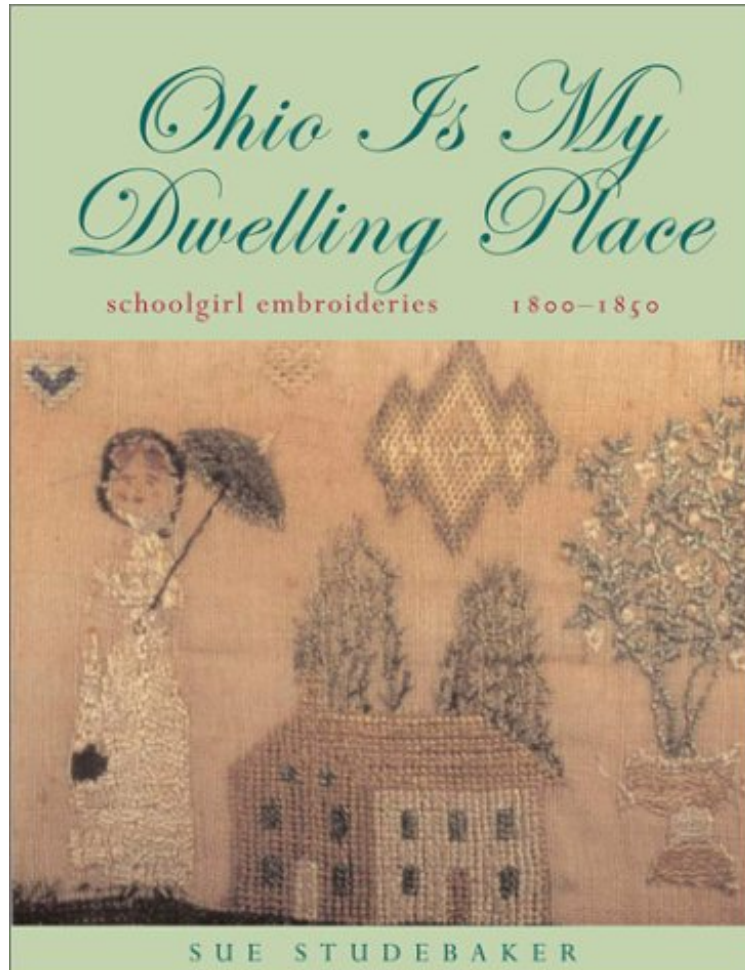


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Ohio Is My Dwelling Place: Schoolgirl Embroideries, 1800-1850

Sue Stuebaker

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#942426 in Books Ohio University Press 2002-12-12 Original language: English PDF # 1 11.14 x .82 x 8.521, 2.44 #File Name: 0821414534320 pages | File size: 18.Mb

Sue Stuebaker : Ohio Is My Dwelling Place: Schoolgirl Embroideries, 1800-1850 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ohio Is My Dwelling Place: Schoolgirl Embroideries, 1800-1850:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The author's dedication in the book says it all: "To the Ohio pioneer girls and their teachers...."By Jane in Milwaukee"...who with their endless hours of stitching have left a tangible and enduring legacy of our state's history in their needlework." I would think that author Sue Stuebaker was the textiles curator at a museum or a university professor of history. But she was an avid antique collector and researcher who became so taken with the old embroideries she found personally and saw as family heirlooms in private homes--and is such a daughter of her beloved Ohio--that she spent countless years doing the footwork and accumulating the information among which she weaves the beautiful illustrations. This is one of my favorite books; I own hundreds of needlework books and lately have been focusing on the history of needlework and particularly on samplers. What

greatly surprises me about the Bibliography is that less than 10% of the entries are about needlework at all! But these are some of its books I own and can recommend: *Girlhood Embroidery: American Samplers Pictorial Needlework, 1650-1850* (Two Volumes) *American Needlework Treasures: Samplers and Silk Embroideries from the Collection of Betty Ring* (These are by Betty Ring whom the author praises in the Acknowledgments and who praises the book in a blurb on the back cover.) *In the Neatest Manner: The Making of the Virginia Sampler Tradition* (Author Kimberly Smith, Associate Curator of Textiles at Colonial Williamsburg, penned the Preface to this book.) *A Gallery Of American Samplers: The Theodore H. Kapnek Collection* *New England Samplers to 1840* *Samplers Samplermakers: An American Schoolgirl Art 1700-1850* *Historical Needlework of Pennsylvania* *Plain Fancy: American Women and Their Needlework, 1700-1850* When I first got my book, I noted the heft and cool close-up picture on the cover of the book. Flipping through, I was delighted to see there is about half text and half illustrations, most of which are in color. In looking for the Table of Contents, I landed on page XXIII in the Introduction and this told me everything that this book is about: it's a map of Ohio showing each county. Every single county represented in the book by at least one sampler is shown in gray with the each sampler represented by a dot. I don't know Ohio but I spot immediately that the vast majority of samplers are from the far southwest corner of the state, from Hamilton (24) Montgomery (29), Warren (a whopping 42). A deeper reading of the book shows that Ms. Studebaker is more a lover of history than of needlework...but there's nothing wrong with that. In fact, few books delve so deeply into the makers of the samplers, their families and exactly where they hailed from. She scoured every source she could including historical and genealogical to explain the details in such a way as to make you feel like you get to know the girls a bit. There are not that many samplers from Ohio prior to 1800 and while there is a brief chapter on Victorian samplers made after 1950, the author wanted to focus on the scary and exciting pioneer days of Ohio's birth. I could go on and on about any number of given samplers but I am struck with the painting and verse across from the title page. It shows a girl of, perhaps, 10 who is admiring her finished sampler in her lap, fondly touching one of the alphabets. The verse is classic: "With my needle and my thread, Which now appears so neat, Before I was quite nine years old, I did this work complete. It still will show when I am old, Or laid into the tomb, How I employed my little hands, While I was in my bloom." 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. RIP Sue Studebaker By Jane Kwiecinski I was lucky enough to meet the author and attend a few of her lectures. Ohio lost a treasure when she died. She was a bright star and she gave Ohio an awesome bicentennial gift. I'm so sorry that the collection she assembled (which was documented in this book) was only a temporary exhibit instead of a permanent collection. This book covers samplers from each of the 88 counties in Ohio. Her focus was the history of the samplers and their creators. It's not really a book for those that create samplers unless they are interested in authentic elements for a particular geographic area. Please keep this in mind if you are considering adding it to your collection. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Gift By Huggie BI bought this as a gift and my mother was ecstatic. All her friends loved it and have ordered their own copy as a result.

Sue Studebaker documents samplers made by young girls in Ohio prior to 1850, the girls who made them, their families, and the teachers who taught them to stitch. Illustrations of these highly prized works are presented, along with the stories behind their creation.

"Sue Studebaker's comprehensive book covering the development of female education and the role of needlework in a young lady's life in Ohio significantly contributes to the study of regional styles in American needlework and samplers." -- Kimberly Smith Ivey, Associate Curator of Textiles, Colonial Williamsburg About the Author Sue Studebaker is the author of *Ohio Samplers: Schoolgirl Embroideries, 1803-1850*, and has published articles in the *Antique and Early American Life*. She lectures widely and teaches courses on American decorative arts.