# QUILTERS' JOURNAL

NO. 28



ELEANOR ROOSEVELT receives the Century of Progress Quilt Contest Winner, "The Star of the Bluegrass" entered by Margaret Rogers Caden of Kentucky. The man on the right is unidentified. Today the whereabouts of this quilt is unknown. Photo courtesy Sears, Roebuck & Co.

# Now you can make this Quilt — judged the most beautiful in America!



Mountain Mist is delighted to present this outstanding pieced quilt design. The winning feature, without doubt, is its "trapunta" or padded quilting. Everyone knows that it is the quilting that contributes most to the beauty of any quilt. The "Star of the Bluegrass" is a simple pieced design and the trapunta is easy to do. The combination assures you a master-piece whether you are an expert quiltmaker or just a beginner. Completed, the quilt will be a tribute to your skill in needlework and a source of continued pride as it is admired for

years to come, by your children and theirs.

But remember, your lovely quilt cannot be re-quilted or refilled so be sure the filling you use is right. Be certain it is MOUNTAIN MIST, because only Mountain Mist gives you all these quilting advantages: It handles like cloth, lays smoothly, spreads evenly, does not stretch thin and is therefore always of even thickness. And it is really needle-easy because of the super-soft "Glazene" on both surfaces of the cotton. It is truly called "The Perfect Filling for Quilts."

Reprinted from McCALL NEEDLEWORK Fall/Winter 1948-49 with permission from Mountain Mist. The original ad was 4 columns by 12 1/2". Below this portion of the ad is a picture of the batting in a wrapper and a coupon advertising "A BRAND NEW, SPECIAL OFFER" "Send this coupon and 10 cents in coin and receive postpaid a printed pattern for Miss Caden's "Star of the Bluegrass" quilt with complete directions and all needed information including instructions for "Trapunta" Quilting. (Notice spelling of "Trapunta")

#### MARGARET ROGERS CADEN & MOUNTAIN MIST

by Joyce Gross

The prize winning quilt of the 1933 Century of Progress quilt contest was featured by pattern and kit companies in advertisements and catalogs for many years after the contest, but it wasn't until 1948 that the pattern "Star of the Bluegrass" was copyrighted by Mountain Mist (Stearns and Foster) as #100 and appeared in their ads and their pattern series. The company advertised the new pattern in McCALL'S NEE-DLEWORK F/W 1948 with a caption reading, "designed and made by Margaret Rogers Caden." (See inside front cover) On the batting wrapper pattern, the text refers to it as "an original design". The pattern was offered again in the Sum '49 issue with a different picture of the quilt.

The earliest batting wrapper in my collection is for pattern #23 "Turkey Tracks" with the @1931. It is approximately 18"x30". Printed on two sides, the outside is pastels with borders of the "Baby Block" pattern in pink, baby blue and white and 12 blocks of various patterns. A pattern with directions is printed on the inside in

Through the years the wrapper format has not changed drastically. About 1933 the company used stronger colors and the "Baby Blocks" changed to red, medium blue and white and the number of blocks increased to 16. After 1936, the wrappers measured 21" x 33". By 1939 the wrappers were showing four rows of five blocks. From time to time the

pictures of the blocks were changed.

Throughout the years Mountain Mist manufactured the batt wrappers the "Lone Star" remained the central figure. First it had one slightly smaller block on each side of it and other years there were two, but the "Lone Star" always had the place of honor. For sometime before the introduction of #100 "Star of the Bluegrass", #25 Grandmother's Flower Garden" was one of four blocks surrounding the "Lone Star". When the new star arrived #25 was bumped.

"Star of the Bluegrass" is now packaged in a plastic envelope with a colored photo of the quilt on the front for \$3.00. (offered originally for 10 cents) The package is now blue, green and white and the word "trapunta" has been corrected.

For additional information on Mountain Mist and Stearns & Foster see JOURNALS Winter 81 pg 7, Spring '81 pg 20 and Summer '81 pg 13. See also chart on pg 19. A.M.CADEN IS 1936 STORROWTON CONTEST WINNER From the 1936 Storrowton Contest Catalog

"A.M. Caden, 227 E Main St, Lexington Ky "
is listed as a prize winner in the "ModernHonorable Mention" Classification for her
entry "No 39, EIGHT POINT STAR" "especially
beautiful for its color scheme, the figured
print in the star harmonizing with the
plain apricot colored background. Effective
padded quilting."

Ed note: For additional information about the Storrowton Contest see JOURNAL Spr '81

> THE FARMER'S WIFE January, 1934

# \$1000.00 Prize Quilt

at the Century of Progress the "Star of the Blue Grass" made by Margaret Rogers Caden. Quilt pattern of star and design in stuffed quilting on blocks and border stamped on muslin. To order send \$2.00 to

A. M. CADEN, Lexington, Kentucky
Quilt Materials and Quilting.

From the collection of Wilene Smith

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

Can you help us find the answers?

- 1. What were the given names of the Caden sisters?
- 2. Can we find advertisements for Caden's shop, other than the one pictured above?
- 3. How long was the shop in existence?
- 4. Can you add to the list of quilts attributed to the Cadens?
- Do you know others, besides Mattie Black (see JOURNAL #27) who worked for them.

## **CONTEST WINNER NAME CHANGES**

The earliest published reference to the quilt entered by Miss Margaret Caden of Lexington, Kentucky in the Century of Progress Quilt Contest that is known at this time, appears to be 1934 when it was called by almost as many different names as were published.

The earliest references to the pattern according to Barbara Brackman's, ENCYCLO-

PEDIA OF PIECED QUILT PATTERNS VOLUME 8 are "Blazing Star" in JOSEPH DOYLE circa 1920s and "Star of the East" published in Carlie Sexton's OLD FASHIONED QUILTS in in 1928.

The chart below lists the name changes and published sources. For additional information see C Benberry's article (JOURNAL #27) and B Brackman's volume noted above.

