

THE BICENTENNIAL QUILTS

of the

ALFRED HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by

Mrs. June E. Brown, Project Coordinator

with

Historical Annotations

by

Dr. Warren L. Bouck

Monograph No. 13
October, 1976

PART I: MAKING THE QUILTS

In September of 1975 the executive committee of the Alfred Historical Society met to plan the program for the coming year. As a Bicentennial project, it was decided that the society would sponsor the making of two quilts, one to be kept in the village of Alfred as a permanent memorial, the other to raise money in aid of the Terra Cotta fund. The original concept came from an article in Yankee magazine, March 1975, which described the Contoocook, N.H., village quilt. Made by women of the village, the quilt was composed of forty-two squares, each depicting a scene representative of Contoocook. The article aroused the interest of other communities and probably contributed to the renewed interest in the early American art of quilting, now being celebrated with Bicentennial quilts in so many places across the country.

June Brown was appointed co-ordinator of the Alfred quilt project. A sub-committee, composed of Dorothy Bouck, Margaret Klingensmith, Jean Lang (then president of the society), Lana Meissner, Nell Parry and Ruth Russell met at Mrs. Brown's home to plan the details, in September 1975. Originally it was decided to make each quilt of thirty 13" squares, separated by 3" strips of colored cloth, and surrounded by an 8" border. An overall measurement of 109" x 93" would be the finished size. Nell Parry had already begun a similar project with a group of friends, and showed a partially completed square of the Seventh Baptist Church in Alfred. Mrs. Parry agreed to ask her group if they would be interested in joining in the society's project, which they later did. Mrs. Meissner and Mrs. Russell offered to purchase two double size white percale sheets, to be cut into 13½" squares. The extra half inch was needed to allow for a ¼" seam allowance on all edges. These squares were planned as a backing for the individual designs in the quilts. Mrs. Klingensmith, Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Meissner met on two subsequent occasions at Herrick Library, Alfred University, where the sheets were spread out on a large table in the conference room, measured and cut into squares.

The project was presented to the Historical Society membership by Mrs. Brown at a general meeting in October. Charts had been prepared, showing the number and proportion of the squares in each quilt. A list of possible themes and designs, seventy-four in all, was distributed. Sign-up sheets were also made available, so that members could indicate their willingness to make a square, and the design they wished to make.

Several ground rules had to be established. Since sixty squares would be needed to complete the two quilts, it was decided that the project should be open to all interested members of the Alfred and Alfred Station communities. A target date of February 15th, 1976 was set for finishing the squares. By April 15th the tops would be sewn together, and quilting on frames would begin. One quilt would be finished by June 1st, the other by July 1st. No limitations were placed on fabrics or techniques to be used, though it was hoped that machine stitching on the squares could be kept to a minimum. Duplicate squares of the same theme were acceptable, since they could be divided between the two quilts. Mrs. Brown asked that each person include his or her initials or name on the square as an "artist's signature." It was announced that there would be jobs for non-sewers too. For example, the squares were to be photographed when completed, so that a pictorial record of the quilts could be preserved. An annotated description of each square would be needed, entailing some historical research. Dr. Warren Bouck undertook the co-ordination of these last two aspects of the project. Norma Higgins, Lana Meissner, Dana Beckhorn, Nell and Bill Parry offered their help in transferring designs from photographs or sketches to the sheet squares. Sue Turner volunteered financial assistance for photographing the squares, and Eleanor Gertz promised her services as a sewing consultant. Herrick Library was chosen as a convenient central location for keeping the scraps, squares and lists while the project got underway.

On November 5, 1975 the first of two special quilt meetings was called by the society at the Community House. Fabric scraps were exchanged, designs were dis-

cussed, and photographs of buildings were made available. One scrap of rust-colored tweed fabric (from Mrs. Brown's livingroom chair upholstery) proved especially popular. It seemed to be just the thing for representing tile roofs. At the end of the evening it was being rationed out by Mrs. Lang, and finally appeared in many different forms on various squares.

