



## BETTY HAGERMAN

by Helen M. Ericson

Quilt lovers lost a dear friend and an inspiration Feb 5, 1986 with the passing of Betty Jean Hagerman (Baldwin City, Ks) Known for her self-published book *THE MEETING OF THE SUNBONNET CHILDREN* and the quilts of those designs, plus her lively talks, writings and workshops on all aspects of quilting.

Born in Linwood, Ks July 2, 1923 a daughter of Harry Jay and Elsie Mae Elder Hicks, she attended schools in Kansas City, Ks before attending the Univ of Kansas for two years.

After her marriage Dec 8, 1942 to Aubrey Hagerman, they lived on a dairy and grain farm in the Vinland community, north of Baldwin City. She worked for the Univ of Kansas for more than 25 years and was later employed at the Lawrence Paper company and by a Lawrence Ks attorney.

She began her first quilt at the age of 12 and finished it 36 years later. From then on, her traditional, pictorial and star medallion quilts went quicker. Her Douglas County Bicentennial Quilt was severely damaged in the GOOD HOUSEKEEPING Contest fire. At first she was told there was nothing left of it, but with determination and perserverance, she managed to get the damaged quilt back and completely restored it. It now hangs at Watkins Museum in Lawrence.

Mrs Hagerman was a Charter Member of Kaw Valley Quilters Guild and served as president and board member. She was also a member of the Kansas City Quilters Guild, the Douglas County Quilters Guild and a board member of the newly formed Kansas Quilters Organization whose purpose is to secure a museum for Kansas Quilts.

She began writing for the *BALDWIN LEDGER* as a guest but since Oct 5, 1978, she wrote regularly producing 22 lively articles a year under the title, "Let's Talk about Quilting". Her subjects were interviews with old or new quilters, problems and solutions, and area shows she attended. She traveled to as many as three quilt shows in a weekend with the only break at harvest time when she drove the grain truck.

Betty Hagerman's dream was a book in full color about the Carrie Hall blocks at the Spencer Museum. The dream began at the 1978 Kansas Quilt Symposium with Letha Rice's lecture on Carrie Hall and the display of the Hall quilt blocks. She co-authored, with me, the book entitled, *KANSAS QUILT SYMPOSIUM 1978* with the understanding the profits were to go to help finance the book. Unfortunately, snags with the publishers and others have delayed this, but finally it did look like her dream would be realized on the day of her death.

She was a person who was always current with her correspondence, even though she corresponded regularly with dozens through a monthly "Grapevine". She was always up to date on her scrapbooks and dataloguing all the patterns in the Ledger articles and magazines for the year.

For several years she planned and hung the Douglas County Quilt Show at the Watkins Community Museum in Lawrence. Plans are under way for another show this year. Funds generated by the quilt shows go to complete the Attic Textile Conservation Center in the museum. Donations to a memorial fund in her name can be made c/o Marge Ragle, 805 Ohio, Lawrence Ks 66044.

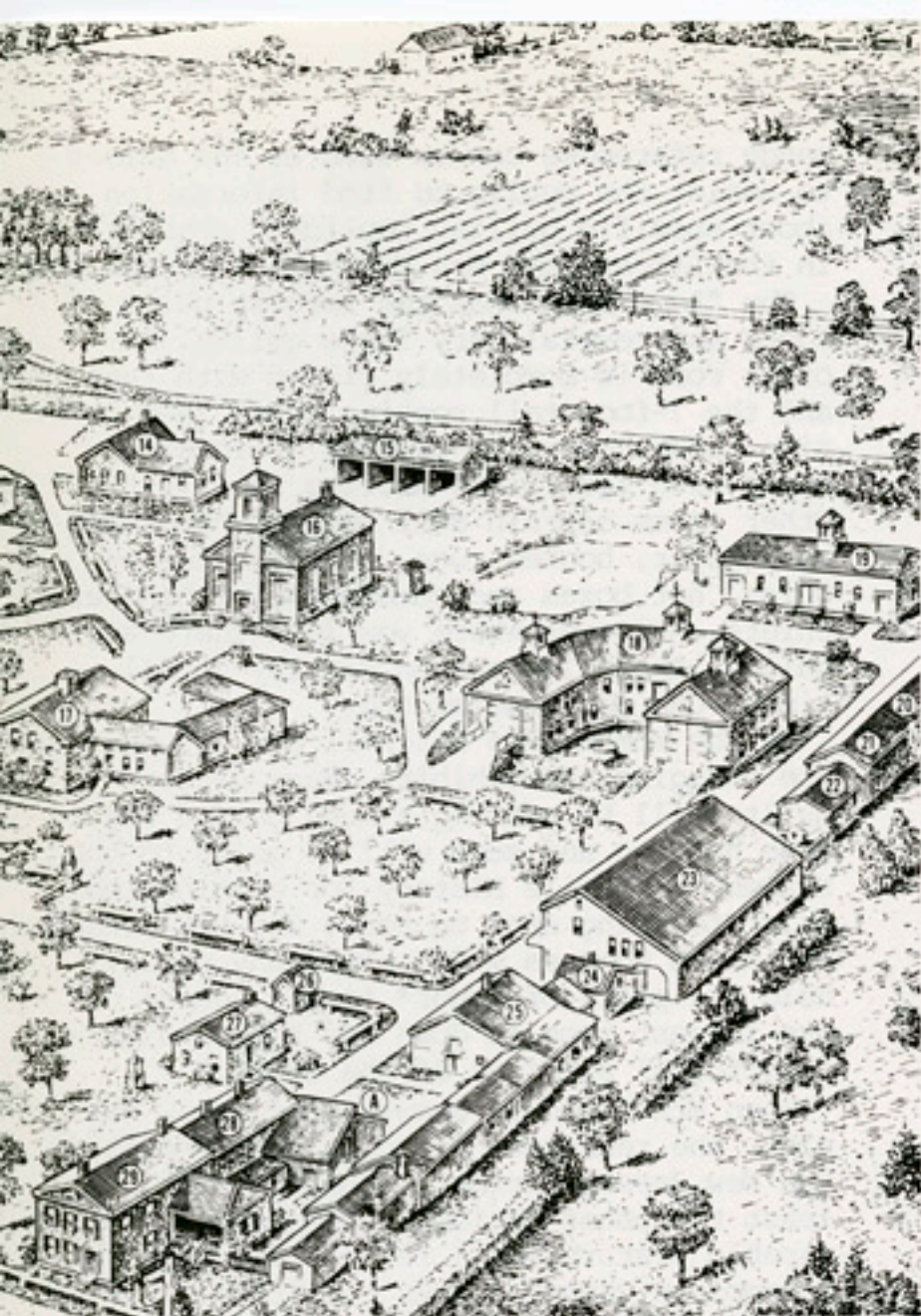
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Her talks and quilts reflected her free spirit. Both were from plans sketched in her steno-pad and a few calculations. When asked why a certain width of sashing or size of a diamond was used, she would reply, "that's what it took to make it work". We cherished her help on our quilt-making projects as she always encouraged us to do our best and not take the easiest way.

