

APPENDIX 4

Public collections with Scottish samplers

National Museums Scotland in Edinburgh has the largest public collection. For contact details see www.nms.ac.uk. Glasgow Museums, www.glasgowlife.org.uk. Glasgow also has Sir William Burrell's seventeenth-century embroidery collection, which includes some fine samplers. Three major local museums that also have samplers are: Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museum, www.aagm.co.uk. Perth Museums, www.museums.galleriesscotland.org.uk/member/perth-museum-and-art-gallery. Fife Museums, under www.fife.gov.uk. See also www.simplysamplers.org, an exhibition prepared by Fife Museums but including samplers from museums in the Borders, East Lothian and West Lothian.

Most local museums will probably have some samplers connected to local people or schools.

There are also Scottish samplers in other museums in Britain, for example the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, and the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, and some are reproduced

in the printed books and catalogues of these museums. Both museums also have all or part of their collections on their websites. Other museums should be checked for any collections they have put online.

An online site with samplers is Scran, at www.scran.ac.uk. Scran is a charity and online learning resource base with over 360,000 images and media from museums, galleries, archives and the media. It includes black and white images from the Royal Scottish Museum catalogue, 1978. It is a subscription site, with a home tariff, used by schools and others to acquire images to use in their work, the copyright remaining with the institutions owning the image. Without a subscription the images on the screen are too small to be seen properly and there is no text. The text supplied, however, is not always accurate; as always, it depends on who wrote it and how good the information was in the museum register.

A large private collection can be seen online at www.antiquesamplers.org.