

summer 1983. Photos courtesy of Pat Cox and Jeanette Hensley, story on back cover.



From top left: Donna Washburn at the Living History Farms, Edie Pigg at the LoL symposium in Chicago, Mike Wigg's bedroom, Mike Wigg standing by her mail box, Penny McMorris producer of QUILTING II series, Lucile Taylor with one of the quilts from her collection, Bettina Havig and Cuesta Benberry at the LoL symposium, "Birds" made by Lilhan Walker, Barbara Brackman tends her booth at the LoL symposium, a corner of Mike Wigg's living room, the back of Pat Cox and Berniece Enyeart at the LoL symposium, JG and Mike Wigg do some taping, another corner of Mike Wigg's living room.

TRAVELOGUE

by Joyce Gross

This past summer Jeanette Hensley and I took a week's tour around Iowa before going to the Land o' Lincoln symposium in Chicago. We landed at O'Hare airport, rented a car and were off on a quilt adventure.

The Amana Colonies were a fascinating place to spend the day. Most of our time was spent in the town of Amana where we spent hours in the Museum of Amana History. Another time we'll tell you more about the indigo blue textiles they manufactured. You will definitely want to go there when you are in Iowa attending their symposium next July. (See pg 16)

In Des Moines, "Mike" Wigg was a gracious hostess in her crammed-with-quilts home. Several of the photos on the inside back cover let you peek at some of her treasures. Mrs Hensley and I gave Mrs Wigg the unofficial title of "Queen of the Fabriholics" for we had never seen so much fabric in one home. We do, however, realize that most of us have our fabric hidden in various out of the way places instead of stacking it all in one closet. She also has a charming shop called "The Cabbage Patch"

We visited The Living History Farms where we met Donna Washburn and saw some of their large collection of quilts. Mary Barton has donated many of her quilts and many of them are out for viewing. All of their quilts have been catalogued and researched. They plan a large show at the time of the Ames symposium next year. You shouldn't miss it!

In Ames, Mary Barton was kind enough to share her treasures with us. She was featured in Penny McMorris' QUILTING II series which I was unable to see. I was overwhelmed and as near speechless as I can be, to see her careful and meticulous research

and organization. We were there three hours which flew by. She will have lots of her material at the Ames symposium.

From there we visited in Diagonal and Grinnell with Mrs Hensley's family. I had a hard time keeping track of her 32 first cousins and numerous aunts and uncles but they were warm and friendly so it didn't seem to matter.

Lucile and Ben Taylor are two of my favorite people. They live in a lovely old house in Fairfield and you can feel the warm loving spirit as you come through the door.

They had gone to the trouble of putting up one of Lillian Walker's lovely quilts which I had never seen. Lucile and Ben had been close friends of Lillian Walker's who was an exceptional quilt designer in the '30s and '40s (See JOURNAL Vol 4 #1)

Mrs Hensley and I ran back and forth from one room where they were showing quilts from their collection to another room where she had Mrs Walker's patterns, etc. It was a fabulous day which was topped off when they gave me one of Mrs Walker's patterns!

On the way back to Chicago we stopped at the "Wooden Wheel" in Kalona and drooled at (not on) their quilts. I was gradually losing my voice and I could only hope it was resting in amongst all those lovely quilts I saw.

The Land o' Lincoln Symposium was one of the best in a long line of great quilt gatherings. Marian Huyck and her committee should be congratulated for recognizing that some of us are as interested in quilt history as others are in making quilts.

photos on inside cover



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