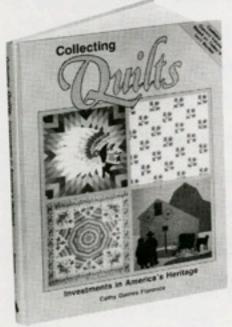
<u>Year</u> 1934	Quilt Name Feathered Star	Source SEARS CENTURY OF PROGRESS IN QUILTMAKING
1934	Unknown Star	QUILTING by Alice Beyers
Jan '34	Star of the Bluegrass	A.M. Caden ad in THE FARMER'S WIFE
Jan '34	8-Point Combination Feather	Aunt Martha's col from HOME FRIEND MAGAZINE
Feb '34	8-Point Combination Feather	Aunt Martha col from HOME FRIEND MAGAZINE
May 26'34	Quilt of the Century	CAPPERS WEEKLY
1948	Star of the Bluegrass	Mountain Mist Ad in McCALL NEEDLEWORK F/W 48-49
1949	Star of the Bluegrass	Mountain Mist ad in McCALL NEEDLEWORK Sum '49
1953	Star of the Bluegrass	McCALL NEEDLEWORK, S/S re Grange Contest
1971	Quilt of the Century	CAPPERS AUNT KATE'S BLUE RIBBON QUILTS
1971	Unknown Star	NIMBLE NEEDLE TREASURES excerpts from QUILTING by Alice Beyers
1973	Various names	NIMBLE NEEDLE TREASURES "Saga of One Quilt Pattern" by C Benberry
1981	Quilt of the Century	QNM "Chicago World's Fair" by B Brackman
1985	Star of the Bluegrass	COLLECTING QUILTS by Cathy Florence



#### CADEN SISTERS QUILT

"You didn't see too many silk and satin quilts made in the 1930's and it's extremely rare to find pairs of quilts of any type, let alone pairs of this caliber. There is trapunto work throughout the solid areas and border; the corners are mitered; the stitching is nine per inch. Via the extra tuck-in portion of fabric with selvedge attached, we know the fabric came from Beldings Department Store in Louis-ville, one of your "better" department stores." The quilts are attributed to the Caden Sisters, are 71" x 84" and valued by Ms Florence at \$2500-\$3000 each.

For another quilt from the Caden sisters see inside back cover.



# **Collecting Quilts:**

## Investments in America's Heritage

By Cathy Florence

This volume contains more than 350 full-color photographs of antique to contemporary quilts with market values. Quilts date from the late 1700's to 1984. A must reference book for anyone who has considered buying or selling a quilt.

Item #5206, 81/2"x11", Hardbound, 208 Pgs.

	Please Send Me:		
5206	copies of Collecting Quilts @\$20.95 (This includes postage & handling).	My check is enclosed for the Total Amount of \$,	
lame			
ddress			
ity		State Zip	



Celia Hyde (right) with unidentified persons. Her prize-winning quilt, "the Louisiana Rose" is shown in the middle. According to the pencil notation on the back, the photo was taken in Jan 1953.

Photo: Courtesy of Marjorie Malone

#### CENTURY OF PROGRESS PRIZE WINNER CELIA HYDE, Crowley, Louisiana 2nd prize winner Dallas Region by Barbara Brackman

Barbara Brackman sent a letter to the CROWLEY POST-SIGNAL asking for information about Celia P Hyde and her Century of Progress prize winning quilt. Marjorie Malone, in a letter dated Aug 27, 1982, wrote, "I am Mrs Hyde's niece. She gave me the quilt a number of years ago. It is one of my prized possessions...Her "Louisiana Rose" pattern quilt was one of the 30 displayed at the 1933 World's Fair. The following article is based on information provided by Mrs Malone.

Cecelia (Celia) Pardue was born March 14, 1881 near Downsville, Lincoln Parish, Louisiana. She graduated from Downsville High School, and later from Louisiana State Normal College, which is now Northwestern Louisiana University, in 1903.

She taught in a number of public schools in Louisiana for many years, the last one being in Crowley. In 1917 she entered and graduated from Tyler Commercial College in Higher Accounting and Secretarial Work. She was employed as secretary to the State Home Demonstration Agent of the State of Texas at Texas A&M University.

In Dec 1918 she married Dr Wendel Hyde and moved back to Crowley where she lived until 1969, when she moved to Welsh, Louisiana to live with a niece.

Mrs Hyde's hobbies, from early childhood, were all phases of needlework, embroideries, tatting, crocheting, quilt and quilting.

In the early 1950's she realized her long desire to paint in both oil and watercolor. Her favorite subjects for sketching and painting were flowers and birds since she a lover and close observer of nature.

She was always interested in the social, business and political activities of Crowley as well as the State of Louisiana.

Mrs Hyde died March 11, 1972 just three days before her 91st birthday in Welsh.

Ed note: Sarah Minor of Houston, Texas wrote to THE JOURNAL on Sept 7, 1985, "Mrs Celia Hyde was the aunt of a 'cousin-in-law' of mine. Her quilt was an original design 'Louisiana Rose' with a border of climbing roses. The quilt was done in 'Beautysheen' sateen...The quilting is perfectly beautiful."

## Louisiana Rose

## ... graced the boudoir of Southern belles

Isn't it impressive and strong and reliant!! This pattern takes its title from the state where it originated. Fashioned in soft, delicate shades of rose and green, it won a prize in the National Quilt Contest. Pride yourself on your "tiny fine stitches" . . . here's an applique design that will do them justice!!!

## Material Required

7 yards of white. 11/2 yards of green.

11/3 yards of light green.

2 yards of rose.

11/3 yards of pink.

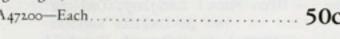
2 bolts of green bias tape for stems.

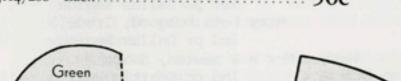
As block and border are made. (Center stem on border, 4 inches long on sides; 7 inches at corners.)

## Pillow Outfit to Match

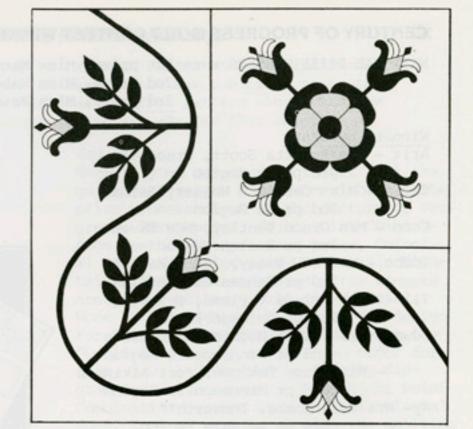
Complete pillow outfits to match this spread. Ready cut patches with top and back of good quality percale to make pillow about 18x18 inches. Order by number and state name of pattern desired. Not Prepaid. Shipping weight, 6 ounces.

25A47200-Each.....