Mrs Hagerman was very close to her family and each Sunday they met for supper. In January 1985 she had heart surgery but recovered nicely and was back to her old schedule and future plans.

I traveled with her frequently to out of state shows and symposiums. She always drove while I read the maps, pumped the gas and arranged lodging. Every quilt show was a good one, to be reported in her articles, to be remembered and referred to in later conversations. Her capacity for sharing herself, her time and talents, puts her #1 in my personal "Quiltmakers Hall of Fame".

### "McCALL'S" NEEDLEWORK

Just before going to press on issue #28 I was checking a date on the magazine I had always known as McCALL'S NEEDLEWORK. Imagine my surprize to see that the title of the magazine I was looking at was "McCALL". In a phone conversation to Cuesta Benberry she confirmed she referred to it as "McCALL'S" however when we checked our early copies, we found the magazine was originally called McCALL. Some of the references to the magazine in #28 were changed but it was too late to catch them all. Here is an update.

The magazine was called McCALL NEEDLEWORK until the Spr/Sum 1951 issue. In the Winter issue 1951-52 the name was changed to McCALL'S NEEDLEWORK which remained until the Fall/Winter 1956-57 issue when it was renamed McCALL'S NEEDLEWORK & CRAFTS.

Earlier versions Mrs Benberry found in her collection included

- McCALL EMBROIDERY BOOK Fall/Win 1919
- McCALL EMBROIDERY BOOK Fall 1921
- McCALL EMBROIDERY BOOK 1922
- McCALL EMBROIDERY BOOK 1925-26

McCALL NEEDLEWORK ANNUAL (no date)

No I McCALL NEEDLEWORK ANNUAL

No II McCALL'S NEEDLEWORK & CRAFTS ANNUAL

30. VERGENNES SCHOOL (Vergennes, Vermont, 1830) . . . Early copy books, maps, and drawings.
31. STAGECOACH INN (Charlotte, Vermont, c. 1783) . . . Collection of sculptured folk art. Cigar store Indians, figureheads, eagles, trade signs, and circus figures. Weathervanes.
32. COVERED BRIDGE (Cambridge, Vermont, c. 1845) . . . Only double lane covered bridge with footpath in Vermont.
33. DORSET HOUSE (East Dorset, Vermont, c. 1840) . . . Over 1,000 decoys. Audubon game bird prints. Joel Barber watercolors. Fowling pieces.
34. DUTTON HOUSE (Cavendish, Vermont, 1782) . . . Transitional 17th and 18th century furniture and furnishings. Stenciled wall borders. American pewter.
35. GENERAL STORE (Shelburne, Vermont, c. 1840) . . . Display only. Old-time country store. Dry goods, candy, hardware, groceries. Post Office. Tap room and barber shop. Razor collection. Apothecary Shop . . . Drugs, herbs, and patent medicines. Compounding room . . . Doctor's and Dentist's offices.
36. STENCIL HOUSE (Columbus, New York, 1790) . . . Stenciled wooden walls. 18th and 19th century furniture and furnishings.
37. SAWYER'S CABIN (East Charlotte, Vermont, c. 1800) . . . Built of square logs. Furnished.
38. UP-AND-DOWN SAWMILL (South Royalton, Vermont, 1786) . . . Up-and-down saw, shingle making machine, surface planer and wood splitter.
39. WEBB GALLERY (Newly constructed, 1960) . . . 18th, 19th and 20th century American primitive and academic paintings. Downstairs galleries devoted to Vermont scenes and products.
40. ELECTRA HAVEMEYER WEBB MEMORIAL BUILDING (Newly constructed, 1967) . . . Georgian paneled rooms and furnishings of Mr. and Mrs. J. Watson Webb's New York apartment and their collection of European paintings and Degas bronzes.
41. COLCHESTER REEF LIGHTHOUSE GALLERY (Colchester Reef, Lake Champlain, 1871) . . . Maritime prints and paintings. Ship figureheads.
42. ADMINISTRATION BUILDING . . . Director, public relations, research, and library.

D. Parking Area.

E. Picnic Area.