

<http://www.cs.arizona.edu/patterns/weaving/>

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News and Notes

About Authorship

Articles written by Tess Parrish and Kris Bruland (and possibly others) are identified as such by their names at the ends of the articles.

All other articles are written or compiled by me but generally do not include my name (who would want to see it all the time?). You may see my initials (*reg*) at places where the subject is personal.

— *Ralph Griswold*

Masthead Graphic

The masthead graphic at the top of this page was derived from lace made by Tess Parrish.

The Website

The term “website” occurs frequently in this newsletter. Unless qualified or otherwise clear from context, the term refers to the website to which this newsletter is devoted.

Recent Additions to the Website

The Page of the Month

March additions presently are listed on

[this-month.html](#)

When the first additions are made in April, [this-month.html](#) will become the April page. To get the March additions after that time, use

[2005-03.html](#)

Tally

Here are the counts of documents added in March:

articles	60
books	1
ephemera	6
illustrations	9
monographs	4
patents	15
periodicals	38
webdocs	1
total	134

Highlights

In the **Books** section, Beaumont's *Carpets and Rugs* is new. See the review on page 7.

In the **Periodicals** section, Volumes 2 and 3 of *Posselt's Textile Journal* are now available, along

with a few individual articles.

Several issues of Nellie Sargent Johnson's *Handweaving News* are online.

Acknowledgments

- Interlibrary Loan staff at the University of Arizona

Nancy M. McKenna

Kathie Mellinger Plack

Washington (Pennsylvania) Spinners and Weavers

Planned Additions to the Website

Peter Collingwood has most generously given permission for digital facsimiles of his two books on rug weaving, *The Techniques of Rug Weaving*, and *Rug Weaving Techniques; Beyond the Basics*, to be added to the website. I have started scanning the first, and it should be on the website in early April.

Many more issues of *Handweaving News* are planned.

Posselt's Textile Journal features series of articles on technical subjects such as Jacquard design. I am thinking of making compilations of such series.

Contributing Your Works to the Website

Have you written books, monographs, articles, lesson plans, or other works on a topic covered by the website? If they are out of print and have little or no future commercial potential, consider giving permission to put digital facsimiles of them on the website.

This will make them available to an enormous audience and ensure them a lasting place where they can be obtained, either on the website or on a CD compilation of website documents.

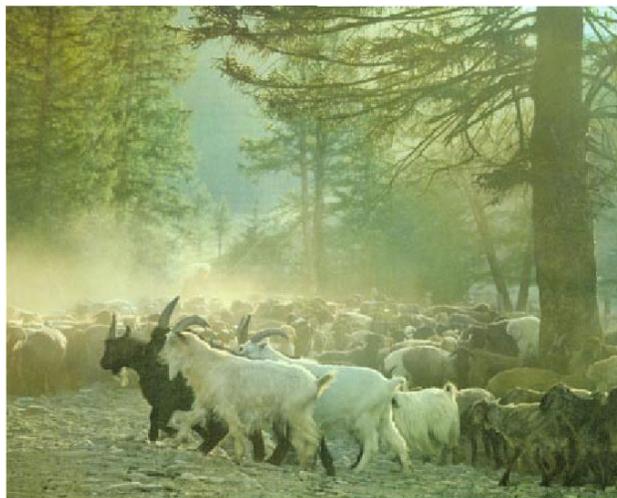
For more information, send e-mail to

ralph@cs.arizona.edu

Exploring the Website, Part 4: Illustrations

The **Illustrations** section, which includes line drawings, engravings, wood block prints, photographs, art, and about anything that is primarily

visual in nature, is a relative recent addition to the website. It's a place to find pictures of sheep, Vincent van Gogh's paintings of looms, likenesses of Joseph-Marie Jacquard, Jacquard-equipped looms, and all sort of things. My favorite is a photograph from *China Pictorial*, a propaganda magazine of "Red China" during the 1970s:



The page for the **Illustrations** section is similar to the pages for books and monographs {1}, with entries ordered by the names of the authors. Many author's names are unknown and appear first with "--" in place of a name.

Next time: Periodicals

PDFs

Suddenly, a miracle!