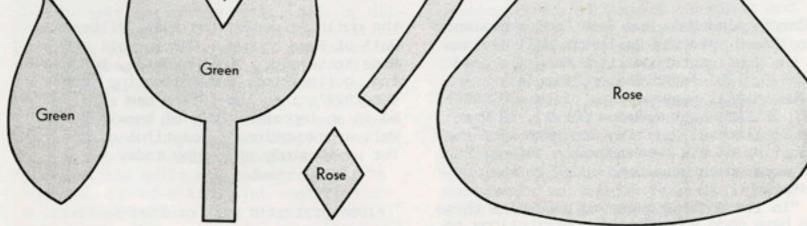


Pink



12-inch border, all sides. 10 pieced blocks. 10 plain blocks. Made as shown in small sketch. Rose Pink

Blocks finish 16 inches square.



Originally published in SEARS CENTURY OF QUILTMAKING @1934

#### CENTURY OF PROGRESS QUILT CONTEST WINNERS

NATIONAL PRIZE WINNERS were 1st prize, Miss Margaret Rogers Caden, Lexington Ky 2nd prize, Miss Mabel Langley, Dallas, Tex 3rd prize, Miss Frieda V Plume, Evanston, Ill

Winners by State Ariz - Mrs Rosetta Scott, Prescott 3rd pr LA Region Calif - Miss Carrie B Walker, Selma 2nd pr LA Region Conn - Mrs Grace Bentley, New Haven 2nd pr Boston Region Idaho - Mrs C W Veasy, Idaho Falls\*\* 3rd pr Kansas City Region Ill - Miss Frieda V Plume, Evanston 2nd pr Chicago Region Iowa - Mrs Isabel Hughes, Linn Grove 2nd pr Minneapolis Region - Miss Rose Tekippe, Fort Atkinson 3rd pr Minneapolis Region Ky- Mrs Dale Combs, Pebworth\*\* 1st pr Atlanta Region Miss Martha Steele, Beattyville 3rd pr Atlanta Region Miss Margaret R Caden, Lexington\* 1st pr Chicago Region Mrs Frances Klemenz, Louisville 3rd pr Chicago Region Mrs Louis Ward, Horse Cave 1st pr Memphis Region Mrs George Litsey, Leitchfield\*\* 2nd pr Memphis Region La - Mrs Celia P Hyde, Crowley \*\* 2nd pr Dallas Region Mrs G H Wilkie, Shreveport

Mass - Mrs M A Harvey, Springfield 1st pr Boston Region Minn - Miss Minnie Gau, Minneapolis 1st pr Minneapolis Region Mo - Miss Mary A Hilleker, Carl Junction 1st pr Kansas City Region Neb - Miss Emma Conry, Mascot 2nd pr Kansas City Region Nev - Mrs Ralph Matthews, Winnemuca\* 1st pr LA Region N Y - Mrs Mabel Hammond, Plattsburg 3rd pr Boston Region Miss Edith Snyder, Buffalo 3rd pr Philadelphia Region Ore - Mrs S J Campbell, Freewater 3rd pr Seattle Region Penn - Mrs Virgil Carpenter, Hyndman 1st pr Philadelphia Region Mrs G R Leitzel, Northumberland 2nd pr Philadelphia Region Tenn - Mrs Joe Wade, Knoxville 2nd pr Atlanta Region Tex - Miss Mabel Langley, Dallas 1st pr Dallas Region Miss Lois Hobgood, Iredell 3rd pr Dallas Region Wash - Mrs W E Newton, Seattle 2nd pr Seattle Region

\*See JOURNAL #27 for articles about these prizewinners.

3rd pr Memphis Region

\*\*See JOURNAL #28

Why don't you do some research about prizewinners from your state? The JOURNAL would appreciate information about the quilts and/or the prizewinners.

#### QUILTER'S HALL OF FAME

Carrie Alma Hall and Rose Good Kretsinger were named into The Quilter's Hall of Fame at the Continental Quilting Congress held Oct 3-5, 1985 in Arlington, Virginia

The initial presentation of the QUILTER'S HALL OF FAME was made on Oct 27, 1979 at the Continental Quilting Congress with the induction of six men and women. Since then ten more women have been added to the roster.

"In its ongoing quest to recognize those who have made substantive contributions to

the quilting world, the 1985 Quilter's Hall of Fame honors...Carrie Hall and Rose Kretsinger. Their writing, lecturing, quiltmaking, and collecting from the 1920's into the 1950's has resulted in an important body of knowledge as well as exceptional, beautiful quilts for us to study and enjoy today.\*

\*1985 OUILTER'S HALL OF FAME booklet.



## "Take My Advice"...says Mrs. George D. Litsey, Prominent Kentucky Quilt Authority ... "and Insist on MOUNTAIN MIST Quilting Cotton for Loveliest Quilting Results"

"I have been interested in quilts for years," writes Mrs. Litsey. "Ever since Mountain Mist Quilting Cotton came out, I have insisted on it for the filling of my quilts. I knew when I first heard of it that it would bring an amazing improvement over other types of quilt filling. Mrs. Blaine Wilson, of Travellers Rest, Kentucky, who does the actual quilting of my tops for me, tells me that this filling is a great deal easier to use; and I know from experience that my MOUNTAIN Misr filled quilts wash perfectly, and have that evenly padded look that means so much to fine quilting. ¶ "As for Mountain Misr Quilt Patterns, I'll just say this: I have used eight of them so far, and have taken prizes with four of them. My 'Martha's Vineyard' was a Century of Progress prize-winner in 1933. I know that these fine patterns were a marvelous help to me in securing prize-winning results."-Mrs. George D. Litsey, Leitchfield, Kentucky.

Published with permission from the MOUNTAIN MIST BLUE BOOK OF FAMOUS QUILT DESIGNS @1935

## CENTURY OF PROGRESS PRIZE WINNER MRS. GEORGE LITSEY, Leitchfield, KY

2nd prize winner Memphis Region

Barbara Brackman wrote a letter to the LEITCHFIELD NEWS GAZETTE which was published August 30, 1982. The following article is based on correspondence resulting from Ms Brackman's letter.

Sept 30, 1982 letter from Mary Elizabeth (Mrs Fred J) Basham Leitchfield, Ky "...(my) sister "Lelia Ray Hahn said she had helped Mrs Litsey turn under and baste the edges of the grapes on the prize winning 'Martha's Vineyard' ... She made other beautiful guilts including the "Iris" "the Poinsetta", and the 'Dogwood' and many, many more.

"She was my mother's closest friend and also very close to my sister and me. She had a great personality being interested in everything and everybody. She served as Methodist Church organist for over 40 years, taught Sunday School and .. (served) as president of our Women's Club for 2 years.

"She never sat idle, but always had some lovely needlework on hands. She also hemstitched, embroidered, made tatting and crocheted, and of course knitted beautiful dresses, etc.

