862, and is buried in Ocean, New Jersey.

The initials below the inscription pay tribute to Rosamond's family. The last set of initials 'NSL' may well refer to the needlework teacher, as yet unidentified.

IH [Josiah Heacock]; IH [Jane Heacock]; JH [Joseph Heacock]; JH [Jeremiah Heacock]; JH [Jesse Heacock]; AH [Amos Heacock]; EH [Enos Heacock]; RH [Richard Heacock]; PH [Peremimia Heacock]; HH [Hannah Heacock]; SH [Sarah Heacock]; MH [Mary Heacock]; RH [Rosamond Heacock]; LH [Lavinia Heacock]; NSL [teacher's initials?]

2016.23, collections of the Lycoming County Historical Society, gift of Susan Greene

#32: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Mary J. HUGHES, Westtown Board School, [Westtown, Chester County, Pennsylvania], 1837

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: A student at Westtown Boarding School in 1837, Mary Hughes created this beautiful sampler featuring many of the favorite Quaker motifs of flowers, baskets and Roman style lettering. The Westtown "W" is seen on the basket on the bottom right. Her name stands out in a cartouche that includes an inner undulating vine. Westtown Boarding School is located in Westtown Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Mary was born on February 15, 1829 in London Grove, Chester County, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Manasses Hughes (b. abt. 1798) and Sarah Roberts Hughes (b. abt. 1807).

Collection of Bea Parker

#33: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER-Sarah MAIZE, aged 13 years old, Lucretia Maus, teacher, [New Berlin, Union County, Pennsylvania], 1832

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Under the direction of Lucretia Maus (1806-1888) of Hartleton, Union County, Pennsylvania, thirteen-year-old Sarah "Sally" Maize (1819-1869) stitched this folksy sampler in 1832. Sarah, born on December 29, 1819 in New Berlin, Union County, Pennsylvania was the daughter of John Adam Maize (1783-1886) and Mary Maize (1783-1860). John Adam was a potter.

Sarah's creation features not only a brick house with a fence, trees and birds, but also many Pennsylvania German motifs such as the oversized tulip, eight pointed stars, and hex symbols. Census records list her living in Union County, single, and working as a milliner and tailoress, indicating that she pursued her love of needlework and sewing throughout her life. She died on August 30, 1869 at age 50.

Shortly after the sampler was completed, her instructress Lucretia Maus married William Hatfield on April 28, 1833 in Hartleton, Union County, Pennsylvania and moved to Ovid, Seneca County, New York.

Collection of Bea Parker

#34: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Rebecca REED, [White Deer, Union County, Pennsylvania]

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Eyelet, satin, cross, Queen, split, stem, and outline stitch

Inscription: "*Which of all our friends to save us/ Would content to shed his blood/ But our Jesus died to have us/ Reconciled in him to God/ This was boundless love indeed/ Jesus is a friend in need// Rebecca Reed/ White Deer, July 23rd/ AD 1828/ DR/ RR*

Description: Rebecca Reed completed this sampler July 23, 1828. The sampler features a house and a church, as well as a strawberry border. The verse that is stitched onto the sampler is a verse from a hymnal.

Collections of the Union County Historical Society

#35: ALPHABET SAMPLER- Elizabeth TROXELL, made in the 10th year, [Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania], 1826

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Light letters are eyelet cross stitch, aqua blue is in double cross stitch; the flower border is in an eyelet cross stitch, straight stitch stems

Description: Elizabeth Troxell was born 9 January 1815/1816 in Lewisburg, to parents Abraham and Mary Yentzer Troxell. It is not known who instructed her in the art of needlework. She married Johnathan Wolfe (c. 1836). Wolfe established Wolfe's Pharmacy on Market Street in Lewisburg. The building is extant, near the Lewisburg Hotel. Elizabeth Troxell Wolfe died 6 May 1876. Both she and her husband are buried in the Lewisburg Cemetery.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#36: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER-Henrietta MORRISON, [Northumberland County, Pennsylvania], 1826

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Henrietta Morrison (1811-1904) stitched this beautiful sampler replete with a verse, a large house with a picket fence, trees, flowers, angels, an American Eagle, basket with fruit, butterflies, birds, crowns, hex signs, Adam and Eve at the Tree of Knowledge, and Noah's Ark. A strawberry border frames the piece.

Henrietta was born in Northumberland County, in central Pennsylvania, the daughter of William Morrison (b. 1781), a prominent citizen of Danville, Northumberland County. Her father was involved in many civic activities. The family is mentioned as sponsors of the local schools. She married William Norconk (1802-1883) in 1828 and later moved to Wilmot Township, Bradford County, Pennsylvania where they owned a farm. They had three sons. She died in 1904 at the age of 92 and is buried at the Norconk Cemetery located on the family farm.

Collection of Bea Parker

#37: HOUSE SAMPLER- Mary Ann BLACKWELL, in her 11th year, [Pine Creek, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania] 1816

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross stitch; steps- eyelet

Inscription: The verse reads in full

Mary Ann Blackwell is my/ Name with my needle I worke/ The same by this you all may/ Plainly see what care my/ Parents take of

Description: The Blackwell family was among the earliest of settlers in the Pine Creek Valley. It appears that Mary Ann Blackwell, daughter of Enoch and Sarah Lugg Campbell Blackwell and born 8 June 1806, is the likely needle worker. There were several other Mary Blackwells and Mary Ann Blackwells living in the Lycoming-Tioga Counties area, who are possible candidates, but the strongest clue is that Mary Ann was in her 11th year. Born in 1806, she may well have been approaching her 11th birthday when she completed her sampler. Mary Ann married James Campbell, a probable cousin. The couple produced eleven children between 1825 and 1856. She died August 15, 1863 and is buried in the Nelson Cemetery, Tioga County, PA.

Collections of the Jersey Shore Historical Society, gift of Helen Blackwell.

