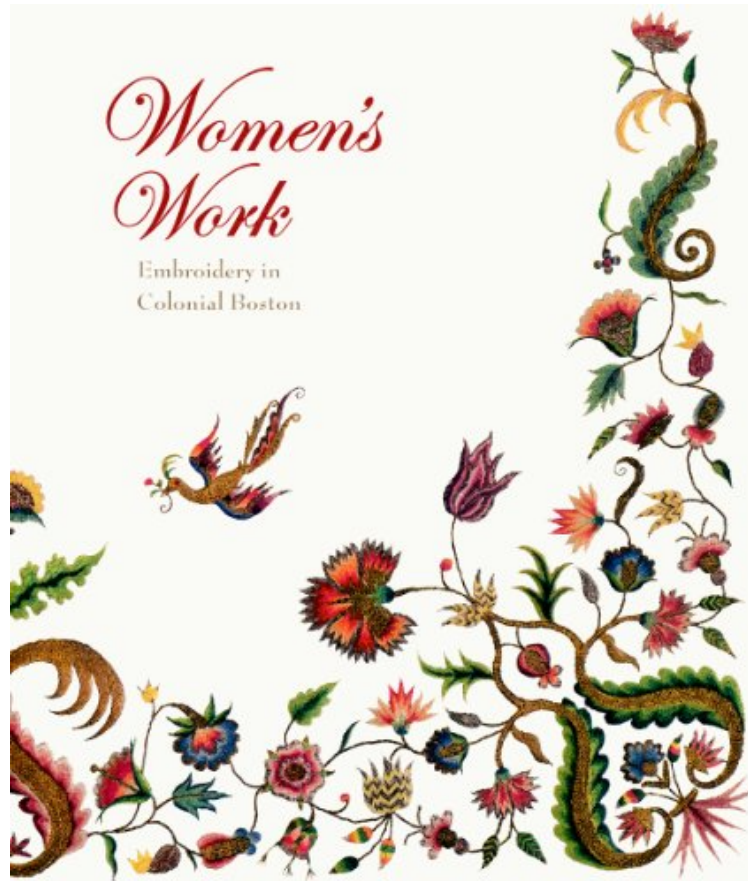


## Women's Work: Embroidery in Colonial Boston

*Pamela Parmal*

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**Pamela Parmal : Women's Work: Embroidery in Colonial Boston** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Women's Work: Embroidery in Colonial Boston:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. The book is good for what it is By Diamond Mary The book is good for what it is, that is, a historical treatise on women who promoted needlework in their time in New England. I was hoping for more detail about how these items were made, materials, stitches, etc., but that's not where the book goes. It's mostly about who studied where and who influenced or designed who's work. And I was very disappointed in the photographs which are a bit hazy and mostly black and white. The cover of the book is deceiving because it shows one of very few pieces that are that lovely and depicted in color. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ... still out where I can pick it up and enjoyed it often By Janet J. I have had this book for quite some time and it is still out where I can pick it up and enjoyed it often. The embroidery is lovely and the stories of the women fascinating. I read it straight through when it first arrived and knew it would become one of my favorites. 11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. very well-done By Andromeda This book contains a good mix of background text and illustration. The authors use primary sources (such as advertisements for schools) in recreating the background of

colonial embroidery, of which we know much too little. Illustrations are excellent; high resolution colors bright.

Charming us with their whimsy and conjuring a warm domesticity, embroideries from the colonial era also astonish us with the high prices they bring at art auctions. A single work could take years to make, its materials could come from the other side of the world and its imagery could reflect its maker's deepest beliefs and her family's highest aspirations. Colonial women kept these accomplished works with them throughout their lives, proudly displayed them in their homes, and passed them down as family heirlooms. Embroidery in Colonial Boston tells the stories of six women and how needlework shaped their lives in the colonies' most important port city. From decidedly domestic origins, their embroideries soon became an economic force that promoted the silk trade and allowed entrepreneurial women and men to profit from selling supplies, drawing patterns and teaching young girls interested in this mode of expression. At once a historical overview, group biography and richly illustrated art book, this publication gives long deserved attention to a unique facet of American visual culture and women's history.