"She didn't quilt her own quilts, but... had a famous quilter in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky to do them."

Sept 1, 1982 letter from Margaret (Mrs A) Moorman, Leitchfield Ky.

"Your letter published in our local newspaper on Aug 30 caused me to have two telephone calls from long-time residents who

hoped I could give you information about our late resident, Mrs George Litsey, whose frienship was caused by our being neighbors for fifty years, but I cannot tell (you) where the special quilt is today.

"Mrs Litsey died in January 1964 and a public sale was held at her home, but her good quilts were not disposed of that day. One friend said that Mrs Litsey had promised to give the beautiful purple grape applique quilt...to a very special person, but I do not know ... who that is.

"Mrs Litsey was a lady of many talents. soprano voice and piano occupancy (sic) for local Methodist Church, her outgoing personality, her culinary art as well as as needlework, all gave wonderful grace and encouragement to our community from her arrival from (illegible) County as twenty year old bride in early 1900.

"I do know that she had the Mountain ladies of Kentucky to do actual quilting finish which cost about \$20.00 to \$30.00 a quilt back in late 1920s and 1930s...

Sept 13, 1982 letter from Mrs Moorman "Mrs Litsey was born in Brandenburg with name of Georgia Lee Helmsitter on June 22,1882, then married Rhea Armstrong in 1902 with first residence in Leitchfield next door to my laste husband. She and (her) first husband moved to her second and last family residence just three doors up on Walnut Street so my husband knew her a long period and well for they both loved music and were blessed by good voices which they shared through many years with community.



Photo taken December 1944 Courtesy Mary Basham

...Mrs Litsey told a dear friend that she planned to put in her will a bequest for four quilts to be for her, her sister and two cousins but no word ever reached them that the will of Mrs Litsey contained such a bequest. Mrs Litsey died in January 1964 and a public sale was held later in the year, so no one seems to know for sure just who did get the prize-winning quilt..."

Sept 2, 1982 letter from Lyda (Mrs E E) McMullin of Rivermines, Missouri

"...Forty eight years ago when I moved to Leitchfield, Mrs Litsey was my Sunday School Teacher in the Methodist Church. She and my husband had their classes in one large room with only a curtain between them. She taught the women and he the men. She was affectionately called Miss Georgia and when referring to them it was "George and Georgia."

"Mr Litsey was her second husband. Both were well-known and popular in the church and community. Her first husband (Armstrong) died with cancer in the late twenties. She spent many hours in serving her church, clubs and was active in politics. She had charge of the church music for many years and he sang in the choir. He was a lawyer in Leitchfield all his life."

Sept 11, 1982 letter from E E McMullin
"It is believed that the prize quilt
went to Ohio to a niece(but) both in that
family are now dead. Where the quilt went
from there is not known by any of the
people we talked to."

## DOUBLE BEAUTY FOR QUILTS MADE WITH THESE

Complete, Exclusive

## MOUNTAIN MIST PATTERNS

Too often, quilt makers get patterns which give only the sketchiest of sewing directions and no quilting guide at all. After a lot of unnecessarily hard work, they quilt the top with an inappropriate design, and lose half of the potential beauty of the quilt.

But Mountain Mist Patterns make every bit of your work count, and save you endless time and labor, too. Nothing is left out of a Mountain Mist Pattern. Even the most inexpert person can make a beautiful quilt with one of these patterns. She'll waste no time and money because of miscalculation of cloth. There is no need to calculate at all, because every Mountain Mist Pattern has printed on it the exact yardage required of each color of cloth. It also gives you an exact full-size reproduction of each piece, and tells you how to make your marking guides, and how many of each piece to cut out.

The next step tells how to piece or applique each block; how to assemble the blocks; how to make the border, and how to fit border and assembled blocks together.

But it's after you've pieced or appliqued the top that you realize the extra value in MOUNTAIN MIST Patterns. For with each pattern, there is a detailed guide to quilting—a special quilting plan that will bring out the greatest beauty of each individual quilt top. Full-size diagrams are given for any fancy designs suggested. The whole pattern is printed on sturdy, tough paper.

On the next page we reproduce in miniature the quilt pattern of a famous 1933 World's Fair prize winner, "Martha's Vineyard." This beautiful quilt, also shown in the photograph, has not only won national recognition, it continues to repeat its winning performance by carrying off many blue ribbons at State and County Fairs. A modern,

original Mountain Mist design, its inspiration came from old New England. It has been praised and envied by millions! Yet, if you will look at the simple, clear instructions that are a part of its Mountain Mist Pattern, you'll see that it will not be hard for you, even if you are not an expert, to make this distinguished and beautiful quilt.

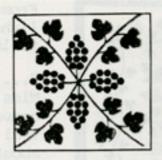
Mountain Mist Patterns are regularly sold for thirty-five cents each. However, on the underside of every Mountain Mist Quilting Cotton wrapper, there is printed a full-size regular Mountain Mist Pattern. Every roll of Mountain Mist you buy gives you a pattern for your next quilt. There is no choice of design with this free pattern, but you receive with it a regular Mountain Mist wrapper coupon, which enables you to send to us for any one pattern of the series at a special price of one wrapper coupon and twenty cents for this thirty-five-cent pattern.

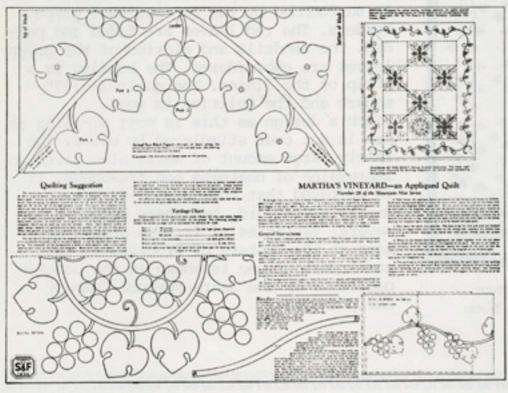
Regular price of patterns: 20c each with one Mountain Mist Coupon, or 35c each without the Coupon. Order from

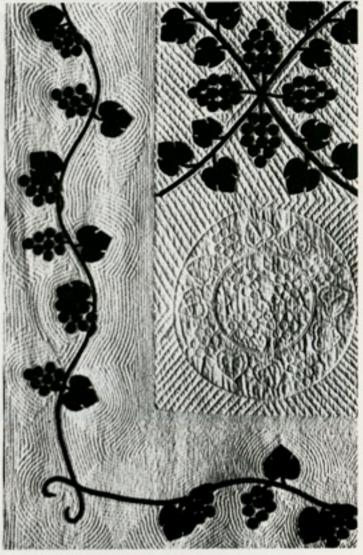
THE STEARNS & FOSTER COMPANY
Lockland, Cincinnati, Ohio

#### MARTHA'S VINEYARD

Unique and graceful, this is exclusively a MOUNTAIN MIST Pattern. Twice honored at the World's Fair (reso quilts made from this pattern were country-wide prize-winners), you can make it the honored "best" quilt of your own household. Full instructions come with Pattern "28," which is shown in miniature below. Applique.