#38: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Mary Matilda ARTLEY, aged 13, under the tuition of Mary Jane ARTLEY, [Muncy, Pennsylvania], 1840

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: *“Worked by Mary Matilda Artley at Mary/ Jane Artley,s School aged 13 years Muncy/ In the year of 1840”*

Description: Mary Matilda Artley was under the tuition of her sister Mary Jane Artley in Muncy, Pennsylvania. No other sampler, to date, has surfaced from this school and it may be assumed that Mary Jane discontinued the school when she married Teeter D. Beeber. Mary Matilda followed her sister and brother-in-law Christine and Jerome Kunkel to Jefferson County, Kansas, during the midst of the Civil War. Her sampler was left behind in the family home. Mary Matilda taught school, remaining unmarried. She died 2 June, 1906 and is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Perry, Jefferson County, Kansas.

Anonymous Loan

#39: EXTRACT SAMPLER- Salome STEMM, [Germantown, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania], 1829

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross stitch; vine- cross stitch and stem stitch; satin stitch along the bottom; flowers-satin stitch

Inscription: Titled "*Gratitude*"; Verse reads in full

When all thy mercies O my God. / My rising soul surveys/ Transported with the view I'm lost/ In wonder love and praise/ O how shall words with equal warmth/ The gratitude declare/ That glows within my ravished heart/ But thou canst read it there

Salome Stemm was born 27 October, 1810, in Germantown, the daughter of John and Margaret Stemm. It is obvious that she was in attendance at a school conducted by the Society of Friends (Quakers). She married January 15, 1832, William Reiff (b. 21 Sept. 1803-d. 27 May, 1871), the son of Benjamin and Anna Nancy Reiff. William and Salome are buried in the Wentz United Church of Christ Cemetery, Montgomery County.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#40: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER-Ann UNRUH, [Germantown, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania], aged 14, 1823

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Ann Benner Unruh (1809-1882) stitched this sampler when she was fourteen years old in 1823, while living in Germantown, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania. She most certainly had a Quaker instructress. Surrounding a large brick house with two chimneys, Ann includes many Quaker motifs such as an emblem of innocence, strawberries, evergreens, decorative urns, and baskets with flowers. A strawberry vine border laid out in a square completes the needlework.

Ann was one of nine children of George Franklin Unruh (1809-1849) and Ann Benner (1775-1870). The Unruhs and the Benners were prominent citizens of Germantown. Her father, uncles and grandfathers owned many acres of land in Germantown, which were farmed for the most part. She married George Hergesheimer (b. 1804 d.1855), a tailor, who was involved in many civic enterprises in the Germantown community. They had four children. Ann lived all her life in Germantown, dying at the age of 73 in 1882.

Collection of Bea Parker

#41: BIBLICAL SAMPLER- Louise BOULU, born 1784, (later Mrs. Lewis Delacroix), Salome Schneider, instructress, [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania], c. 1803

Linen ground with silk and woolen thread

Stitches: Cross, satin, outline, long and short, and split stitches

Inscription: “*P. Boulu.F.A. Chardon/ Sa Famme// Louise/ Boulu Fae (?)/ Parleurs Fil/les Neele (?)... Salome/ Schneider// 19 Veau/ Vieu/ 1784*”

Description: Salome Schneider immigrated to the U.S., only to lose her husband shortly after. She needed to support herself and her young family, and so she turned to needlework and apparently linguistics. This sampler is in French, but another is in German, and several more from the school are English. Her students’ samplers appear in the collections of the Met-Museum of Art, the Philadelphia Museum, and the collection of the late Joan Stephens.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#42: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Catharine WYNKOOP, [possibly Philadelphia, Pennsylvania], 1825

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Pineapples and leaves- counted cross stitch, satin stitch; flowers and stems- long stitch; Bud- satin; Leaves- outline stitch

Inscription: Original verse reads in full

This needle work my friends may see/ When they no more can look on me/ In yonder grave perhaps ill lay/ Then they will drop a tear and say/ This work by Catharine once was done/ Shes now from us forever gone

Description: This sampler belongs to a grouping of samplers that Gary Parks has termed the ‘Chesapeake Pineapple’ sampler, referring to the plump pineapples flanking the inner verse. Needlework scholar, Betty Ring, termed the samplers ‘The Fruit and Flower’ samplers in her two-volume work *Girlhood Embroideries*. Many of the samplers in this grouping contain one pineapple ‘finial’, shown at the center top or the two on the left and right margins. Other motifs include the grapevine, the meandering roses spilling out of a checkered flowerpot, the landscape inside the inner reserve depicting a willow tree, a bird, butterflies and sheep or rabbits. Collectively, the samplers were produced by young ladies in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware.

Loan of Gary W. Parks

#43: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Elizabeth WILSON, [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], 1830

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Eight-year-old Elizabeth Wilson (b. 1822 d.?) stitched this sampler in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1830. Under the instruction of an unknown teacher, she created a beautiful pictorial scene featuring a two-story brick house standing on a multi-tiered grassy lawn, flanked by trees in various green hues. Two sets of alphabets and numbers are seen above. The whole piece is surrounded by a strawberry border.

Elizabeth was the daughter of John Wilson (b.? d.1832) and Elizabeth Wilson (b. 1822 d.?). She was one of four children. Her father is mentioned as being a City Officer in the Early 1800s in the Historic Pittsburgh Directories. She appears in the 1850 census unmarried and living with her older brother John, an engineer, her other brother, James, also an engineer, her sister, Jane, and mother, Elizabeth. They lived between 3rd Street East and 11th Street in the 4th Ward of Pittsburgh also known as Allegheny City, near the Allegheny River. After this point, Elizabeth disappears from records.