Before Adobe's Portable Document Format (PDF), electronic exchange of typographically complex documents between different kinds of computers was a nightmare — or just plain impossible. **Webside**, for example, would have been unthinkable in its present form. PDF changed all that. Now it is possible to create PDFs for the most complex documents and have the results appear faithfully on almost all computer platforms. And readers for PDF are free {2}, so anyone can view PDFs. PDF is the *de facto* standard for electronic publishing.

The result has been a revolution in electronic publishing. Newspaper chains use PDF to exchange information. Most software is now distributed without printed manuals but with PDFs instead. And PDF is the preferred way of publishing digital facsimiles.

Historical Note: Adobe almost made a fatal mistake with the introduction of

PDF by planning to charge for the program that reads PDFs. Although the proposed amount was small by commercial software standards, had they not reversed their initial decision, PDF probably never would have caught on and all the PDFs you see on the Web would not exist.

Personal Anecdote: I have a friend and colleague who is the best software person with whom I've ever worked. He is so good, I don't even bother to test the programs he writes. They always work and work well. And his evaluation and knowledge of software is so good, I'd accept his opinion above my own.

With one exception. Several years ago he declared "PDF isn't a standard and never will be." Boy, was he wrong!

— reg

The process of creating PDFs will be the subject of a future article.

Posselt's Textile Journal

As mentioned in the last issue of *Webside*, *Posselt's Textile Journal* is an ongoing project for digital facsimiles.

There probably are close to 12,000 pages in the 33 volumes, although at this point, that's just a guess. That's approximately 40 good-sized books; clearly something that cannot be done quickly.

I recently got Volumes 2 and 3 (bound together) from the *Center for Research Libraries* {3} via Interlibrary Loan.

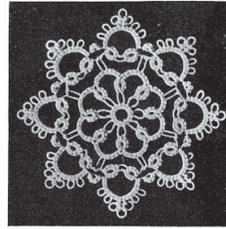
I started by scanning but quickly discovered that the book was too fragile for that. So, with plans to do more digital photography anyway, I turned to that.

Digital photography is very gentle and fast compared to scanning. The results are legible, but for text, noticeably inferior to scanning and larger in terms of file size than the equivalent scanned result. But they are far better than nothing.

I am an amateur with digital photography, and learning as I go with help from my photographer son, Bill. I expect to get better at it with time.

I'll have more to say about digital photography in a subsequent article.

Lace Corner, Part 4: Tatting



Besides the "real" laces — needle and bobbin — there are many other ways to make a lacy fabric. Tatting, like crochet and knitting, uses one continuous thread, and its tool is a shuttle that stores the thread and makes it easier to make the

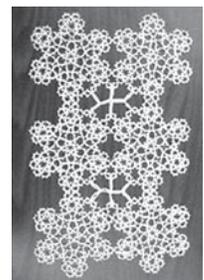
knots. Unlike needle and bobbin laces with their complicated pillows and pins, this one simple tool makes the work easy to take up or put down, and the heavier threads are easier to handle.

Tatting is a form of knotting. Its direct ancestry is the long strings of knots that were used in embroidery to outline motifs and later to couch down onto fabric to make their own designs. This knotting was a very popular pastime in the 17th and 18th centuries, and there are many portraits painted between 1740 and 1780 of elegant ladies with shuttles in their hands.

By the beginning of the 19th century, knotting had turned into a preliminary series of rings made yard upon yard like an endless daisy chain and which were then sewed into circles with needle-point fillings, bars and chains. This was still considered a part of embroidery. The first real mention of tatting as we know it now was in 1843. This was the beginning of the era of pattern books and women's magazines that appealed to the growing number of amateur needlewomen looking for projects to make.

1864 was the first milestone in the development of tatting: Eleonore Riego de la Branchardiere, an Englishwoman, published a series of books on the subject, introducing new technical ideas and improvements in the craft. She was indeed the pioneer: She had shops and wrote books on knitting, crochet, lacework, and tatting between 1846 and 1887. Others also contributed to tatting with new discoveries and techniques, most notably Therese de Dillmont, who wrote the *Encyclopedia of Needlework* in 1886.

After this, tatting seemed to go out of fashion for a while. However, the decline in the art of tatting was reversed by Queen Marie of Romania and Lady Katherin Hoare who wrote *The Art of Tatting*, published in 1910. See the book review on page 7.



