Acknowledgments

As stated in the first edition of this book, I am greatly indebted to the late Dr. Frederick Lewton, whose interest in the history of the sewing machine initiated the collecting of information by the Smithsonian Institution's Division of Textiles; to the Singer Manufacturing Company for their gift of an excellent collection of 19th-century sewing machines; and to The Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village for having permitted me to study their collection.

For this edition, I would also like to acknowledge the supportive efforts of the entire staff of the Division of Textiles, but most especially to Julia Fiechter and Cynthia Cunningham for their tireless hours and efforts. I also wish to express my appreciation for the clerical assistance I received from the Department of Applied Arts; the photographic work of the Smithsonian Office of Printing and Photographic Services; the watchful eyes of a sympathetic editor, Louise Hesek; and for an energetic summer volunteer, Anne Hoke, who wrestled with heavy sewing machines and juggled an endless number of cards.

I would also like to acknowledge the many hundreds of interested owners and collectors of sewing machines and sewing-machine history both in the United States and abroad who have written to me for and with information about their sewing machines since the first printing of The Invention of the Sewing Machine in 1968. It has been this never-ending tide of interest that encouraged me to expand this work.

Grace Rogers Cooper
Curator of Textiles

Washington, D.C.
March 1976