Collection of Bea Parker

#44: MEMORIAL SAMPLER-Catherine HALL, [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania], 1835

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Satin stitch

Description: This memorial sampler was made by Catherine Hall in 1835 in memory of her late father Benjamin Hall of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Unlike most black robed mourning figures, the young lady's dress is satin stitched in an unusual vibrant burgundy, contrasting with her yellow gold apron sprayed with flowers. Her yellow straw hat is trimmed with a stitched blue ribbon. A grand urn sprouting from a shell base sits atop the monument. A weeping willow wraps its branches around the mourning Catherine, completing the scene. A meandering bright floral border, also satin stitched, surrounds the centerpiece.

It is not known who Catherine's instructress was, but another similar sampler by Eliza S. Winter of Pittsburgh in 1836 was undoubtedly guided by the same teacher.

Benjamin Hall served as a private in the Revolutionary War Fifth Battalion Pennsylvania Regiment under Captain George Hall who was probably a close relative. The Halls were one of Pittsburgh area's early settlers. Catherine does not appear on census records to date. Birth and death dates are unknown.

This sampler was previously exhibited in 2007 by the Westmoreland Museum of American Art, Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

Collection of Bea Parker

#45: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Eliza S. WINTER, possibly taught by Mary Callan, [Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania], 1836

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Satin stitch

Description: A two-story house, tall trees, a young girl standing on a grassy lawn with her beloved dogs as a bird flies overhead adorn this sampler by Eliza S. Winter (1827-1900). A brightly colored, flowered border wraps around the scene. Satin stitches are generously used throughout. Made under the tutelage of an as yet unknown teacher, Eliza's sampler is very similar to one done by Catherine Hall in 1835, using the same stitching style and almost exact distinctive flowered border. The initials MC are stitched next to Eliza's name. Some have suggested that they might belong to Mary Callan who had a well-known school in Pittsburgh.

Eliza was born in Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania on December 4, 1827. Sharon is about 75 miles north of Pittsburgh just east of the Ohio state line. She was the daughter of the Reverend John Winter (1794-1878) and Eliza Wilson (1793-1866). Both parents were born in England. Her father was one of the early pastors of the First Baptist Church in Pittsburgh in 1823 and 1824. At that time the church was a simple wooden meeting house on the corner of 3rd Avenue and Grant Street. By the 1840's the family had moved to Portage County, Ohio about 50 miles west of Sharon. There Eliza married an attorney, Lewis R. Reeves (1816-1854), on June 18, 1845. The newlyweds headed west and settled in Keokuk, Lee County, Iowa where he practiced law. They had one child named Alice. Lewis died unexpectedly of cholera at age 36. Three years later, on February 12, 1857, Eliza married Lewis' widowed law partner, Samuel Freeman Miller (1816-1890). Miller's first wife Lucy had also died in 1854. Miller was a physician as well as an attorney. He built Eliza a grand Italianate style house in Keokuk. They were only able to live there for two years because in 1862 he was appointed to serve on the United States Supreme Court by President Abraham Lincoln. He and Eliza lived in Washington D.C. where he served for 28 years until his death. They had two children. After the death of her husband, Eliza spent the rest of her life mostly in Washington D.C. where she died of a heart attack in 1900 at age 73. She is buried in Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk, Iowa.

Their home in Keokuk, Iowa is now the Miller House Museum and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Collection of Bea Parker

#46: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER-Mary Milliken, Lewistown, [Mifflin County, Pennsylvania], 1825

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Mary Milliken stitched this band sampler in 1825. She includes four sets of alphabets, numbers, her siblings' names, her grandparents initials as well as her own, the date, and her hometown of Lewistown, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania which is located about 50 miles northwest of Harrisburg.

Mary (b. 1813- d.1893) and her siblings were born in Chester County, Pennsylvania. They were living there as late as 1822. By 1825, when the sampler was made, they had moved to Lewistown, Mifflin County, Pennsylvania where her father James Milliken (1776-1851), was a banker and merchant. He also served in the State Legislature, an advocate for good roads and other early improvements. Her mother was Ann Cunningham (1780-1851). Mary probably attended a documented private academy in Lewistown run by Robert Steel. Her younger brother, Allen, graduated from Princeton in 1846. In the book History of the Milliken Family, (1907), compiled by the Reverend Gideon Tibbetts Ridlon, Sr., she is listed on page 335 as unmarried. She died in 1893 at 80 years of age.

Collection of Bea Parker

#47: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER-Mary CALDWELL, [Springfield Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania], 1830

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross stitch

Description: Mary Caldwell (1816-1843) created this sampler using mostly cross stitches. A simple flowered vine encircles four rows of alphabets, a verse, her name, hometown of Springfield, and date. Quaker fruit baskets and evergreen trees are at the base with large flowers completing the top corners.

Mary was the daughter of John Caldwell of Springfield Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania and Rebecca Hopkins of Philadelphia. Springfield is located just west of Philadelphia. Per A History of Delaware County Pennsylvania and its People, by John Woolf Jordan, (1914), John is described as a farmer. It states that all four of his children died young and unmarried. It also mentions that Mary's maternal grandparents were among the first victims of the yellow fever scourge in Philadelphia in 1792. Mary died at age 27 in 1843.

Collection of Bea Parker

#48: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Amelia BURGE, [Shippensburg, Cumberland County, PA], 1821

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Amelia completed this sampler in May of 1821. This folksy piece includes a wonderful three-story brick house with a steep roof, picket fence, flowers, and a large tree in the front yard. An outer arcaded border has Pennsylvania-German style tulips. Amelia includes an alphabet and verse as well as her parents' names, siblings' initials, and the name of the town of "Shippensburgh", all framed with a sawtooth border. Shippensburg is located in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, about 50 miles southwest of Harrisburg.

