

STATE HISTORICAL QUILT PROJECTS

TEXAS SESQUICENTENNIAL QUILT ASSOCIATION

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Texas Sesquicentennial Quilt Assoc was founded by Karey Bresenhan, Nancy Puentes and Suzanne Yabsley to spotlight women and their role in the history of Texas through their quilts for the Sesquicentennial year of 1986. Ms Bresenhan and Ms Puentes have toured the state during 27 locally sponsored Quilt Days to photograph and document over 3500 quilts. Other Quilt Days have been held by women in LaPryor, Del Rio and Abilene in conjunction with this project. Jonathon Holstein, Julie Silber and Cecilia Steinfeldt, well known quilt authorities, selected the 25 quilts for the exhibit, "Lone Stars: A Legacy of Texas Quilts 1836-1936." The quilts, all made in Texas prior to 1936, will tour Texas museums during 1986-87. The exhibit will open in Austin with a special larger exhibit of 75 quilts for a Quilt Appreciation Week.

MISSOURI HERITAGE QUILT PROJECT

contact: Bettina Havig, Project Director
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The Missouri Project under the sponsorship of Silver Dollar City culminated the year's search and documentation of quilts with a spectacular exhibit of 40 quilts on May 4 in Silver Dollar City.

The exhibit will travel.

Schedule

Aug 3-18: Kansas City, Missouri
Crown Center-Exhibition Hall

Aug 30-Sept 8: St Genevieve, Missouri
Old School Museum

The exhibition catalog will be available Aug 15, 1985. Contact Ms Havig.

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QUILT PROJECT IN NORTH CAROLINA

For information on the development of the quilt project in North Carolina write Ruth Roberson, 3406 Ogburn Ct, Durham N C 27705

THE SAGA OF ONE QUILT PATTERN

by Cuesta Benberry

Cuesta Benberry is no stranger to our readers either as an author or a feature story. (JOURNAL #23) This article was originally published in NIMBLE NEEDLE TREASURES, Fall '73 and is published with permission of Mrs Benberry.

Sears, Roebuck and Co in 1934 issued a quilt pattern booklet of the prize-winning quilts in the contest. The booklet was SEARS CENTURY OF PROGRESS IN QUILT MAKING. The prize winning quilt was offered in both kit form and perforated pattern form. It was renamed "Feathered Star" in this publication.

The prize winning quilt received reams of publicity during this time. Pictures and articles about it appeared in many newspapers and periodicals throughout the country. Other pattern sources featured it too. Capper's showed it in May 1934, and called

it "Quilt of the Century". A book QUILTING by Alice Beyer,*... displayed this quilt also.

In the late 1940's, this same quilt pattern was again issued by Mountain Mist. It was called "Star of the Bluegrass", perhaps in reference to Margaret Roger's Caden's home state of Kentucky.

Here we have in very vivid form a prime example of the name changes for a quilt pattern. From "Unknown Star" to "Feathered Star" to "Quilt of the Century" to "Star of the Bluegrass" with perhaps a few other names in between, this pattern has acquired lasting fame. For this quilt as "Star of the Bluegrass" continued its winning ways. In 1952, it again won a \$1000 Grand Prize for the five women of the Middlebury Grange #139, New Haven Conn who made it for a National Quilt Contest. This quilt, too, was presented to the wife of the then President, Mrs Harry Truman. This then is the saga of one quilt pattern.

* See Bibliography pg 20