For the next few weeks work on the squares seemed to progress rather slowly, probably because of the rush of Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. On January 14th, 1976, an article written by Dr. Bouck appeared in the Hornell Evening Tribune, describing the project and showing members of the quilt committee with the squares completed as of that date. There were only five. A flurry of activity ensued, in order to complete the remaining fifty-five squares by February 15th. The quilt committee vacillated between despair and jubilation during the last weeks before the deadline, while the completed squares were being collected at Herrick Library. Some of the promised squares faded away into the mists of time (or perhaps the winter snows of Alfred). It was not possible to predict until the very last moment exactly how many squares were going to be finished in time. In an excess of zeal Mrs. Brown cajoled a few too many quilters into making a final effort. The total count on Sunday, February 22nd was sixty-six squares.

The committee met at Herrick Library on that day to lay out the designs for the two quilts. Mrs. Brown brought swatches of cotton fabric, which she had purchased with funds donated by Mrs. Bouck. The colors chosen were a deep gold for the fund-raising quilt, and cranberry red for the Bicentennial Memorial quilt. From this point on, the quilts were usually referred to as "the gold quilt" and "the cranberry quilt." Other materials were also gathered for the final quilting. Mrs. Brown sent for cotton batting, white quilting thread and short needles from a specialty house in Ohio. King-size white sheets were purchased for backings, one from a local store, the other, with the assistance of Pamela Scofield Cresswell, from New York City.

Final layout decisions were based on two principles. The first was to arrange the squares to make the most effective use of color and texture. The second was to achieve a balance of designs in each quilt. Prior to this meeting, there had been some debate within the society as to the best method of raising money with the gold quilt. After some discussion, the membership voted to hold a raffle, at one dollar a ticket, with the drawing to be held on June 13th, in conjunction with the annual antique show and sale. Mr. Robert Keough of the Village Printery, Museum and Craft Center of Alfred, offered to print the tickets free of charge. The type was hand-set in the style of the 1860's. Some members felt that it would not be appropriate to include squares of local churches in the gold quilt, and so these squares were included only in the cranberry quilt. The number of squares for the gold quilt remained at the originally planned number of thirty, while the cranberry quilt was increased to thirty-five.

Before any work could proceed, the squares had to be photographed. This project was undertaken by Dr. Bouck, with the assistance of Mr. Richard Wittie of the Instructional Resources Center, SUNY Agricultural and Technical College at Alfred. The slides taken by Mr. Wittie were excellent. A duplicate slide of each square was made, to present to the artist responsible for its creation. The complete set of slides was shown on the first of many occasions, at the Andover Maple Festival on April 3-4, 1976.

Beginning February 29th, a series of Sunday afternoon meetings was held at Mrs. Brown's home in order to "set the quilts," i.e. sew the tops together. Each square was pressed and measured against a 13" template provided by Mrs. Klingensmith. It was immediately apparent that the quarter-inch allowance needed for seaming was not realistic. Something had been lost in the translation of design into fabric. The difficulty was that some of the squares had shrunk or puckered after being embroidered and appliqued. The template was reduced to twelve and a half inches, and this worked well. This change resulted in finished quilt sizes of 91" x 107½" for the gold quilt, and 91" x 120" for the cranberry quilt. The squares were marked in

pencil $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each edge as a seam guide. Strips of gold and cranberry fabric were cut according to a cutting guide planned by Mrs. Brown, and were also marked for a similar seam allowance.

Each square had been numbered and lettered following the original layout. The strips and squares were pinned, basted and hand-sewn together with matching thread. Care was taken to keep the whole structure in vertical and horizontal balance, so that the finished quilts would be symmetrical. The sewing of the tops was completed early in April by the following people: June Brown, Carol Ehrig, Ann Eisenhardt, Vera Hinkle, Margaret Klingensmith, Ellen Lichtman, Lana Meissner, Lillian Nevins, Peg Prisco, Angela Rossington, Sandra Scofield, Lois Smith and Suzanne Wood. The two completed quilt tops were hung and exhibited at Hinkle Library for the April meeting of the Historical Society.

The next step was to find a suitable place where two large quilting frames could be set up so that quilting bees could begin. Mrs. Parry was able to arrange for the use of an upstairs room in the Parish House, through the kindness of the ladies of the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church. On April 11th, the first meeting took place. The gold quilt was spread out on large tables, so that the quilting design could be marked on it. A simple design of vertical and horizontal lines, outlining each block and forming square interstices at the juncture was marked in pencil and chalk on the main part of each quilt top. Original designs had been prepared by Mrs. Brown for the eight-inch border. "Picket Fence," a simple repeat of vertical lines ending in points was chosen for the gold quilt. A design of horizontal lines, overlaid with adjoining diamonds was used for the cranberry quilt. This was named "King Alfred's Jewel." Templates provided by Mrs. Brown were used as aids in marking the designs.

