



Perfecting the Past: COLONIAL REVIVAL QUILTS

An exhibition created by the INTERNATIONAL QUILT STUDY CENTER & MUSEUM, University of Nebraska-Lincoln



The Colonial Revival was a cultural movement that portrayed the colonial era as a simple and noble time. Strongest in the late-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Colonial Revival romanticized colonial life and idealized the domestic sphere. It is no surprise, then, that the Colonial Revival sparked renewed interest in making needlework items that had been popular in previous generations such as cross-stitch samplers, hooked rugs and quilts. Textiles traditionally have been closely connected to women's lives, and quilting, in particular, allowed women to believe they were participating in a needle art practiced by their colonial grandmothers. By making quilts like those their foremothers supposedly had made (even though quiltmaking was a fairly rare activity in colonial days—performed mainly by the wealthy and rarely incorporating patchwork or applique), women felt that they were participating not only in tradition, but in history itself.

Colonial Revival quilts reflect the complexity of the movement itself. They may be pieced, repeating block-style quilts or appliqué quilts, and they may be hand and/or machine sewn. They incorporate elements of tradition and modernity, and demonstrate how quiltmakers often used historic design sources along with modern techniques to create quilts that are a unique blend of romance and reality.



English Rose variation, Olive McClure Cook, Anna, Illinois, 1939
International Quilt Study Center, 1997.007.0669

Exhibition Specs

Number of works: 12 quilts with accompanying label text. Total running feet (w/ 24" between quilts): approx. 100

Exhibition period: 12 weeks

Participation costs: \$8,500 exhibition fee, plus insurance. Exhibition fee includes domestic shipping.

Display requirements: One 1"x 2" polyurethane-coated wood slat for hanging each quilt; on-site security; controlled temperature & humidity; appropriate lighting levels for textiles (50-60 lux). The IQSC reserves the right to have

a representative present during installation and de-installation.

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Museum
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1 **Wreath of Roses**

Circa 1935 - 1945

Maker unknown

Possibly made in : United States ,
Ohio , Coshocton County

77 x 75 1997.007.0112



7 **Vase of Flowers**

Circa 1930 - 1950

Maker unknown

Made in : United States

90.5 x 86.5 1997.007.0722



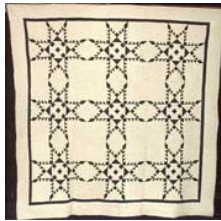
2 **Feathered Star**

Circa 1900

Olds, Mary Caroline Robinson

Probably made in : United States ,
Indiana , DeKalb County

78 x 78 1997.007.0172



8 **Pictorial**

Circa 1938

Mangold, Paulina

Made in : United States ,
Nebraska , Bennington

86 x 68.5 1997.007.0786



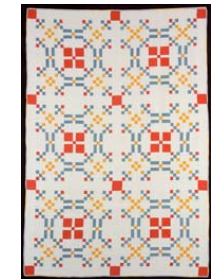
3 **Burgoyne Surrounded**

Circa 1935 - 1945

Maker unknown

Possibly made in : United States ,
West Virginia

84 x 47.5 1997.007.0177



9 **Bouquets**

Circa 1925 - 1935

Maker unknown

Possibly made in : United States ,
Pennsylvania , Pittsburgh

94 x 84 1997.007.0796



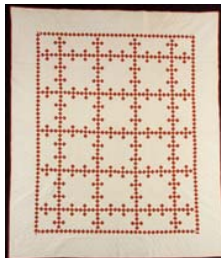
4 **Double Nine Patch**

Dated 1907 , 14-Aug

Maker unknown

Possibly made in : United States ,
Ohio

89 x 75 1997.007.0273



10 **Album**

Circa 1930 - 1950

Maker unknown

Possibly made in : United States ,
Pennsylvania Eastern

82 x 54 1997.007.0946



5 **Colonial Lady**

Circa 1930 - 1950

Maker unknown

Possibly made in : United States ,
Ohio

103 x 87.5 1997.007.0290



11 **Star of Bethlehem**

Circa 1930 - 1940

Sorensen, Christine Heide

Made in : United States ,
Nebraska , Rockville

83 x 84 1998.005.0001



6 **English Rose variation**

Dated 1939

Cook, Olive McClure

Made in : United States ,
Illinois , Anna,

88 x 86 1997.007.0669



12 **Floral Basket**

Circa 1930

Gunnerson, Murl (Mabel) Brickner

Made in : United States ,
Nebraska , Aurora

80.5 x 69.5 2006.023.0001

