

HMONG HISTORY CENTER COLLECTIONS GUIDE



Hmong History Center and Library: A Program
of the Hmong Cultural Center of Minnesota
375 University Avenue W. Suite 204
Saint Paul, MN 55103



HMONG EMBROIDERY ROOM

Item Descriptions by Marlin Heise

paj ntaub, embroidered and reverse appliqué storycloth, animals and pond, tan border, 55x55cm

Tan gray white, tan/gray mountain borders; tan center (30x30cm) with embroidered animals and plants, pond, around gray (11x11cm) field with reverse appliqué tan corner steps, elephant track, white snails; white backing / unknown artist

paj ntaub, appliqué, burial cloth, red border, 50x54cm

Red black white green borders; red center monk's cloth (44x40cm) divided into 4 quarters with yellow red appliqué diamonds, red band on white; white backing / with masking tape text: Tia Lor 307-2 Burial piece, Not for Sale

paj ntaub, reverse appliqué, snails, houses, steps, fences, green border, 52x52cm

Green red white, green/red mountains borders; purple white embroidered fence border; green center (21x20cm) with white (with black embroidered dots) 4 corner and center pair of snails; 4 red houses with corner steps; rust white embroidered pinwheels; white backing / unknown artist

paj ntaub, reverse appliqué, elephant track, ram's horns, blue border, 42x42cm

Blue red white, green/red mountains borders; blue center (20x20cm) with white corner bracket, 4-channel red elephant track and 4 center ram's horns; white rust embroidered pinwheels; white backing / unknown artist

paj ntaub, embroidered storycloth, farm work, gray border, 127x129cm

Gray brown white, gray/brown mountains borders, 2 bands with 52 chain stitched snails (orange purple, or blue green); gray center (50x53cm) with 3 Hmong men and 5 Hmong Xieng Khouang women carrying water or teapot, feeding pigs and chickens, grinding corn, pounding rice; white backing / unknown artist

paj ntaub, reverse appliqué, leaves, hearts, purple border, 124x177cm

Black white purple, black/purple mountains borders; black center (61x114cm) with 8 designs (2 rows of 4) of 4 purple hearts with corner leaves (some with orange or white embroidered seed?); elaborate white steps at center point of each heart; scattered white purple appliqué diamonds; row of 12 snails between 2 rows of 4 designs); white backing / unknown artist

**paj ntaub, embroidered storycloth, Secret War, tan border,
148x100cm**

Tan gray white, gray/tan mountains borders; tan center (97x51cm) with corn and rice harvest, Hmong men in foxholes, people escaping down a trail, airplanes bombing a village, green soldiers (North Vietnamese?) pounding Hmong children in a rice mill, soldiers bayoneting or shooting blindfolded Hmong men, escape to the Mekong River, blowing up inner tubes, green soldiers on land and in a boat shooting escapees, Thai police, camp barracks, swearing in, buses, and people leaving with baggage; white backing / unknown artist

**paj ntaub, embroidered storycloth, tiger dab neeg, blue border,
119x90cm**

Dark blue white border; dark blue center (86x58cm) with 23 male and 22 female Hmong in thin chain stitch design, with activities of top spinning, grinding corn, pounding rice, feeding pigs, shooting a tiger that is about to eat a man, praying at a potted flower, harvest or wedding procession with rifles, harvesting rice, man riding a brown horse, monkey riding a black cow (?), orange/black rooster, silver pheasant, orange/yellow owl, brown deer, other animals, mountains and plants / with masking tape label: Property of Southeast Asian Ministry; unknown artist

paj ntaub, embroidered storycloth, farmer dab neeg, blue border, 81x88cm

Blue gray white, blue/gray mountains border; blue center (46x52cm) with embroidered farmer with big hat cutting down and burning trees, planting rice and corn, but then does not taking care of them. The grass hits them so the grains go to the farmer to complain, who will come back in 7 days. A tiger, wild cat, gopher, cow, fox, and chicken visited before the farmer returned to cut down the grass and make the grains happy enough to volunteer to come to his house when they are ripe, so he must build a house for them. He is lazy, and the grains find no house ready, so since then the farmer must go to the field to harvest grain; white backing / unknown artist

paj ntaub, cross-stitch, bird's wings, black border, 85x82cm

Black yellow green, green/yellow/red/black mountains with embroidered flowers appliquéd to red band; black center (40x43cm) with 11x11 multicolor birds wing designs; white yellow green floral backing / unknown artist