### "MARTHA'S VINEYARD" REFERENCES Compiled by Cuesta Benberry & Joyce Gross

The Same Pattern
Beyer, Alice QUILTING So Park Commissioners,
Chicago, @ 1934 pg 41

Bishop, Rob't QUILTS, COVERLETS & SAMPLERS
A Knopf, NY @1982 pg 163. Identification reads
"Maker & Location unknown.c 1920." Similar to
Mountain Mist patt with slight variation in
leaves and border quilting pattern different.

Haders, Phyllis THE WARNER'S GUIDE TO AMERICAN QUILTS Main St Press, NY @1981. pg 221. Identification reads "Knox County, TN c 1880". Similar to Mountain Mist patt with addition of leaves on vines at corners.

McCALL NEEDLEWORK, Ad for Mountain Mist #28
"Quilt Yourself a History" S/S 1970 pg 29

Mountain Mist (Stearns & Foster)patt #28 @1931
THE ROMANCE OF QUILTMAKING SALES cover @1933
THE MOUNTAIN MIST BLUE BOOK OF FAMOUS ... no
pagination (art re Mrs Litsey see pg 9-11)
patt & direction for quilt @1935
THE MOUNTAIN MIST BLUE BOOK OF QUILTS @1938
full pg color pg 27
PHOEBE EDWARD'S SCRAP BOOK OF QUILTS...@1945

pg 11, block & pix of quilt on bed THE 1957 MOUNTAIN MIST BLUE BOOK OF QUILTS pg 5 block @1956 Mountain Mist - continued THE MOUNTAIN MIST BLUE BOOK OF QUILTS pg 1 draped quilt @1962 ANYONE CAN QUILT by Phoebe Edwards, same illusstration as above. pg 17 @1975.

Robertson, Eliz Wells AMERICAN QUILTS, The Studio Publ. NY @1948. Mountain Mist photo

Safford, Carlton & Rob't Bishop AMERICA'S QUILTS COVERLETS E P Dutton, @1972 pg 203. Slight variation of Mountain Mist Patt.

SEARS CATALOG (no date) pg 219, adv "Martha's Vineyard" #D 25E 5779. 21 cents per pkg

SEARS CENTURY OF PROGRESS IN QUILTMAKING CHICAGO, @1934 pg 13. Mountain Mist patt variation

Variations to "Martha's Vineyard" pattern Dunton, Dr Wm Rush, OLD QUILTS, publ by Catonsville, Md @1946.

COUNTRY GENTLEMAN MAGAZINE "Grape" #1216
"Two Easy Quilts" by Velma Mackay Paul.

Compiled by Cuesta Benberry and Joyce Gross @ 1985.



"Possibly a Framed Medallion but better known as Martha's Vineyard. Made by Miss Isabel Jordan in 1868."

From OLD QUILTS by Wm Rush Dunton Jr, published by author. Catonsville, Md @1946. pl 100 & pg 242 & 243.

"... (Martha's Vineyard) was made in 1868 by Miss Isabel Jordan of Abbeys- ville, S.C. A conventionalized grape design forms the central panel with rather broad white bands about it, thus emphasizing the design. This is surrounded by two conventional grape borders. The red leaves are faded and padded. The tendrils and midribs of the green leaves are embroidered. The binding is a strip of the lining. The quilt is 7'7" square and the quilting is good. "Such a design as this is most pleasing as one is not over stimulated by color. The fairly large amount of white also gives an impression of neatness and freshness. It is believed that this design is known as Martha's Vineyard, but there seems to be several varieties of it. Two others were seen at the Century of Progress in 1933, and a part of one is shown in the booklet published by the Sears-Roebuck Company early in 1934.

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# A CENTURY OF PROGRESS PRIZE WINNER "AUTUMN LEAVES"

by Cuesta Benberry

I feel it is important to gather the information about the patterns and the prize winners but I think it is important to also include information about the kits and patterns because I think more than most widely publicized contests, the Century of Progress had an enormous effect on quilts in America long after the contest and the fair closed. People did make those prize winning quilts from patterns available from various sources, both as paper patterns and as kits. See pg 15 for the original prize winner.

Below are listed patterns that are the same and variations that are similar.

The Same Pattern

Sears CENTURY OF PROGRESS pg 18
NANCY CABOT QUILT COLUMN Oct 15, 1933
MANDY'S FAVORITE PATTERNS by Lillian O'
Rourke. Mirtie McCormick, Streator, Ill\*
QUILTERS'JOURNAL Sum '81 pg 20,21. reprint
of Sears CENTURY OF PROGRESS.

Variations

CATALOG OF QUILTS & QUILTING (supp catalog) n d \*ca late 1920s) publ Ladies Art Co "Colored Leaves & Vines" #8002.

DENVER ART MUSEUM QUILT COLLECTION @1966 "Autumn Leaves" by Charlotte Jane Whitehill pg 38

DENVER ART MUSEUM QUILTS & COVERLETS @1974
"Autumn Leaves" by Charlotte Jane Whitehill #71,#72

QUILTER'S CHOICE publ Univ of Kansas @1979 "Autumn Leaves" by Emma B Roessler pg 77

QUILTERS' JOURNAL Sum '81 reprint of DEN-VER ART MUSEUM QUILTS & COVERLETS. pg 20

\*Mirtie McCormick sold remnant packages and with a purchase for 20 cents additional she sold a pattern book with a pattern "Autumn Leaves" obviously copied from Sears CENTURY OF PROGRESS...even to a not too subtle rearranging of the text. She ran ads in MOD-ERN PRISCILLA and NEEDLECRAFT-HOME ARTS in 1920s and 1930s.

#### AUNT MARTHA'S QUILT COLUMN from THE HOME FRIEND MAGAZINE

Aunt Martha s Quilt Column regularly appeared in THE HOME FRIEND MAGAZINE (published in Kansas City, Mo). THE QUILT FAIR COMES TO YOU by Aunt Martha was published prior to the Century of Progress contest. Cuesta Benberry has the free pattern sheet with the two Chicago contest winner's patterns. Evidently these are ads for that sheet.