After this, in 1924, Mlle Alice Morawska, a pupil of de Dillmont, published *La Frivolité*, a book of designs based on and amplifying her teacher's work. But by the 1940s tating was no longer of much interest to younger people, although some remember their grandmothers trimming household linens and children's clothes.

However, in 1959 Elgiva Nicholls published *A New Look in Tating*, further releasing tating from the tradition of repeated geometric formations and in 1962 she wrote *Tating*, which takes a sound and academic look at the subject as a whole. This was the beginning of the modern interest in designing and further technical exploration of this craft. Today, tating takes its place with pride in national and international lace organizations, and can be seen alive and well at craft shows and exhibits in many countries of the world.

Next time: filet lace.

— Tess Parrish



Antique Tating Shuttles

Lace Websites

The following web sites may be interesting to any lacemaker who might be thinking of traveling. There are undoubtedly more, but this makes a good beginning. These are mostly museums and places where one can see lace.

Belgium: <http://www.trabel.com/belgium-lace-history.htm>

Belgium, Bruges: <http://www.virtualbruges.com/museums/mus010.html>

Brazil: <http://www.maria-brazil.org/laces.htm>

England: <http://www.allhallowsmuseum.co.uk/>

England: <http://www.mkheritage.co.uk/cnm/lace/>

Europe: http://www.blen.net/m_c.htm

France: <http://www.ville-alencon.fr/dentelle/anglais/Sommaireanglais.htm>

France: http://www.slowtrav.com/france/notes/mellen_lace.htm

France: <http://www.theotherside.co.uk/tm-heritage/visit/visit-bailleul-lace.htm>

France: <http://www.theotherside.co.uk/tm-heritage/visit/visit-calais-lace.htm>

Hungary: <http://www.embajada-hungria.org/s/halasi/historia.htm>

Ireland: <http://www.irishcarrickmacrosslace.com/>

Ireland: <http://www.irishlace.org/>

Ireland: <http://www.irishlacemuseum.com/>

Ireland: <http://www.irishlacemuseum.com/limerick.html>

Italy: <http://digilander.libero.it/gloriavalli/esansepolcr.html>

Slovakia: <http://mujweb.cz/www/zemanova/en/slov.htm>

Slovakia: <http://www.ds.psg.sk/prezenta/frajkor/>

Slovenia: <http://www.snpj.com/cipka.htm>

Spain: <http://www.terra.es/personal2/puricoll/>

Sweden: <http://home.wxs.nl/~hombu012/pages/skansk.html>

United States: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/events/event.cfm?>

— Tess Parrish

Library of Congress: American Memory

The *Library of Congress* is legendary for its holdings. Not so well known are its recent initiatives in on-line digital resources.

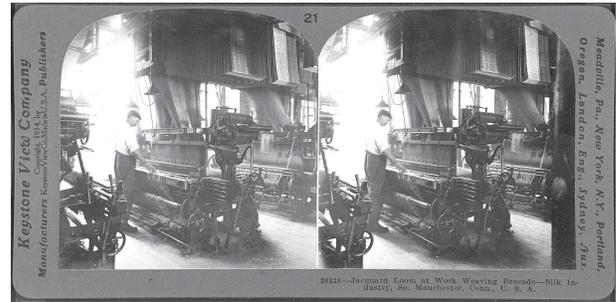
One of these is “American Memory” {4}, devoted to providing free access to a wide variety of resources that document the “American Experience”. See the screen snap below.

The collection topics are listed on the right. These include not only materials from the *Library of Congress*, but also many others, including the *Making of America* {5-6}. This is, in fact, the easiest way of accessing the *Making of America*.

A search may find articles, books, correspondence, pictures, or other media types. The next page shows the first page of search results for “weaving” in all topics — 1,717 hits altogether! As is obvious, not all are relevant to weaving. But many are. Items 8 (from the Thomas Jefferson papers and 16 (from the George Washington pages) are definitely worth exploring.

Item 3 leads to 28 stereoviews related to silk

weaving from the Robert Dennison Collection. Here is one of them:



This illustrates another value of the “American Memory” collection: It reveals other collections. The Robert Dennison collection, which is at the *New York Public Library*; another site to explore.

Note that item 9 is sheet music — yet another subject to investigate.

And all this for just one search term.