Amelia (b. 1812? d.?) was the daughter of Adam Burge (b. 1787 d. 1862) and Elizabeth Brandebury Burge (b.1788 d. 1855). Records show her father purchasing 179 acres of land from her grandfather Henry Burge, in 1810. The property was called "Alley's Folly" in Dunkard Township, Greene County, Pennsylvania. Dunkard County is located 65 miles south of Pittsburgh, very near the West Virginia border. At the time her father is listed as a minister in the Methodist Church. The family then moved to Wheeling, Ohio and later in 1850 appears in the Des Moines, Iowa census. All traces of Amelia disappear from records after the family leaves Pennsylvania. Perhaps she died soon after the completion of the sampler in 1821. Another mystery is why she is living in Shippensburg when her family lives in Dunkard Township. She could possibly have lived with a relative or stayed at a boarding school.

Collection of Bea Parker

#49: FAMILY REGISTER- PEASE-RANDALL Family, [Hancock County, Maine], c. 1878-1887

Punched paper with Berlin wool thread

Samuel Pease married his bride Sarah Randall in 1859. As with most families of the 19th century, it was beneficial to add extra hands to work on the farm. The Pease family grew with an additional child every two years beginning in 1863 and surprising the family with Charles in 1887.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#50: MARKING SAMPLER- Hannah GILMAN, born March 8, 1792, [Canterbury, New Hampshire]

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Top letters are cursive, cross stitched; the black letters are straight stitches of 4 rows down. 4 rows across could be a darning stitch. Then 2 rows of eyelet stitched letters, then more cross stitched. Letters at the bottom are crewel work, stem, leaf, outline, and cross stitch

Description: Hannah Gilman's sampler fits squarely within the tradition of sampler making associated with Canterbury, New Hampshire. This grouping of samplers uniformly is filled with an abundance of life at the bottom of the sampler- birds and flowers, outlined in black. Often, a large pair of lobed leaves, which resemble an upturned mustache, are included in the depiction. Hannah was a younger student and did not stitch the 'mustache'.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#51: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER-Nancy FOSTER, aged 13 [Fitzwilliam, Cheshire County, New Hampshire]

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: This pictorial sampler was most likely made by Nancy Foster of Fitzwilliam, Cheshire County, New Hampshire at age 13 in 1818. It belongs to a group of samplers from Southern New Hampshire characterized by a luxurious floral border surrounding a scene with paper faced figures standing, usually in a landscape. Nancy's depicts a rare indoor scene of a mother holding a baby, sitting in a chair with her foot on a stool, while a toddler stands nearby. A tall oval table and another footstool complete the scene. A stitched octagon frames the little family. Nancy also includes two alphabets and a verse as well as her name and age inside the frame.

Nancy was born March 18, 1805 in Fitzwilliam, Cheshire County, New Hampshire. She was the only child of Richard Foster and Hannah Edwards. Nancy married wealthy businessman Walter Heywood (1804-1880) on September 19, 1829. He was very successful and founded the famous Walter Heywood Chair Company of Fitchburg, Massachusetts, later to become the Heywood Wakefield Furniture Company. Nancy had four daughters but only two grew to adulthood. She is listed as dying of paralysis on August 1, 1861 in Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts at age 56

Collection of Bea Parker

#52: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Ann CUTLER, [Vermont], 1844

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: *“Ere childhood ripens into youth/ Our time may we improve,/ To learn the/ sacred word of truth,/ The saviour’s/ dying love./ Ann Cutler/ Aged 13 years/ Completed this work February 1844.”*

Description: Born 7 February 1831, Ann Maria Cutler was the daughter of James Iredell (b. 1792) and Catherine G. Tucker Cutler. Ann Maria married George F. Bailey (b. 1831). The two generations moved to Chicago, Illinois, where George Bailey practiced law. The Baileys were the parents of Catherine Amory (1852-1945), Georgeanna (b. 1855), Francis B (b. 1858), and Mary Isabelle (1863-1940). Ann died 13 August 1874.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#53: PICTORIAL SAMPLER- Caroline GALPIN, AGED 12 YEARS, [Wethersfield, Connecticut], July 1833

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Counted cross stitch; water- long and short stitches; weeping trees- rows of stem stitch

Inscription: The verse reads in full (The Minstrel; or, The Progress of Genius poem by James Beattie, 1771)

And from the prayer of want and plain of woe/ O never never turn away thine ear/ Forlorn in this bleak wilderness below/ Ah what were man should heaven refuse to hear

Caroline Galpin was born 27 June, 1821, the daughter of Samuel and Caroline Woodhouse Galpin. She was baptized 21 July, 1827. Caroline married 10 May 1842, Albert S. Welles, also of Wethersfield. Caroline died 27 August, 1850. Her depiction is of the town square, the church still stands.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#54: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Abby Ann LINDSLEY or Sally White LINDSLEY, (possibly Butler Family School), [Wethersfield, Hartford County, Connecticut], c. 1818

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: This Family Registry sampler was probably stitched by Abby Ann Lindsley (1802-1837) or her younger sister Sarah "Sally" White Lindsley (1808-1863). Its style and design are attributed to a group of samplers created in Wethersfield, Hartford County, Connecticut, possibly at the Butler family school that was running in the first quarter of the 1800s. Frederick Butler ran a private academy at his residence in Wethersfield, Connecticut with the help of his daughters, Mary Porter Butler and Charlotte Butler. The sampler features a cross stitched family registry in the upper half with a floral garland encasing it. A landscape, combining various stitches appears below of George Washington's Mount Vernon home. Mount Vernon sits on a grassy hill overlooking the Potomac. Painted smoke is seen billowing from the chimneys. Small boats and a fisherman are enjoying the river. A weeping willow on the left and a deciduous tree on the right complete the scene.

The Lindsley sisters were the daughters of Sylvanus Lindsley (1763-1818), a physician practicing in East Haddam, Middlesex County, Connecticut and Abigail White (1769-1831). East Haddam is about 25 miles southeast of Wethersfield. About 1822, four years after the death of their father, mother Abigail along with the two youngest boys, Edward and Sylvester, Abby and her husband Edwin Foot (1799-1853), and Sally headed west and settled in Cuyahoga County, Ohio near Cleveland. Abby and Edwin had ten children, with Abby dying at the birth of her daughter Caroline in 1837 at age 35. In July 1829, Sally married Diodate Clark in Cuyahoga County, Ohio. They had three children. They lived the rest of their lives there. Records show that Diodate was a "well known, and respected business man and a pioneer of Cleveland". Sally died in 1863 at age 61.