On the following Sunday the marked tops were laid out again, face down, and the cotton batting was spread evenly over them. This was basted in place, and finally the sheet backings were basted over the whole. The quilting frame rods were laid in place at each end and were attached with strong thread to the quilts,

prior to rolling and placing on the frames. June Brown, Mary Lou Cartledge, Ann Eisenhardt, Margaret Klingensmith, Ellen Lichtman, Lana Meissner and Nell Parry helped with these somewhat tedious steps in preparing the quilts for the frames.

Quilting began on the gold quilt on Thursday, April 14th, under the direction of Mrs. Parry. Mrs. Parry provided her own quilting frame, designed and made by a local craftsman, Andrew Brady. The cranberry quilt was placed on Mrs. Klingensmith's frame the following Sunday. This frame is an antique, belonging to Dr. Klingensmith's family. Dated about 1860, it came originally from Ohio. Mark Klingensmith helped his mother to refurbish it especially for the Alfred project.

Throughout April, May and early June quilting bees were held at the Parish House every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday, under the direction of Mrs. Klingensmith, Mrs. Parry and Mrs. Brown. Members of the community enjoyed these sociable gatherings. Expert quilting was not expected, in fact most quilters were beginners. All were welcome to take part in this Bicentennial project. The following women contributed their stitches (and conversation) to the quilting: Rose Becker, June Brown, Marianne Cameron, Edna Carter, Mary Lou Cartledge, Ann Eisenhardt, Eleanor Gertz, Susan Greene, Gay Harder, Catherine Jacox, Margaret Kenyon, Margaret Klingensmith, Jean Lang, Mary Lang, Ellen Lichtman, Louise MacIntosh, Lana Meissner, Lillian Nevins, Helen Ogden, Nell Parry, Peg Prisco, Carol Reed, Doris Rice, Angela Rossington, Ruth Russell, Leah Saunders, Sandra Scofield, Lois Smith, and Helen Thomas.

Others helped in different ways. Donations were given by the society membership to help defray the cost of quilting materials. Ruth Russell and Eva Ford deserve special mention for their share in this. Gifts in kind were given by Dr. and Mrs. Bouck, June Brown, Margaret Klingensmith, Lana Meissner, Ruth Russell, Sue Turner and Suzanne Wood.

The gold quilt came off the frame on Sunday, May 23rd, nine days before the deadline for completion. Eleanor Gertz sewed the binding around the edge. This was not a separate piece of fabric, but was formed in the traditional manner by bringing the white sheet backing $\frac{1}{2}$ " over the top and blind-stitching in place.

The corners were mitered, and as a finishing touch the words "Alfred, New York, 1976" were embroidered on the bottom right-hand corner of the backing by Mrs. Brown. The quilt was insured for 5,000 dollars for a limited time period. It was first exhibited publicly at the Alfred Station Bicentennial Celebration Weekend, May 29th and 30th, 1976. It was also exhibited at a benefit tea in Hornell on June 2nd.

The gold quilt realized a final sum of \$1,000 for the Terra Cotta Fund and was won by Keramos at the drawing held on June 13th. The cranberry quilt was completed on June 23rd, 1976, and was first exhibited on July 4th, 1976 at the Parish House. Historical annotations of the squares follow in parts II and III of the monograph.

PARTS II and III

HISTORICAL ANNOTATIONS

THE CRANBERRY QUILT

THE GOLD QUILT

T H E C R A N B E R R Y Q U I L T

Block or Square
Number

Subject

Artist

F 1

The Methodist Center

Mrs. Carol Ehrig

Located just off Moland Road at the western end of Alfred village, this building was erected in 1967 as a response to the movement for a student ministry by the Wesley Foundation. It contains a sanctuary, church school rooms, and a dining room with kitchen. The Alfred Play School, a pre-kindergarten group, is located there.