I don't (yet) know how many of the 1,717 hits for weaving are relevant, but clearly many are. And, I suspect, new items and collections are added all the time.

Search Results

The Library of Congress > American Memory Home > Search Results

Results 1-20 of 1717 for weaving

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Item Titles

Collection Titles

1. Bill Weaver. [Photo]	Tending the Commons
2. [Portrait of Lt. Col. James T. Weaver, 60th North Carolina Regiment, C.S.A.]	Civil War Photos
3. Stereoscopic views of the silk industry in South Manchester, Connecticut	Robert Dennis Collection
4. George Weaver	Baseball Cards, 1887-1914
5. Birds eye view of Barnes & Weaver's addition to Brookland /	Map Collections
6. Print # 11, Making clothes for the boys in the army [Etching]	Civil War Treasures (NYHS)
7. Wild flowers by Gustine Courson Weaver (Mrs. Clifford Weaver) [12 lines of verse] [n. d.].	Printed Ephemera
8. Unknown, no date, Statement on Weaving	The Thomas Jefferson Papers
9. I am a little weaver. Vocal beauties; 6. 1853	Historic American Sheet Music
10. [Announcement of] History of ancient Windham, Conn. Genealogy. Part 1. by William L. Weaver ... Weaver & Curtis, Willimantic Conn. [n. d.].	Printed Ephemera
11. D. F. Weaver House, Weaver Road, Weaver, Calhoun County, AL	Built in America
12. "The weavers" by Gerhart Hauptmann opens November 25	WPA Posters
13. Full caption: Annual "Bathing Girl Parade," Balboa Beach, Cal. M.F. Weaver, copyright holder. 1920 June 20. Prints and Photographs Division. LCUSZC4-8150.	American Women
14. Bethlehem and South Bethlehem, Pa. Looking north east /	Map Collections
15. Jacob Weaver Jr. to Abraham Lincoln, November 6, 1860 (Telegram reporting election results)	Abraham Lincoln Papers
16. George Washington, 1767-71, Weaving Accounts	George Washington Papers
17. Weaving blankets on street - Madura	World Trans Comm
18. John G. Weaver to Mary Todd Lincoln, April 4, 1861 (Seeks position at White House)	Abraham Lincoln Papers
19. Weaver Hotel, 126 South Kansas Street, Waterville, Marshall County, KS	Built in America
20. John G. Weaver to Abraham Lincoln, January 5, 1861 (Seeks position as White House steward)	Abraham Lincoln Papers

Display: List View Gallery View

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Book Reviews

The Art of Tatting, Katherin L. Hoare. Longmans, Green and Co., 1910, 127 pages.

The *Art of Tatting* is not a pattern book but consists mainly of the original work of Queen Marie of Romania and Lady Hoare. They took the old basic circular shapes of tatting, moved them into new relationships and came up with creative designs. There are no working patterns, but there is a section of very clear basic tatting instructions.

This book can be found on Lace CD #3.

— Tess Parrish

Carpets and Rugs, Beaumont, Roberts. Scott, Greenwood & Son, London, 1924. 410 pages.



This is Robert Beaumont's last book, published posthumously by his son.

Like all of Beaumont's books, it scholarly, detailed, and technical.

The book starts with a chapter on historic principles in Eastern loom work, then treats hand-tufted structures, felt carpets, and continues on to the various kinds of industrially manufactured carpets and rugs.

The table of contents is extensive and detailed, as is the index. There are over 200 illustrations, including 13 color plates.

Although this is a textbook and principally concerned with carpets and rugs made on power looms, it is packed with useful and fascinating material that anyone interested in the subject should enjoy.

News from Handweaving.net

New Draft Collection: A Manual of Weave Construction, Ivo Kastanek

In March, 2005 I added a complete set of 517 drafts for *A Manual of Weave Construction* by Ivo Kastanek. Please see link 7 on page 11.