Collection of Bea Parker

#55: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Emily M. STRICKLAND, aged 10 years, [Glastonbury, Connecticut], 1824

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: This family registry sampler was created by Emily Malvenia Strickland (1814-1873) in 1824 at the age of 10. The sampler features an impressive three-story mansion with delicate French pane windows and brilliant teal shutters. It stands atop a solidly stitched lawn embellished with flowers, which spans the entire width of the sampler. A large memorial dedicated to her father is solidly stitched on an intricate seven-tiered foundation. A tropical palm arches overhead. Flowers adorn the top of the sampler to balance the composition.

Emily was born on August 16, 1814 in Glastonbury, Connecticut. She was the oldest of four children of Captain Chauncey Strickland (1789-1823) and Emily Hollister (1792-?). Captain Strickland was a prominent figure in Glastonbury and unexpectedly died at age 34. Emily married Philomen Frederick Robbins (1807-1890) on January 4, 1832 in Hartford Connecticut. Philomen spent his early life working on his father's farm but at 18 became an apprentice to his Uncle Franklin who was a cabinet maker. He learned the trade and became one of the most successful cabinet makers in Connecticut. He expanded his business to make pianos and furniture. Emily and her husband retired very wealthy. They had seven children. She died in Hartford on December 8, 1873 at the age of 59.

Collection of Bea Parker

#56: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Hannah SHERWIN, [Townsend, Middlesex County, Massachusetts], 1820

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: This sampler is attributed to Hannah Sherwin (1807-1890) of Townsend, Middlesex County, Massachusetts which is located a few miles northeast of Fitchburg and Leominster, Massachusetts and just south of the New Hampshire state line. Hannah stitched this large sampler in 1820. It features a large two-story home with smaller auxiliary buildings on each side, along with a grassy lawn, fence and swaying trees. Three set of alphabets and a verse are included, all surrounded by a lush floral border of gold and yellow flowers. A sawtooth border finishes the edges. Perhaps Hannah was attending the nearby West Townsend Female Seminary (Townsend Academy) when she made this sampler.

Hannah was the daughter of Levi Sherwin (1776-1840) and Hannah Hildreth (1781-1848). She was the fourth oldest of twelve siblings. Her father was a landowner and farmer in Townsend. Her grandfather was Captain Daniel Sherwin (1729-1804) who fought in the Revolutionary War. Her maternal grandfather, Abijah Hildreth also saw much service during the War. Hannah married Joseph Burr (1807-1853) in 1830. He is listed as a farmer in census records. They had four children and lived in Ashby, Middlesex County, Massachusetts. After Joseph's death, Hannah is listed as living in Worcester, Massachusetts where she took in boarders. She died on September 27, 1890 at age 83. A relative, Henry Alden Sherwin (1842-1916) was cofounder of the well-known Sherwin Williams Company.

Collection of Bea Parker

#57: GENEALOGICAL SAMPLER- Member of the SNOW-KNOWLES Family, [Barnstable County, Massachusetts], c. 1798-1850

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Top crewelwork, satin, stem stitch; the lettering is cross stitch, the side borders are cross stitch; the tree and grave stone is crewelwork, straight stitched with embroidery around it; vertical black whole stitches and then stem stitches across it

Description: Family Registers became popular forms of needlework in the beginning decades of the 19th century. George Washington's death on December 14, 1799 inspires an outpouring of national grief, family pride, and sentimentality. Memorial samplers were produced, such as the needlework picture (Caroline Albright, #25) samplers outlining family births, marriages, and deaths in tabular form. A person's death was often 'highlighted' within a block of black stitching. Note the tombstone and the willow tree, both used as symbols of loss.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#58: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Lucia PICKERING, [Salem, Massachusetts], 1759

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Eyelet and cross stitch

Description: This early American sampler was done by Lucia Pickering when she was twelve years old in 1759. Lucia includes four rows of alphabets done in eyelet and cross stitches, followed by her name, age and date. She completes her sampler with two verses. It is done on a linen ground using gold, yellow, green blue, brown and black silk thread.

Lucia Pickering (1747-1822) was the youngest of the eight children of Timothy Pickering (1702-1778) and Mary Wingate (1708-1784). The Pickering's were one of the most well-known families of Salem, Massachusetts. Their ancestor, John Pickering, was one of the first settlers of Salem. In 1642, he purchased many acres of land in Salem that was passed down to his descendants. Lucia's childhood home was Pickering house built on Broad Street. It is Salem's oldest home. Lucia married Captain Israel Dodge on June 17, 1766. He was a very wealthy merchant involved with foreign trade as well as a distiller. Per the book, The House That John Built, Lucia is described as one of Salem's first ladies. She had eight children and even so, spent much of her time anonymously helping the poor. She enjoyed the highest social status in Salem and was known to be friends with many prominent authors of the time. She died at age 74 in 1822. Her portrait is on display at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem. This sampler is listed in the book American Samplers by Ethel Stanwood Bolton & Eva Johnston Coe. Produced in the 1900s by the Colonial Dames, it was the first attempt to catalogue American samplers.

Collection of Bea Parker

#59: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Eleanor OBER, [Beverley, Massachusetts], 1828

Linsey-woolsey ground with silk thread

Description: Eleanor Ober created this sampler in gold, yellow and red silk cross stitches on a linsey-woolsey ground. Linsey-woolsey was often home-made by weaving a linen warp and a wool weft. Eleanor stitched three sets of alphabets followed by her name, age, hometown and date. She completes her sampler with a verse at the bottom.

