

Hills/Walker Silk Embroidery
(18 ½" X 21 ½")

Inscriptions:

Left center urn:

"Sacred
to the memory
of Lewis Walker Esq
who departed this
life May the 22nd AD
1814 Aged 67
He was
Pious"

Center urn:

"Sacred to the memory of
John Hills Esq who depart
ed this life February the 10 AD 1813
aged 64 Ye stately Oaks in
Your long order mourne
Strip off your pride to
Press my father's urn
Lay light ye turfs upon Him
where he lays gentle Willows
On his lonely grave
1818"

Center right urn:

"Sacred
to the
Memory of
John Hills esq who
departed this life
July the 25th
1810 aged
20
Years"

The embroiderer of this silk embroidery is not indicated, but the reference of “father” on the John Hills, sr. urn indicates that it was one of his daughters. Most likely, it was either Lydia, b. 6 November 1798; died 3 November 1821, or Lucy, b. April 29, 1803; d. October 31, 1856. The other daughters seemed to have died in infancy, or would have been far too young. [e.g. Emily b. 2 August 1807 (in Clarendon, VT 1807); d. 5 Dec. 1879 in Clarendon; m. Daniel Tubbs 24 Jan. 1834 in Mt. Holly, VT. Daniel Tubbs (son of Isaac) b. 30 March 1804 in Mt. Holly, VT; d. 1 May 1890 in Clarendon, VT.]. Lucy died 31 October 1856, and from her grave stone seems never to have married.

The 1818 date on the embroidery means that Lydia would have been twenty and Lucy fifteen, which would have put her closer in age to her cousin, Elmira Clarinda Walker (b. 9 January 1805), who stitched the Walker/Gates/Jackson silk embroidery.

Left urn—Lewis Walker

Lewis Walker was the father of Mehitable Walker Hills, the mother of John Hills’ daughters; thus, grandfather to the embroiderer. Lewis Walker was born 13 December 1745, the son of Nathaniel Walker (31 January 1703 -20 April 1783) and Anna Sweeting (1 May 1707 – 23 March 1772) who were married 11 May 1727; both from Rehoboth. Nathaniel was called “best beloved son in his father’s will and was a deacon in his church and representative to the General Court of MA in 1750 and 1751.

Lewis, according to the *Memorial of the Walkers of the Old Plymouth Colony* (Northampton, 1861, p. 135) died 21 May, and not the 22nd as noted above, 1813. He had married Hannah Cooper 11 September 1770 of New Providence (Cheshire) MA and daughter of Deacon Cooper, where Lewis moved when he married. In 1779, they moved to Clarendon where he was a farmer and his role in the Baptist church was noted with admiration. She died in 1821. They had five children, including Mehitable, their eldest child.

Center urn—John Hills:

John Hills was also born in Rehoboth, MA—from which the Walkers moved to Clarendon—26 July 1761 and died 10 February 1813. He married Mehitable Walker 5 May 1793. She was born in Rehoboth or Cheshire, 17 May 1771, and died in Clarendon 7 November 1847. They had eight children; seven of whom were daughters. John, a blacksmith and farmer, is buried in the Chippenhook Cemetery in Clarendon.

Right urn—John Hills

John Hills, whose birthdate is unknown other than ca. 1790, was the son of John and Lydia (Hill) Hills. After Lydia died, John married Mehitable Walker and moved to Clarendon. John jr. died 25 July 1810 and is buried in the Chippenhook Cemetery in Clarendon. He was, thus, half-brother to Lucy.