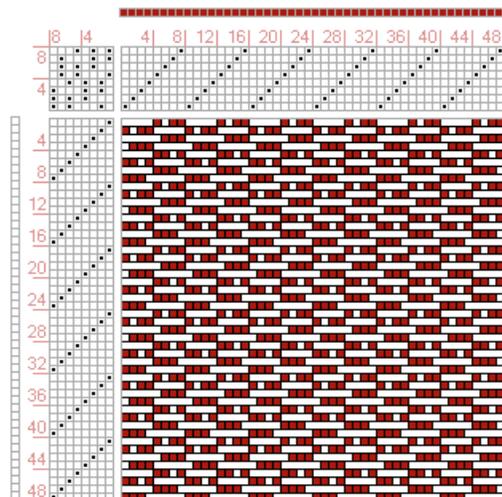
This is a typical 19th century textbook on weaving, dated 1903, and has examples of most common classes of weaves. The book was originally written in Austria. An English version, which is what I used to produce the draft collection, was translated and arranged for American and English practice by Samuel S. Dale, Editor of the *Textile World*, Boston, Massachusetts.

The printing in the book made draft production a challenge, but the work appears to have been very well edited, with errors in less than 2% of the original patterns.

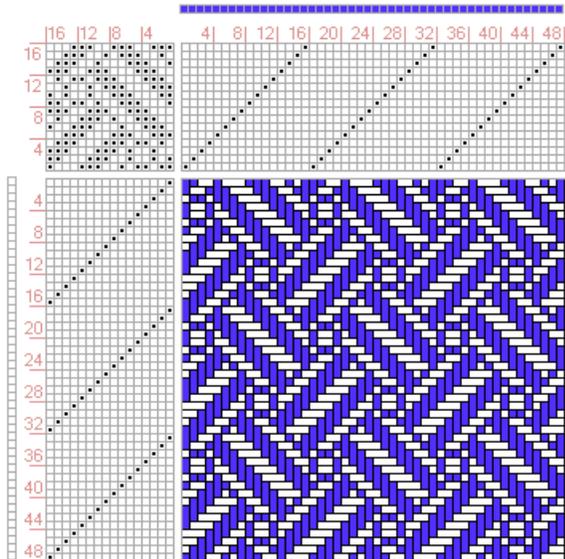
It has much higher percentage of color-and-weave effect patterns than other similar books of the same era, and some very interesting examples of weaves that are not found in other books. See the examples following this article.

The original book was scanned by Ralph Griswold, and I used his scans to produce drafts. Examples follow; the **Handweaving.net** IDs precede the figure numbers.