# Aunt Martha's Quilt Fair

By Aunt Martha



Jan 1934

Here is your opportunity to get just the quilt designs you have been wishing - the prize winners shown at the Century of Progress. First prize, Eight Point Combination Feather Star; second prize, Colonial Rose; and third prize Delectable Mountains. The first and third prize winners are pieced quilts, while the Colonial Rose is a delightful applique. The design for Delectable Mountains is given in the "Quilt Fair" book, and with an order for this, I will give you the cutting diagram and color scheme for the Eight Point Combination Feather Star and the Colonial Rose, free as well as showing the quilting of these.

Feb 1934

Did you Get Your Free Quilt Directions?

Last month I offered to include the prize winning quilt designs from the Century of Progress, free with an order for a copy of "The Quilt Fair Comes to You." This has been so outstandingly popular that I am going to continue this offer for another month.

The first prize winning quilt was the Eight Point Combination Feathered Star; a pieced quilt as shown here. This was carried out in shades of green and harmonizing print. Other colors and prints would be equally as pleasing, and...star designs are always popular and easy to make...



CENTURY OF PROGRESS "WINNER" FOR SALE

Several friends sent copies of a review (MAINE ANTIQUE DIGEST Jul '85) of THE LAND OF LIBERTY ANTIQUE SHOW held at Valley Forge Penn. One of the items on sale was a quilt described: "Depicting covered wagons and the settling of the West...made by Mildred Jacob Chappel...in Jerseyville, Ill..." according to Pat Garthoeffner (co-owner Toy Box Antiques, Wentzville, Mo). "In 1933, it won first prize in the Sears Roebuck mail order quilt contest, which had 25,000 entries. That was the last time it was ever shown. It (was)...priced at \$38,000. An ad for the Toy Box Antiques pictured two blocks of the quilt and a description: "A fabulous, one-of-a-kind mint condition quilt will be offered for sale for the first time... This extraordinary quilt entitled "The Settling of the West' took a year and a half to make...was completed in 1932 and was a determined 'Labor of Love' for the American wild west."

A review (ANTIQUE MARKET TABLOID no date) carried a picture of the quilt and a description, "the early 1920s artifact was designed and executed by Mildred D Chappell. Brightly colored appliqued figures of settlers, Indians, mountains, covered wagons, buffalo, bear...fill the ...quilt in scenes such as 'Lewis and Clark at Three Forks'. Such tableaux were accompanied by embroidered titles or by aphorisms, such as the one that praises the pioneer as "virile to risk...kindly withal...indomitable,unafraid."

## THE STEARNS & FOSTER CO.

COTTON WADDING . COTTON BATTING . MATTRESSES

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NEW YORK STIDLES DETHOLF PHILIPPING

CABLE ADDRESS "STEARNFOST"

A B.C STE EDITION YOPP'S CODE

October 14, 1933

Mrs. Ralph M. Matthews 71 Bell St. Winnemucca, Nev.

Dear Mrs. Matthews:

Being much interested in quilts, several members of our company, who visited the World's Fair this Summer, were naturally delighted with the beauty of the prize-winning quilts in the Sears Roebuck exhibit. We have been manufacturing cotton batting for more than eighty years, and the recent revival in the guilt making art has encouraged us to improve our product to meet modern requirements.

We wrote Miss Caden of Lexington, Ky., the winner of the Grand National Award, and were more than pleased to learn from her that her quilt was filled with our "White Rose" brand of cotton batting. This information was most pleasing, and has tempted us to write to the other wirmers to learn if they had used any one of our several brands of quilt fillings: Mountain Mist, White Rose, Pearl, Princess and Manchu.

The Mountain Mist is the brand which we advertise and which we believe to be the most practical on the market, and to promote its sale, we publish and advertise the Mountain Mist quilt patterns. We ourselves have taken great pride in the fact that three of the thirty quilts exhibited in Chicago were of our design, namely, two quilts made from our Martha's Vineyard pattern and one guilt made from our New York Beauty pattern.

Probably you have received much correspondence since you have received the award for your guilt, but if it is not asking too much, we would appreciate hearing from you as to the kind of filling you used in your quilt. Enclosed, you will find a stamped envelop for your reply, and under separate cover we are sending you some of our literature which we hope you will find interesting.

Very truly yours,

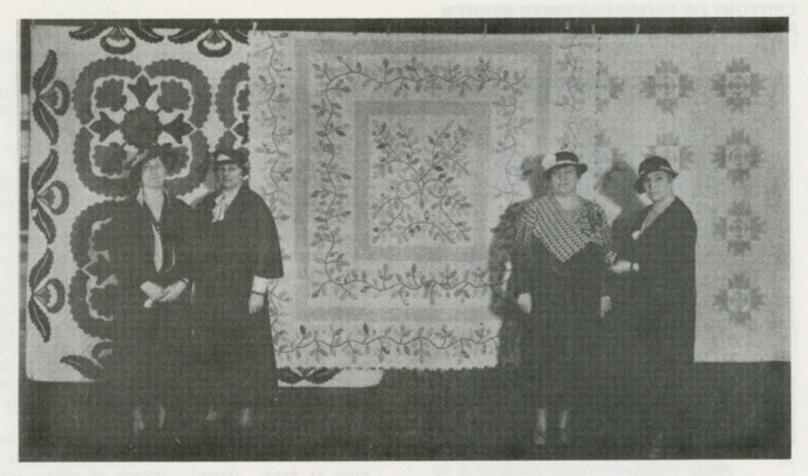
THE STEAMNS & FOSTER CO.

Sales Manager

Putnam Hooker Batting Dept.

FJH:LA

ALL AGREEMENTS ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO FIRES. STRIKE'S AND OTHER CON INGUNCIES BEYOND OUR CONTROL
All quotations, subject to immediate acceptance only



Picture and article were published originally in the KANSAS CITY STAR (no date) From the collection of Wilene Smith.

PRIZE WINNING QUILTS OF MORE THAN 1,000 SUBMITTED TO THE SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO QUILT CONTEST.