F 2

Clarke Homestead

Miss Rena Clarke

This house, located on Clark road in the town of Almond, was built in 1880 by Phineas Shaw after his family's log dwelling was totally destroyed by fire. It was purchased in 1894 by Roscoe Andrew and Mary Pierce Clarke, along with the Shaw property, known locally as Strawberry Hill Farm. The Clarke family occupied this house for 71 years, until 1965 when it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Loren Soule. In turn, they sold it in 1975 to the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kryman.

F 3

South Hall

Mrs. Elinor Gertz

This two story red-brick building was erected in 1908 as the public school for the village of Alfred. Following the formation of the Alfred-Almond Central School District and the construction of the new school building between Alfred and Almond, South Hall was purchased in 1940 by Alfred University. Since that time, it has served as an office-classroom building, housing various departments, including nursing, business administration, education, social sciences, and women's physical education. In September of 1976, South Hall was closed by the university as an economy move and leased to TREE, Training Rehabilitation, Experience, and Employment.

F 4

Prisco House

Mrs. Mario Prisco

Located at 18 South Main Street in Alfred, this house is over 100 years old. It is a fine example of the architecture of the larger Victorian homes that were built in the area during the last century. Currently owned by Mario and Margaret Prisco, it was for many years the home of Erle and Gladys Myers and their son, Robert.

F 5

Stopper's Barn, Evergreen Farm

Mrs. Jean Stopper

Located on Sherman Road out of Alfred Station, this building is on what was the Sherman family farm for many years. This family was one of the pioneer settlers in Baker's Bridge, now Alfred Station. The barn was probably erected prior to 1851 since it is known that the Shermans lived in a log home prior to building their farm house in that year. It is said that the furnishings for the house, as well as farm implements and tools, were brought on the Erie Canal, probably to Rochester, and then overland to the farm by oxen.

Block or Square
Number

Subject

Artist

F 6

Palmiter House

Mrs. Lyle Palmiter

This structure was the farm homestead of Nathan Green, one of the first three men who came to the area of what is now Alfred Station in 1807. The original part of the house was built around 1835. Some years later an addition was made in the Greek Revival style. At the present time, it is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Palmiter. Adjacent is the location of "The Pumpkin Patch" where thousands of pumpkins are grown and sold each October.

F 7

Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church

Mrs. Juanita Zwiebel
Mrs. Ruth Emerson

This building was erected in 1857 to replace a church that stood on Goose Pasture along Pleasant Valley Road out of Alfred Station. The congregation had organized in 1831 and built a church and parsonage at that location.

The stained glass windows in the present structure were installed in 1896 to replace the original clear glass windows. A major renovation in 1889 permitted a full basement to be installed.

G 1

Dr. Robert Eisenhardt's Office

Mrs. Ann Eisenhardt

This building, standing on West University Street in Alfred, was erected in 1953 on land previously owned by Mrs. Ruth Reynolds. It claims no historical significance except that conferred upon it by the many Alfredians who have found comfort and help within its walls.

G 2

Alfred Station Railroad Station

Mrs. Sue Turner

This station is thought to have been built sometime between 1895-1897 to replace the original depot, erected in 1850 or 1851 while the railroad was under construction, and which burned in 1895. Passenger trains stopped here for about 100 years. The building, of wood frame construction, was originally topped with a roof of Celadon tile.

G 3

Alfred Savings and Loan

Mrs. Angela Rossington

Built in 1880 on Alfred's Main Street for Oliver D. Sherman, it contained a harness shop on the first floor and probably a glove and overall factory on the second floor. The original building was erected on basement walls of thick field stones. It was of wood-frame construction with brick veneer walls. The roof was tiled. Both the bricks and the tiles were local products. In the early 1900's, the two-story brick porch and small rear room were added. A two-story addition to the rear was erected at that same time, as well as the side porch.

The Alfred Mutual Savings and Loan Association acquired title in March of 1915. This building has had a variety of uses in addition to those already noted: shoe store, telephone office, tailor shop, fire insurance company offices, meeting hall, doctor's office, and Alfred University Chaplain's offices. The second floor has contained an apartment for many years.

Block or Square
Number

Subject

Artist

G 4 Map of Alfred Centre, 1864 Mrs. June Brown

The map in this square is a reproduction of a map from an Allegany County Atlas. The present village of Alfred, settled in 1807, was known as Alfred Centre until 1895 when the residents voted to change its name. The map depicts the Kanakadea Creek winding through the village, residences, places of businesses, and the buildings of Alfred University.