Eleanor was born on June 28, 1812 in Beverly, Massachusetts, the daughter of Joseph Ober (1784-1843) and Betsey Low. The Obers owned farms in the Beverly area which is located just north of Salem in Essex County. Eleanor married local widower Hezekiah Knowlton on May 1, 1836. He had been previously married to Eleanor's cousin Mary Ober. Their marriage was a brief one. Eleanor died giving birth to their first child, Eleanor, on November 26, 1837 at age 25. Daughter Eleanor lived to be 78.

Collection of Bea Parker

#60: ALPHABET SAMPLER-Eliza SCHRYVER, [Dutchess County, New York] 1836

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross, blue eyelet, Italian (box stitch), red tent stitches

Inscription: "*Eliza Schryver/ 1836*"

The verse reads in full (the latter part of Chapter VI of St. Matthew paraphrased by James Thomson, 1729)

When my breast labours With oppressive care, / And o'er my cheek descends the falling tear, / While all my Warring passions are at strife, / Oh! let me listen to the Words of life!

It is apparent that Eliza was in attendance at a school run by the Society of Friends (Quakers). The inclusion of the upper case, Roman-style alphabet provides that clue.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#61: ALPHABET SAMPLER- Jane Keziah PAYN, [Fort Miller, New York], 1826

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: "*Wrought by Jane Keziah Payn/ Fort Miller Sept 2 1826*"

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#62: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Sarah C. CUMMINS, Smyrna, [Delaware], 1830

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Sarah Collins Cummins created this needlework in 1830 when she was ten years of age. It closely resembles the documented sampler done by Julia Ann Crowley in 1809 known as the Washington Navy Yard sampler. Sarah's sampler features a very similar red mansion with white stringcourses and a checkered base. Two evergreens stand on each side of the building topped by birds. A couple holding hands on the left and a woman in a long flowing gown on the right are all standing atop a green lawn filled with birds and flowers. These are almost identical to the Crowley work. Sarah includes a cartouche with the Emblem of Love paired birds' symbol and a verse above. A strawberry border is stitched on all four sides. Sarah adds her name at the bottom and her home town of Smyrna, [Delaware], along with family initials.

Sarah was born on December 18, 1818, the oldest of four children of George Cummins (1759-1827) and Maria Durborow. He was a prominent attorney and lived his whole life in the Smyrna area. His father, Sarah's grandfather, was the Senator Daniel Cummins (1737-1797). The Senator was a landowner and innkeeper and active as a merchant dealing in grain. He was also a member of the Delaware convention that ratified the United States Constitution in 1787. Sarah's younger brother was George David Cummins (1822-1876) who became the bishop that founded the Reformed Episcopal Church in the United States.

Sarah did not marry and after her mother died, she lived with her sister Frances and her brother-in-law Robert H. Hill. She died on June 8, 1893 and is buried at St. Peter's Episcopal Church Cemetery in Smyrna, Delaware.

Collection of Bea Parker

#63: MARKING SAMPLER- Henrietta KAY, [Haddonfield, Gloucester County, New Jersey], 1816

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross, eyelet, long armed cross, and rococo stitches

Inscription: "*Henrietta Kays/ work wrought in/ 1816*"

Note that the capital "N" is stitched backward.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#64: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Henrietta KAY, Greenville School, [Haddonfield, Gloucester County, New Jersey], 1816

Linen ground with silk and crinkled silk thread

Stitches: Cross stitch for upper and lower case letters at the top (small); eyelet stitch for upper and lowercase letters at the bottom

Inscription: "*Henrietta Kays/ work wrought at/ Greenville fchool/ 1816*"

The Greenville School building still stands in Haddonfield.

The verse reads in full ("Bewailing My Own Inconstancy" poem by Isaac Watts, 1706)

Look gently down Almighty Grace/ Prison me round in thy embrace/ Pity the heart that would be thine/ And let thy Power my Love confine

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#65: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Keziah WARRICK (b. circa 1783), [Gloucester County, New Jersey], 1801

Linen ground with silk thread, applied silk rosettes

Description: Undoubtedly, Keziah was the daughter of Anthony and Elizabeth Crawford WARRICK, sister of Beulah (Mrs. James) GRAISBERRY & sister of Isaac WARRICK.

Inscription: "*Anthony Elizabeth/ Warrick// James Beulah Grais/ berry Isaac Warrick// Keziah Warrick*"

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#66: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Mary CASPERSON, [Salem County, New Jersey], 1837

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Satin stitch

Description: Mary Casperson's work belongs to a group of samplers created in southern New Jersey under the direction of an as yet unknown schoolmistress. Similar to Ann W. Dickinson's sampler of 1827 that is featured in Mary Jaene Edmund's book, Samplers and Samplermakers, on page 131, Mary's depicts a four-bay house with two chimneys and three distinct shuttered windows on the second floor. Also similar are the satin stitched lawn, the willow and poplar trees and the widely spaced strawberry border.

Mary was born on June 27, 1825 in Salem County, New Jersey, the oldest of three daughters of John Casperson (1798-1871) and Elizabeth Powers (1801-1887). The Casperson's were a well-known name in Salem County. They were landowners and farmers. Mary married Isaac Cooper Griscom (1826-?) on December 20, 1848 and had four children. They lived on a farm in Upper Alloway Township, Salem County, New Jersey. They then lived in Greenwich, Gloucester County, New Jersey. He later was involved in the lumber business in Camden, New Jersey. She died on March 14, 1902 at the age of 77.

Collection of Bea Parker

#67: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Mary SPARKS, R[ebecca?] Allen, instructress, [Gloucester County, New Jersey], 1821

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: This large magnificent Quaker sampler is attributed to Mary Sparks born in 1806 in Gloucester County, New Jersey. She was one of four children of Jesse Sparks (1775-1825) and Abigail Matlock (b.1768). The Sparks were wealthy landowners, running inns and taverns in Gloucester County.

