



Artist Profile



Francis Bliss & Lydia Hinckley

From the collection of Old Sturbridge Village, this pair of early American marking samplers are somewhat similar in color scheme and linen type, but they differ considerably in what is known of their background. Lydia Hinckley's sampler came to the museum from Rhode Island, and little else is known of it. It was worked on a darkened homespun linen in 1774, in cross and eyelet stitches.

Frances Bliss, on the other hand, was born in Springfield, Massachusetts on May 10, 1772, to the Hon. Moses and Abigail (Metcalf) Bliss, the fifth of nine children. Her rather eccentric and patriotic father was a preacher for awhile, then abandoned the ministry to become a barrister. Frances married the Rev. Henry Rowland of Windsor, CT, when she was 27 years old. They had eight children. She died on January 18th, 1833, at the age of sixty. (Sampler)