G 5 The Norwood Clock Mrs. Doris Rice

This clock is located in the front gable of the barn garage at the rear of the property at 105 North Main Street, Alfred, presently owned by Dr. and Mrs. Harold Simpson.

Dr. J. Nelson Norwood, who built the clock, began its construction in 1920, shortly after he purchased the property at 105 Main Street. He worked on it for two years, completing it in September, 1922. The gears and works were purchased from a company in Boston. He made the pendulum from a pine stick that was taken from an old organ in Alumni Hall. The dial numbers and the hands are made of sheet lead and aluminum. It operates by a weight of fifty pounds and a wire cable forty-four feet in length. Dr. Norwood made the clock to run for fourteen days and six hours on one winding. At the time he built the clock, Dr. Norwood was a member of the faculty of Alfred University. He was Dean of its College of Liberal Arts from 1920-1930. In 1933, he became its seventh president, serving until 1945.

Allan and Jay Simpson, sons of the present owners of the property, renovated the clock about 1966. The clock, with its new pendulum made from a broomstick and other repairs, operates today as it did when Dr. Norwood built it over fifty years ago.

G 6 Alfred Village Hall Mrs. Clarence Klingensmith

This building on West University Street near the corner of Main Street, now known as the Village Hall, was constructed in 1890 by the members of A. E. Crandall Hook and Ladder Company. Until the village acquired it during the spring of 1973, it was named Fireman's Hall. It is of brick veneer construction with a metal roof.

The Seth Thomas tower clock was the gift of Alonzo, Madelia, and Clothilda Stillman in 1898. That same year, W. H. Crandall provided the funds for the thirty-six inch bell in the tower. The auditorium on the second floor will seat 200 people and was used for many years by the townspeople, the village school, Alfred University, and the New York State School of Agriculture for various functions. In 1913 a motion picture projector was installed in this room. In addition to the aforementioned uses, the building has housed a club room with a pool table, a rifle range, a village lockup or jail, meeting rooms for the village fathers, and the village's police department. At one time in the past, the cellar was used to store cabbages.

G 7 The Octagon House Mrs. Lois Smith

Located at 57 South Main Street, Alfred, it was built in 1850 by Elisha Potter. The architecture is characteristic of the popular octagon style of that period: Greek revival details with a surrounding first floor porch and a cupola. On the interior, there is a curving staircase. The two large rooms on the first floor reflect the shape of the structure. Several years ago, it was remodelled for double occupancy. The present owner is Alfred University.

Block or Square
Number

Subject

Artist

H 1

The Ag-Tech Barn

Mrs. Louise Beckhorn

This structure stood on the right hand side of Route 244 to Alfred Station on the former farm of Charles Stillman before the state of New York purchased it in 1909 as the farm for the newly established School of Agriculture. The barn was erected in 1910. Within two weeks of its completion in December of that year a fire destroyed the main section of the building. It was rebuilt, continuing in use until the morning of October 2, 1960 when it was totally destroyed by a second, more disastrous fire. Adjoining buildings and the dairy herd were saved. This time it was not rebuilt, but replaced by a new Animal Husbandry Center on the Belmont Road.

H 2

Grist Mill Monument

John and Catherine Jacox

Erected probably about 1920, this monument stands on the left hand side of the former Gorge Road, south of Alfred village. This road used to follow a creek coming from near the Jericho Hill-Elm Valley Road down to the Railroad Valley road to Andover. The monument is about three-quarters of the way down the hill. Of simple concrete, it marks the location of the first grist mill in the Town of Alfred. The mill was built by Mr. Coon in 1820. It is difficult to imagine that a mill once occupied this site. Charles Lusk, who owned this property, had the monument erected.

H 3

The Terra Cotta

Mrs. Lana Meissner

This building presently is located on the bank of Kanakadea Creek on Alfred's North Main Street near its intersection with the streets that lead to the two campuses. It was built in 1892 by the Celadon Terra Cotta Company as a small office and display center. The building is made primarily of Celadon products. Of particular interest and value are the ornamental tiles on the exterior walls, the bas-relief heads and the fruit and geometric designs. A replica of the building was produced and exhibited at the Chicago World's Fair in 1892.