Mary's sampler is replete with commonly found Quaker motifs of various flowers, baskets, birds, and a swan. The family members' initials are also seen as well as a series of verses. At the bottom, Mary also included a grassy hill with two trees flanking each side, flowers, and a little black dog taking in the scene. The 'Burlington rose' vine borders the piece. The instructress is listed as R Allen, possibly Rebecca Allen of neighboring Burlington County, New Jersey. Another sampler by Hannah Collings in 1813 is very similar and also lists R Allen as instructress.

Collection of Bea Parker

#68: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER-Hannah COLLINGS, 10 years old, R[ebecca?] Allen, instructress, [Salem/Burlington County, New Jersey], 1813

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Hannah Collings stitched this sampler when she was ten years old in 1813. Under the instruction of Rebecca Allen most probably of Burlington County, New Jersey, Hannah created this needlework featuring the typical Quaker motifs of flowers, baskets, birds, and a swan. The family members' initials are included as well as a series of verses. Minus the grassy hill at the bottom and a different flowering vine border, Hannah's work is very similar to one done later by Mary Sparks in 1821, under the tutelage of the same teacher.

Hannah Stafford Collings was born in Auburn, Salem County, New Jersey in 1804. She was the daughter of Joseph and Martha Collings and married John Thomas Richman. She died on June 22, 1877 in Cumberland, New Jersey at age 75.

Collection of Bea Parker

#69: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Luisa A. WILLIAMS, [Burlington County, New Jersey], 1817

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Luisa A. Williams most certainly created this Quaker sampler under the instruction of a teacher with Burlington County, New Jersey influence. The sampler is replete with Quaker motifs such as paired birds, star flower, a hex symbol, bunch of pinks, and a starflower with inverted acorns. She also includes a grand two-story house complete with a picket fence and stylized evergreen trees on each side. The date is cleverly placed between two birds sitting on the roof. The 'Burlington rose' vine wraps around three sides of the sampler.

No record of Luisa has been found to date, but documentation of many Williams families indicates their presence in Burlington County, especially Evesham Township, New Jersey since the 1700's.

Collection of Bea Parker

#70: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Mary ESENDER, [Baltimore, Maryland], c. 1820

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: This interesting sampler was made by Mary Esender. It features an alphabet at the top, followed by a row of ligatures. A verse, cross stitched in black, is surrounded by a large geometric shaped vine. The verse is dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Perhaps Mary Esender was attending a Catholic school at the time she made it. Mary Ann Esender is listed as being married on September 23, 1830 in Baltimore to Isaac Winter. The Esender family is found in Baltimore censuses since the early 1800's.

Collection of Bea Parker

#71: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Lydia POULTNEY, [Baltimore, Maryland], finished May 8, 1821

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross stitch for the house, fence, leaves, flowers, and letters; Willow tree- trunk short stitches, leaves featherstitch

Inscription: Verse at the bottom of the sampler reads in full

Count that day lost whose low descending sun views from my/ Hand no virtuous actions done

Lydia Poultney was born 25 September, 1810, the daughter of Thomas and Ann Thomas Poultney. She married Dr. William H. Davis. The couple had no children.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#72: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER-Nancy RILEY, [Baltimore, Maryland], 1827

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: This elaborate sampler stitched by Nancy Riley in 1827 undoubtedly belongs to the “Busy Yard” group from Baltimore, Maryland. It depicts a large brick house with two chimneys flanked by trees, a bird, a bird in a cage, and even a water pump. The house sits atop a lush green grassy lawn bordered by a white fence with a gate. The lawn is full of birds, trees, dogs, flowers, and flowers in urns. A strawberry border encases the scene.

There are two girls by the name of Nancy Riley from Maryland that could have stitched this sampler. The first was born in 1819 in Frederick County, Maryland. This Nancy married Joseph Pearl (b. 1815) on August 13, 1841. The other Nancy was born about 1811 in Cecilton, Cecil County, Maryland. She married Samuel Crazier in Cecilton about 1832.

Collection of Bea Parker

#73: HOUSE SAMPLER- Ann Christena GOMBER, [Frederick, Maryland], c. 1810

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: “*Remember the time will come/ when you must give account to god/ how you on earth did live. Ann Christens/ Gomber. Aged 11 years November the [?] th*”

Description: Ann Christena Gomber was born June 7, 1799. She made this sampler in November of 1810 in Georgetown [District of Columbia], when she was 11 years old. She married John Dunmore Smith. Ann Christena Gomber died November 18, 1839. This sampler was included in and featured in Gloria Seaman Allen’s *A Maryland Sampling: Girlhood Embroidery 1738-1860*.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#74: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Elisabeth HIMES, [Washington County, Maryland], 1829

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: "A. Elisabeth Himes worked/ this in her 15th Year, August 27th / 1829. Mary Gross tutor"

Verse reads in full

Fragrant the Rose is/ But it fades in time/ the Violet sweet But quickly/ past the prime/ White lilies hang their heads and soon decay/ and winter snow in minutes melt away/ such and so with spring are our early joys/ which time and sickness speedily destroys// love/ friendship// Praise god from whom all blessings flow/ praise him all creatures here below/ praise him above heavenly host/ praise father son and holy ghost// Elisabeth Himes is my name and/ with my needle I worked the same so that the/ world may plainly see what care my parents/ took of me

This was included in Gloria Seaman Allen's book, A Maryland Sampling: Girlhood Embroidery 1738-1860.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#75: NEEDLWORK SAMPLER- Esther HUSTON, Mrs. Bruton- instructress 1782

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: Esther Huston stitched this sampler when she was only eight years old. It is made with silk thread on a linen ground and features five sets of alphabets using various stitches. A horizontal row of seventeen diamonds in browns, blues and gold tones are seen before the final alphabet and the area where Esther lists her name, age (8), date (1782), her instructress, Mrs. Bruton, and the following verse: "*Remember now thy Creator/ In the days of thy youth, while/ Evil days come not, nor the years/ Draw nigh, when thou shalt say, / I have no pleasure in them.*"

Esther was born on April 7, 1774 in Lexington, Rockbridge County, Virginia. She was one of seven children born to John Huston (b. 1749 d. 1809) and Anna Logan Huston (b. 1753). She was the first cousin of famous Texas General Sam Houston (b. 1793 d.1863). Her father John was the older brother of Samuel Huston (b. 1750 d. 1806), father of the General. She married John Scott on December 30, 1794.