"These quilts will be sent to the Century of Progress exposition and the winning quilt of the nationwide contest will be given to Mrs Franklin D Roosevelt. The regional prize winning quilt, shown in the center, was made by Mary A Hilliker Carl Junction, Mo. It is in an autumn leaf pattern, and won \$200 for its owner. At the right is the second place winner (\$75.), property of Emma Contry of Mascot Neb. At the left is the third prize winner (\$25.) submitted by C W Veasy, Idaho Falls, Idaho. Standing before the quilts are the four Kansas City women who served as judges. Left to right are: Mrs John L McLaughlin, prominent in club and charity work; Mrs Charles M Bush, president of the Woman's City Club; Mrs Samuel W Sawyer, president Visiting Nurses' Association; and Mrs W B Nickels, president of the Needlework Guild.

#### **CENTURY OF PROGRESS PRIZE WINNER**

MRS. C.W. VEASY, Idaho Falls, Idaho 3rd prize winner Kansas City Region

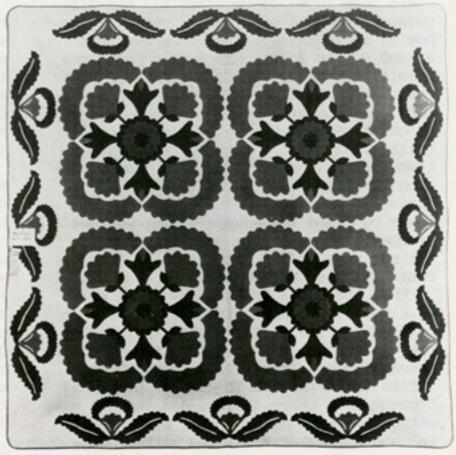


Photo courtesy Sears Roebuck & Co

## CENTURY OF PROGRESS PRIZE WINNER MRS. DALE COMBS, Pebworth, Ky

1st prize winner Atlanta Region

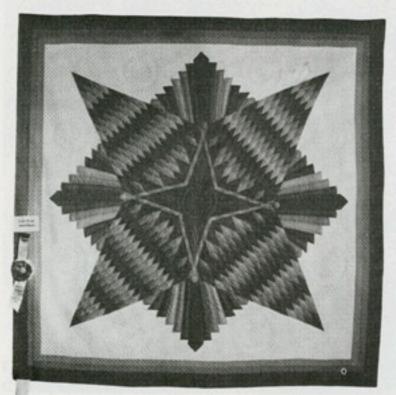


Photo courtesy Sears Roebuck & Co

"Quilts That Went to the County Fair" by Clara Belle Thompson and Margaret Lukes Wise. Originally published in THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN (no date)

Mrs Dale Combs of Pebworth Ky, has discovered a secret every woman wants to know: how to sell what you make when everyone around you is making the same thing. As a result, she heads up from her little mountain farmhouse a thriving quilt business. Like other mountain girls she had learned to quilt early but soon was making better quilts than most. The thought of making them for sale was natural when the Depression Thirties brought need for earning a living. All her neighbors had quilts of their own, and a roadside market was out of the question on her untraveled byway. Yet she knew in her bones that if people could only see her work they would buy.

Then she had a bright idea which was ...simplicity itself. Why not send one of favorite quilts to the county fair and ask the officials to display it? The quilt traveled alone, for Mrs Combs could not afford the trip. But it did her proud; it brought back three orders. And that is how, without friends and fanfare, without capital and without credit, the little busiwas born. As soon as she heard of another fair, off went the quilt again.

Before long her quilts were being exhibited all over the state. The fairs were like a big showcase to her, where without cost except for postage and insurance, she could display her wares and attract the attention of people who never would have heard of Mrs Combs and her fine quilts.

Gig Prong...is one of the authentic old quilt patterns Mrs Combs uses in her thriving handmade-quilt business. Her quilts, exhibited at fairs, not only bring orders back to her...farm in the hills, but often win prizes. At one state fair she walked off with three first prizes - for best quilting, best design and best applique. Sometimes customers bought the quilts right from the fairground. Other times they would send the name of the design they wanted and Mrs Combs would make it. Still other times they just asked her to make a quilt, maybe telling the colors they liked best.

At first she sold the quilts for whatever they would bring. Then she...estimate(d) the time it took, (kept)...track of every inch of material and every ounce of thread ... (and) established the...prices: \$50. for the completed quilt if she supplied everything. \$20.,\$25., or \$30. if the customer supplied the désign and material...(depending) on intricacy of design and (if)...the quilt was for a double or single bed.

Inevitably with orders multiplying she needed help. That seemed no problem, since most of her neighboy women were also enthusiastic quiltmakers. Her first helper turned in a job that was less than acceptable, which at the time seemed a major disaster with a rush order at stake. But Mrs Combs learned two...lessons: never pay in advance and always see a sample.

"Old Fashioned Wedding Ring"...Design 844-CG and "Dove in the Window"...Design 845-CG are two...favorites...of Mrs Combs handed down in the families of the Kentucky mountains. A high point in her business was reached when a quilt that won her a \$200. prize was exhibited at the biggest fair of all, the Century of Progress in New York (sic. It brought in almost a hundred orders. When better times did away with the dire financial need that inspired her quilt business, Mrs Combs kept on for sake of the extras it made possible for her home and herself, and because of the wide horizon it opened out. You see, she (makes quilts) ...for "my friend in Tallahassee...my friend in Detroit...my friend in Providence."