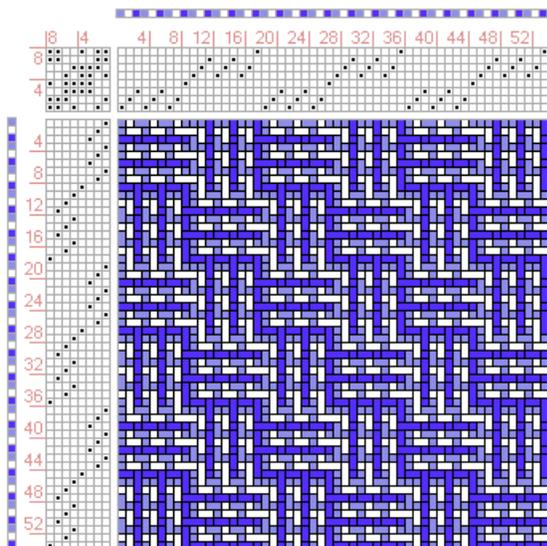
— Kris Bruland



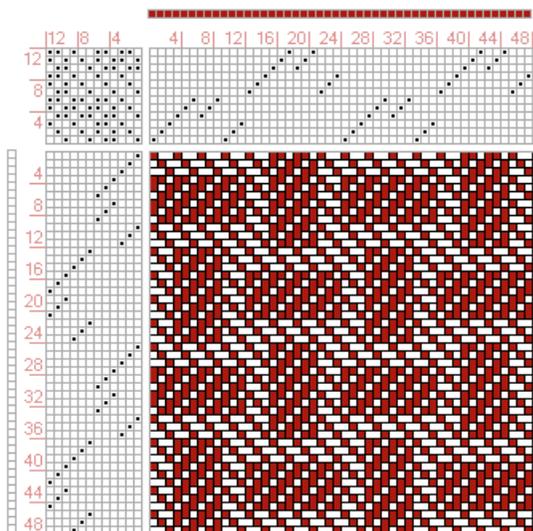
52671: Figure 58



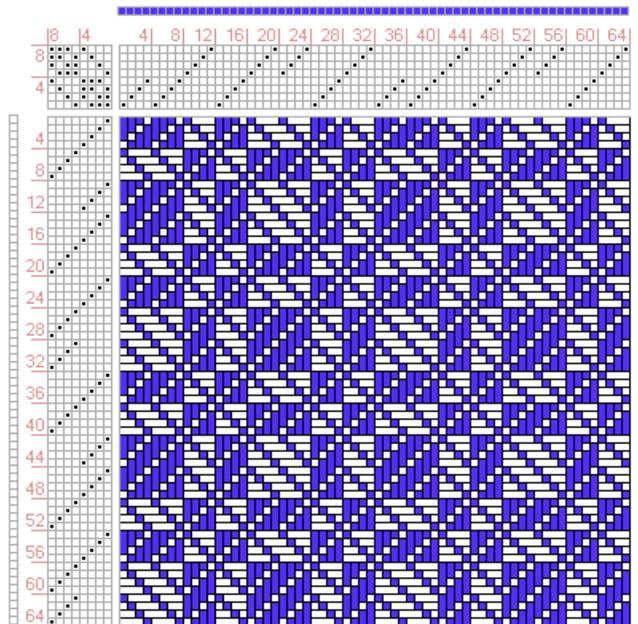
52634: Figure 254



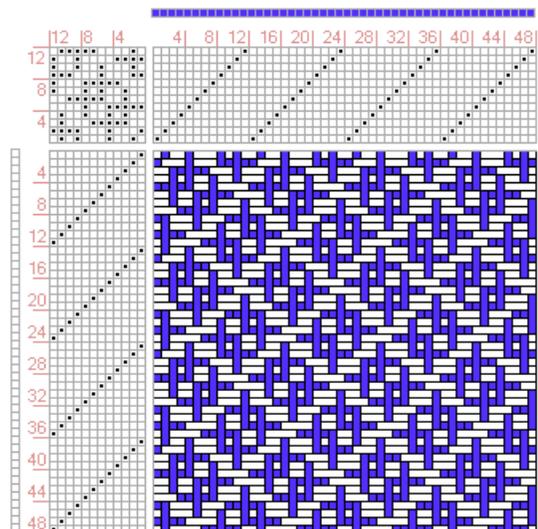
52669: Figure 278 (b)



5267: Figure 279 (a)



52826: Figure 423



52885: Figure 473

New Online Weaving Gallery

Handweaving.net has a new online gallery to show pictures of items woven with drafts obtained at the site. Please see Link 8 on page 11. An example from the gallery is shown on the next page.

This was launched in February 2005, and I have received some very positive comments about it from visitors to the site. As of this writing, there are photographs of weaving from several different people and I am hopeful that many others will send pictures of their work. Currently around 16,000 drafts per month are downloaded or viewed

Weaving Gallery Item

[Return to Gallery Listings](#)

Oelsner Triple Weave Layer One by softweave

Comments / Notes: This is layer one in a triple weave project woven with drafts from Oelsner's Handbook of Weaves. Each sample was woven in 10/2 cotton with the warp set at 21.5 epi and wet finished. Drafts below correspond to the samples pictured from left to right.



Figure 774 from [A Handbook of Weaves](#) by G. H. Oelsner

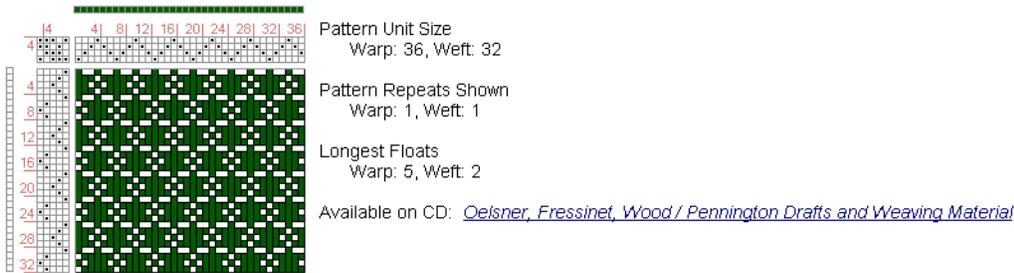
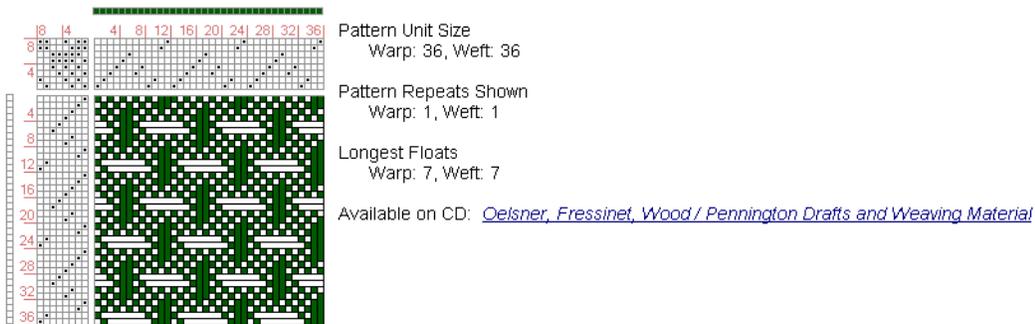


