



## ERMATINGER HOUSE

by Patricia Gill

*Patricia Gill is editor of  
the MINNESOTA QUILTERS NEWS.*

Visiting the Ermatinger Old Stone House in Sault St Marie, Ontario, I noticed this rather unusual quilt design. Made about 150 years ago the lovely old quilt, in mint condition, appeared to be a tulip and a ball or a tulip and balloon design. Needless to say, I just had to get a photograph of it, but when I moved in for a closeup, I realized that time had changed the colors of the pretty quilt. Only the deep orange and reddish brown and cream remained. Originally there had been a very soft yellow pattern on each side of the ball pattern, Those, faded to cream applique pieces, had formed the outer petals of a slightly different pattern, and over the years the soft yellow had blended in with the unbleached muslin. Thus the change of design had taken place. The quilting pattern gave no indication that there had once been a different design as the quilting went in an all over saucer pattern and not in the outline style as often happens nowadays.

I really was very excited with the discovery.

The Ermatinger House was built in 1814 by Charles Oakes Ermatinger, a partner in the Northwest Fur Trading Co for his wife, Charlotte, daughter of Catawabeta, chief of the Ojibway. It was the first stone house in that area of Canada.

*The article is reprinted with permission of  
the MINNESOTA QUILTERS NEWS. It appeared first  
in the Oct '82 issue.*

Dear Quilter

I would like to thank each and every one who voted for me at the FESTIVAL OF QUILTS '83 AT SANTA ROSA, Calif thus enabling me to win 1st place in the "Viewer's Choice". Yes, yes, sometimes dreams really do come true! Thank you!

Sincerely

Lillian Holman

#18 Dawn at Napa Valley