Collection of Bea Parker

#76: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Nancy SUBLET, [Virginia], 1804

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: A meandering, flowering vine embellished by a stitched ribbon surrounds a floral bouquet in this sampler made by Nancy Sublet in 1804. The sampler also features a cartouche with a sawtooth border that houses a verse "*On Friendship*". All is stitched on a fine linen ground.

Nancy, born about 1791 in Cumberland County, Virginia, descended from French Huguenot stock that came to that area in the early 1700's. She is probably the daughter of William Sublet(t) (b. 1750) and Elizabeth 'Betty' Hughes. The Sublets were landowners along the James River west of Richmond, and, according to their wills, owned slaves. Nancy could have been sent to boarding school in Richmond or had private tutelage. She married Francis Branch on June 20, 1810 in Powhatan County, Virginia.

Sublett's Tavern, circa 1757, has been beautifully restored. It was a stagecoach stop for travelers on their way to and from Richmond. It is located in Powhatan near Richmond. It is one of several structures still standing built by the Sublett family.

Collection of Bea Parker

#77: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Sarah “Sally” Virginia TUCKER, [Charlestown, Virginia, later West Virginia], 1830

Linen ground with silk thread

Stitches: Cross stitch

Description: Sarah “Sally” Virginia Tucker stitched this sampler featuring George Washington’s ancestral home, Mount Vernon. The house is done in tiny olive green, gray and gold cross stitches with the structure itself outlined in black. Deciduous trees flank it on both sides. A flowered border in reds, greens and golds surrounds the edges of her work, with a verse, “*To Happiness*”, featured in the top half of the needlework. Sally names the city of Charlestown next to her name as well as the year 1830. At that time Charlestown was in Virginia. The state of West Virginia had not yet been formed.

Sally was born on June 30, 1817 in Winchester, Virginia, the daughter of Henry St. George Tucker (b. 1780) and Ann Evelina Hunter (b. 1789). Her father was a prominent figure in Virginia government. Per the [Bio Guide of Congress](#), he was chancellor of the Fourth Judicial District of Virginia from 1824 to 1831 in Richmond, at the time the sampler was created. He later was a law professor at the University of Virginia at Charlottesville and author of various treatises on the United States Constitution.

Woodbury, a magnificent Regency style mansion, was Sally’s childhood country home. It still stands, located near Charlestown, in the Middleway District northeast of Leetown, West Virginia. It is believed her father had it built in 1834-1835. Woodbury is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Sally married well-known attorney Henry Laurens Brooke (b.16 July 1808 in Millvale, Stafford County, VA) on September 22, 1836. They decided to live in Richmond, Virginia where he practiced law and they raised a family of eleven children. On October 7, 1863, while residing in Richmond, Virginia, Sally died at age 46.

Letters written by Sally to her brother Nathaniel Beverley Tucker, Virginia journalist and diplomat, are archived at the William and Mary Special Collections Library.

Collection of Bea Parker

#78: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER- Mary Filana GONSOLVE, [Alexandria, Virginia], 1832

Linen ground with silk thread

Inscription: “*Mary Filana Gonsolve Wrought 1832*”

Verse reads in full

*Now in my early days/ Teach me thy will to know/ O God thy sanctifying grace/ Betimes on me
bestow/ Make an unguarded youth/ The object of thy care/ Help me to choose the way of truth/
And fly from every snake// My heart to folly prone/ Renew by power divine/ Unite it to thyself
alone/ And make me wholly thine/ O let thy word of grace/ My warmest thoughts employ/ Be this
though all my future days/ My treasure and my joy*

This is a sampler from Alexandria Virginia; one of only two samplers known that depict this panoramic landscape.

Collection of Gary W. Parks

#79: NEEDLEWORK SAMPLER-Elizabeth DUNHAM, aged 13, [Salt Creek, Wayne County, Ohio], 1849

Linen ground with silk thread

Description: This folksy sampler was executed by Elizabeth Dunham (1837-1924) when she was thirteen years old. She used vibrant colored green, red, yellow and blue silk threads to create a two-story house on a grassy lawn complete with a picket fence. A black dog plays in the front yard near a spindly tree. Large, Quaker-influenced flowers are scattered about the sampler while a flowered vine surrounds her name and the year the sampler was made. She created an interesting border of a geometric shaped vine growing out of urns placed at the bottom corners. Sue Studebaker lists another sampler by Elizabeth in her book, [Ohio Samplers Schoolgirl Embroideries 1803-1850](#) on page 48. That sampler made a year earlier in 1849 shows some of the same flower motifs, meandering vine around her name and emblem of innocence.

Elizabeth also appropriately stitches “*My Home is in the West*” under the house. In 1850, the family was living in Salt Creek, Wayne County, Ohio. Her parents, John Dunham (1800-1868) and Sarah Brown (1808-1880) both came from Pennsylvania and got married in Salt Creek in 1826. Elizabeth was born there, the second of six children. They lived on a large farm. In 1857, Elizabeth married Henry Hatfield Johnson. They moved to Babcock Grove, Illinois where they raised two children. Henry then served in the Civil War in the Illinois Regiment. By the 1880 census, Elizabeth had moved back to Ohio where she is listed as a widow and living with her son Adam who was a physician. She died there in 1924 at age 87

Collection of Bea Parker

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