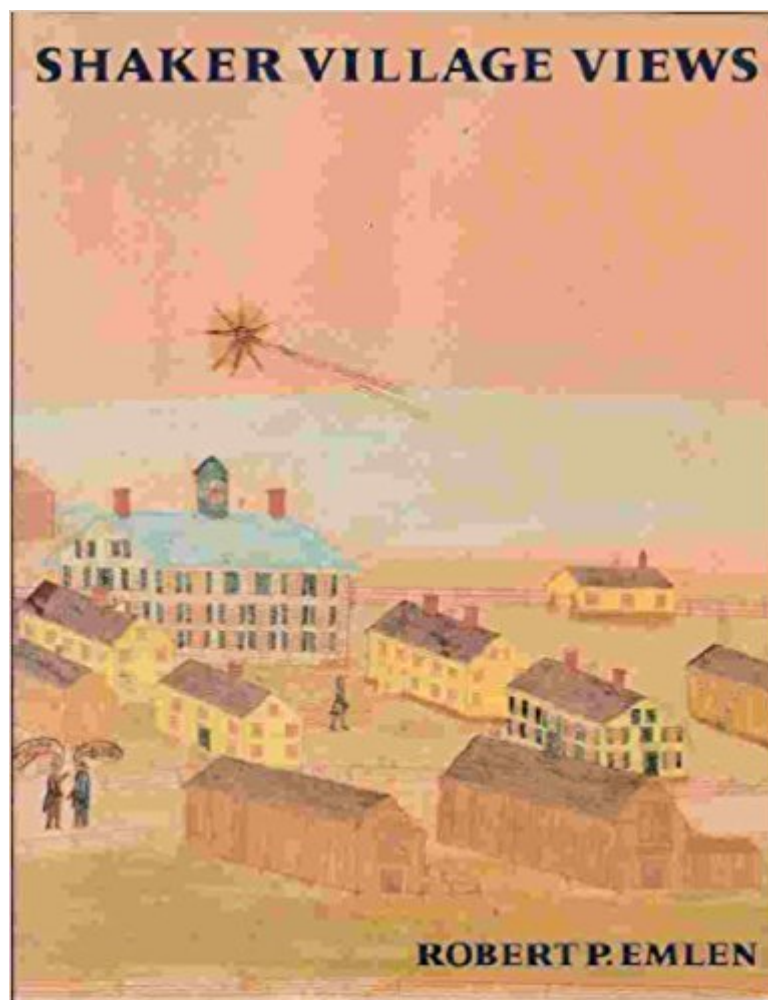




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SHAKER VILLAGE VIEWS: Illustrated Maps And Landscape Drawings By Shaker Artists Of The Nineteenth Century



Synopsis

A groundbreaking work on all known Shaker village drawings, revealing their historical and artistic significance.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Interest in the material culture created by Shakers, a communal and celibate Christian sect founded in the United States at the end of the 18th century, runs high. Record-setting prices of antique Shaker objects are one indicator of intense fascination. Sprigg and Emlen, both Shaker experts, have chosen to discuss their subject matter in contrasting formats suited to different audiences. In *Shaker*, Sprigg has written and Larkin has designed an art book that surveys lifestyles and products. Although the introductory text and captions are sound and informative, the color photographs shot at Shaker villages and museums rank as the main draw of this handsome volume. Emlen's offering is more academic. He focuses on one area of "art," maps and landscape drawings created by the Shakers to record their progress and to inform far-flung communities about each other. Emlen explores the reasons why the renderings were made, who produced them, why they look the way they do, and what aspects of Shaker culture they reveal. Detailed footnotes accompany the thorough text. *Shaker Village Views* is for those with a scholarly interest in cartography, community planning, architectural history, and Shaker history. The two volumes are highly recommended for their respective audiences. Kathleen Eagen Johnson, *Sleepy Hollow Restorations*, Tarrytown, N.Y. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to

an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

8 1/2 x 11 trim. 148 illus. (16 color). LC 86-40393

The Shakers inventoried their communities in two-dimensional drawings. These were not the works of trained artists or draftsmen, but are examples of the works of the cultural tradition that brought us such useful items as the circular saw. In our world, where we hurry from one activity to the next, it is helpful to have an insight into another way of life, where hurry-sickness had not caught hold. The illustrations are beautiful. Mr. Emlen's commentary is scholarly and, at the same time, readable.

Insightful, clear, and well-structured analysis of Shaker Art. The author presents the information alongside beautiful Shaker images. A must-read for a good background in Shaker art, and in my opinion, the definitive work on the subject.

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