## MOUNTAIN MIST® Series of Quilt Patterns "P" denotes Pieced ... "A" denotes Applique TUMBLING BLOCKS, P GUIDE POST, P ZIG-ZAG, P CORNUCOPIA, A LONE STAR, P CHANTICLEER (child's Quilt, A TREE OF PARADISE, P HALA TREE (Hawaiiam), A WINDBLOWN TULIP, P&A BASKET OF FLOWERS, P&A HARRISON ROSE, A CONVENTIONAL TULIP, A MOUNTAIN STAR, A JACOB'S LADDER, P SUNFLOWER, A QUILT FRAME BLUEPRINT IRIS, A PRINCESS FEATHER, A ACORN AND OAK LEAF, A THE WIND THAT STOLE MY LOVE, A NEW YORK BEAUTY, P QUILTED COUNTERPANE (All Quilted) OHIO ROSE, A DOUBLE WEDDING RING, P OLD FASHIONED ROSE, A TURKEY TRACKS, P DANCING DAFFODILS, A GRANDMOTHER'S FLOWER GARDEN, P ROSE TRELLIS, A TUMBLING BLOCKS, P. ROW 4 Quilt Blocks Center Block 21 22 23 24 25 GRANDMOTHER'S FLOWER GARDEN, P ROSE TRELLIS, A PENNSYLVANIA TULIP, P&A MARTHA'S VINEYARD, A DOGWOOD, A BOSTON COMMONS, P POMEGRANATE, A FEATHERED STAR, P BUNNIES (Baby Quilt), A BUTTERFLIES (Baby Quilt), A BUTTERFLIES (Baby Quilt), A HOMESPUN, P MORNING GLORY, A MARINER'S COMPASS, P&A SWEET PEAS, A CABIN-IN-THE-COTTON, P POINSETTIA, A VIRGINIA REEL, P TULIP BOWL, A Note! THERE IS A VALUAR PATTERN ON THE 39 31 32 33 TULIP BOWL A CROSS-STITCH GARDENS, P ROSE TREE, A HOLLYWOOD, P&A QUILTING COTTON ROSE TRÉE, A HOLLYWOOD, P&A WILD DUCK, A SNOWBOUND, P WATER LILLIES, A JACK O'LANTERN, P HOLLYHOCKS, A SHADOW TRAIL, P PAINTED POPPIES, A WHISPERING LEAVES, P O'RANGE BLOSSOMS, A TARGET, P CHERRY RIPE, A SCOTCH PLAID, P MAGNOLIA BLOOMS, A OLD MEXICO, P FRIENDSHIP PLUME, A JACK & JILL (Child's Quile), P FORGET ME-NOT, A BED OF PEONIES, P&A BERMUDA BLOSSOMS, A COUNTRY LANES, P TRUMPET VINES, A ROSES ARE RED, P ZINNIA BORDER, A NINE PATCH NOSEGAY, P&A SNOW ON THE MOUNTAIN, A STAR BRIGHT, P INDIAN SUMMER, A STARS OF ALABAMA, P IRISH CHAINS (Single, Double, Tipple), P FLORAL CAMEO, A IN ONE SHEET-FULL QUILT SIZE - 81 = 96 INCHES Form # @ Date ROW 1 Quilt Blocks **亚米亚州** 70 71 72 73 ROW 2 STARS OF ALABAMA, P IRISH CHAINS (Single. Double, Triple), P FLORAL CAMEO, A DRESEDEN PLATE, P FAN QUADRILLE, P DAISY CHAIN, A THE PALMS (Plosannab), P SAIL HO (Boy's Quilt), A BLUE BIRDS TO HAPPINESS, P APPLE BLOSSOMS, A MAPLE LEAF, P APRIL SHOWERS, A COUNTRY GARDENS, P PATRIOT'S PRIDE, P SNOW CRYSTALS, P MAY BASKET, A HORN OF PLENTY, P&A IRIS BED, A WINGS OVER ALL, P&A SEA WHOS TO GLORY, P&A CRAZY PIECES, P CROSSWORD PUZZLE, P SPRING WREATH, A ODDS AND ENDS, P RING AROUND THE POSIES, A TWINKLING STARS, P DOUBLE WEDDING BANDS, P SUMMER WREATH, A WISHING WELL, P STAR OF THE BLUEGRASS, P OKLAHOMA, DOGWOOD, P&A DEW DROP, A ROBBING PETER TO PAY PAUL, P CHERRY BLOSSOMS, A SUNBURST, P&A COLUMBINE, A Quilt 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 88 88 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 97 Blocks ROW 3 Quilt Blocks KOWHAI BLOSSOMS, A DIAMOND STAR, P DADDY HEX, A CARPENTER'S WHEEL, P SHOO FLY, P GREAT GRANDMOTHER'S QUILT, A PERIWINKLE, P ROSE OF SHARON, A PINWHEEL, P ANEMONE, A MULTICOLORED DIAMONDS, P MUSHBROOM (All Quilted) PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH, A SMALL FRY (Child's Quilt), P&A PINEAPPLE, P GRANDMOTHER'S ENGAGEMENT RING, P&A BROKEN STAR, P QUILTED COUNTERPANE (All Quilted) POPPY WREATH, A T-SQUARE, P DAHLIA, A HANGING GARDENS (All Quilted) 107 From THE MOUNTAIN MIST BLUE BOOK OF FAMOUS QUILT DESIGNS 121 @1935 110 122 Reprinted with permission 124 125

(All Quilted) THE DISCUS, P

116

#### MOUNTAIN MIST BATTING WRAPPER CHART

by Joyce Gross

Form #	@ Date	Size	Quilt Blocks Pictured	Center Block	Quilt Patt	Patt @ year
2X	1931	18"x30"	1)S,J,K 2)R,M,H 3)B,L,X 4)O,Y,A	E,F,G	Turkey Tracks #23	1931
31	1933	21"x28"	1)22,21,R,24 2)S,X,25,28 3)16,20,29,_* 4)23,34,30,P	K,F,31	Sweet Peas #37	1933
57	1936	21"x31"	1) 35,46,28,57 2) 55,42,24,36 3) 56,51,29,52 4) 62,35,77,_*	39,F,31	Orange Blossom #53	1935
67	1939	21"x33"	1) 23, X, 29, 30, 64 2) 66, 20, 53, 55, 31 3) 62, 35, 77, * 4) 67, A, 24, 60, 39 5) 47, 28, 34, P, R	21,F,25	Three Irish Chain #73	1939**
74	1940	21"x33"	1) 23, X, 29, 30, 64 2) 66, 20, 53, 73, 31 3) 62, 35, 42, * 4) 74, A, 24, 70, 39 5) 47, 28, 34, P, R	21,F,25	The Palms #77	1940
83	1943	21"x33"	1) 23, X, 29, 30, 64 2) 66, 20, 75, 73, 31 3) 62, 35, 42, * 4) 74, A, 24, 70, 39 5) 47, 28, 34, P, R	21 25 F 80 83	Odds & Ends #94	1945***
100	1949	21"x33"	1) 23, X, 29, 30, 64 2) 93, 20, 75, 76, 31 3) 92, 94, 25,* 4) 74, A, 24, 70, 39 5) 47, 28, 34, P, R	21 100+ F 80 83	Robbing Peter #103	no date****

<sup>\*</sup>Coupon for pattern is cut out.

The study of 100 batting wrappers reveals a number of patterns with different copyright dates have the same form number e.g. #51 with @1935 and #72 with @1939 both have "Form #67 @1939. Patt #85 with @1942 and #86 with @1942 both have Form #77A with @1941. Since the side with the form number is in color and apparently appears on all of the wrappings at a given time Wilene Smith's conclusion that this side was probably printed in quantity and the black and white pattern side printed when needed.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Pastel colors on outside

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Full color on outside

<sup>\*\*\*\* &</sup>quot;Phoebe Edwards Original Pattern" large signature & notation.

<sup>+</sup> Based on the material available this is the first time Star of the Bluegrass block appears on wrapper.