

American Textiles

THE ANNA SAFLEY HOUSTON COLLECTION

During the early 1800s textiles of cotton, wool, and linen were often made by hand at home. Natural fibers were dyed with pigments from plants and minerals. Large looms were used to make sizable items such as coverlets.



Coverlet designs reflect the creative talents of their makers. Handwoven coverlets can be classified by type and weaving technique. Most of the coverlets at the Houston Museum are examples of jacquard weave.



Houston Museum
of Decorative Arts

423.267.7176 www.thehoustonmuseum.org

201 High Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37403



Needlepoint samplers were practice pieces made by girls and young women. They may depict the alphabet, the date and maker's name, household animals, and family members.

Quilt patterns vary and are often inspired by nature. Patchwork, or crazy quilts, were made from scraps of leftover fabric.



Anna Safley Houston, pioneering businesswoman and antiques collector, curated a remarkable collection of over 15,000 items, spanning glassware, pottery, textiles, furniture, and much more.