Figure 775 from [A Handbook of Weaves](#) by G. H. Oelsner



Figure 776 from [A Handbook of Weaves](#) by G. H. Oelsner



and printed from **Handweaving.net** and there are many projects being woven from these!

To submit a gallery listing, send the following information to **gallery@handweaving.net**:

- One or more images of your woven item in any digital image format such as .jpg, .gif, or .png is fine. You can include a caption for each photo if you like.

- A short title for your item for the gallery listing, such as "Swedish Lace Baby Blankets".
- Descriptive text. This can be as long as necessary and can include web links.
- The number on the site for the draft used (you can get this from draft detail page or the name of the WIF file if you downloaded it.)



CD List

The following CDs containing weaving and lace material are available. Shipping charges are extra.

Weaving Documents

The following CDs are available from *Complex Weavers*: **marjie@maine.rr.com**

Historic Weaving Archive Volume 1. \$15

Historic Weaving Archive Volume 2. \$15

Historic Weaving Archive Volume 3. \$15

Historic Weaving Archive Volume 4. \$15

Historic Weaving Archive Volume 5. \$15

The following CDs are available from *Handweaving.net*:

<http://www.handweaving.net/Store.aspx>

Historic Weaving Archive Volume 6. \$15

Historic Weaving Archive Volume 7. \$15

Historic Weaving Archive Volume 8. \$15

Historic Weaving Archive Volume 9. \$15

Historic Weaving Archive Volume 10. \$15

Weaving Drafts and Supplementary Material

The following CDs are available from *Handweaving.net*:

<http://www.handweaving.net/Store.aspx>

Thomas Ashenhurst Drafts and Weaving Books. \$30

Ralph E. Griswold Drafts. \$20

Morath, Posselt, Petzold, ICS Drafts and Weaving Material. \$25

Donat Large Book of Textile Designs Drafts and Original Book. \$39.95 (sale price)

Oelsner, Fressinet, Wood / Pennington Drafts and Weaving Material. \$25 (sale price)

Needle and Bobbin Club Publications

The following CD is available from *Handweaving.net*:

<http://www.handweaving.net/Store.aspx>

Needle and Bobbin Club Bulletins and Articles. \$15

Lace Documents

The following CDs are available from Tess Parrish: Tess1929@aol.com

Historic Lace Archive Volume 1. \$10

Historic Lace Archive Volume 2. \$10

Historic Lace Archive Volume 3. \$10

Historic Lace Archive Volume 4. \$10

Web Links

1. Ralph E. Griswold, "Exploring the Website, Part 3: Books and Monographs", *Webside 4*, February 2005, pages 2-3:

<http://www.cs.arizona.edu/patterns/weaving/periodicals/webside04.pdf>

2. *Adobe Reader*:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

3. *Center for Research Libraries*:

<http://www.crl.uchicago.edu/>

4. The Library of Congress: *American Memory*:

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>

5. *The Making of America* at Cornell University:

<http://cdl.library.cornell.edu/moa/>

6. *The Making of America* at the University of Michigan:

<http://www.hti.umich.edu/m/moagrp/>

7. *Drafts from Collection: A Manual of Weave Construction*:

<http://handweaving.net/PatternBook.aspx?BOOKID=44>

8. *Weaving Gallery*:

<http://www.handweaving.net/GalleryList.aspx>