



### Alabama Album

Reprinted with permission from the catalog *ALABAMA QUILTS*. Photo courtesy Birmingham Museum of Art

"According to family history, this magnificent album quilt was made by the 'ladies of Greene and Hale Counties and presented to Mr Lewis Lanford in 1872 in appreciation for his untiring efforts in protecting them and their children during the Reconstruction Era. 'Further' each lady made a square of her own design using the scraps of material on hand since no one was able to buy anything, and signed her name or initials. Then they met and did the quilting.'

"Sometimes the number of stars included in a flag gives a clue about its date. The flag, however, bears thirty stars, indicating a date between 1850 and 1858, which conflicts with the oral history. The 1880 Census tends to support the family history, listing Lewis Lanford of Greene County as a farmer, born in Alabama in 1844."