In 1909, the tile manufacturing plant was destroyed by fire except for this building. Years passed, and it saw many uses, including a gift shop, a police justice court, a gallery and sales room for pottery, and a meeting place for the Society of Friends. In the meantime, title to the property of the Celadon company had passed to Alfred University. In 1969, when the university was planning to make room for a new physical education center on this site, the Alfred Historical Society, to preserve this unique and historical structure, acquired it from the university. It has now been relocated on its permanent site, and the historical society is engaged in restoring it. When this project is completed, the structure will become a museum of terra cotta and a part of the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University.

H 4

Alfred University Seal

Mrs. Lillian Nevins

This square recognizes the contributions of the university to the history of Alfred. This institution had its origin in a select school established in the village in 1836. The school was chartered as an academy in 1843, and the university received its charter in 1857.

Block or Square
Number

Subject

Artist

H 5 The Gothic (Present Structure) Mrs. James Reed

This building stands on the corner of Ford and Sayles Streets in Alfred, where it was relocated in 1959 through the love and perseverance of Miss Hazel Humphreys. The present structure is the chapel portion of Alfred University's School of Theology, which was scheduled for razing to make room for a new library building. Built as a private home in 1851, it had been a theology school since 1901. After this section had been moved to the vacant lot owned by Miss Humphreys next to her home, the chapel was renovated, again primarily through her efforts and funds. A vestibule was built on the front, the outer doors were restored, the porch re-assembled, and the interior scraped, painted, and waxed. At present it is a non-denominational chapel.

H 6 The Greene House, Alfred Station Mrs. Susan Greene

This house is located along Route 244 in Alfred Station, opposite the Seventh Day Baptist Church. It could have been built as early as 1830 by Elias Burdick. It was subsequently occupied by his son, John, who acquired the deed to it in 1854. It was then sold to Elias' neighbor's son, Claude Vincent, in 1888. George Whitney acquired it in 1941, and, he in turn, sold it to the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Greene in 1974. Since acquiring it, they have removed the front porch that was added by Mr. Vincent. The square depicts the dwelling as it looks in 1976.

H 7 The Alfred Sun Office Mrs. Lisa Greenspan

This structure, built in 1901 and presently the home of the Sun Publishing Company, is located at 11 South Main Street. It was definitely designed to be a printing shop, for there is a 20" steel I-beam embedded in masonry under the composing room floor where the greatest weight concentration of several tons would occur. The foundation is of native stone, and the walls are of brick that was probably fired in Alfred. The present roof is metal; however, the rafter and truss structure indicate that the original roofing material was probably Celadon tile. The building has a full basement (half underground) pressroom, a split-level office and composing room on the ground floor, and living quarters on the second floor. Present owners are Mr. and Mrs. Eugene VanHorn.

I 1 Carillon Tower Mrs. Daniel Rase

This tower houses the Davis Memorial Carillon on the campus of Alfred University. The structure depicted in the square is of steel, made possible by a bequest from Mr. and Mrs. Orra S. Rogers in 1953. It replaced the original wooden tower provided by Justin B. Bradley in 1937, date of the original installation.

The carillon is composed of forty-three bells, thirty-three of which were cast during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in Europe by Pieter Hemony, Van den Gheyn, and Dumery Founders. The others were cast by Petit and Fritsen of Aarle-Rixtel, Holland, in 1953 and given by the Herrick family. This carillon of mostly ancient bells is unique in the New World. The bells were given in memory of Alfred University's fifth President (1895-1933), Boothe C. Davis, and his wife by friends and alumni of the university. Dr. Ray W. Wingate was carillonneur from 1937 until his death in 1968.

Block or Square
Number

Subject

Artist

I 2

Alumni Hall

Mrs. Frank Trice

This is the oldest building on the campus of Alfred University. The cornerstone was laid June 24, 1851. Its massive, hewn timbers of the frame came from local forests. Of wood construction, it is 100 feet long, 52 feet wide, and three stories in height. It measures 90 feet from the ground to the rail below the steeple. The cost of construction was \$12,500.

It was known as Chapel Hall from 1852 to 1927 when the name was changed to Alumni Hall. The structure originally contained a 500 seat chapel-auditorium, and twenty lecture, recitation, library, and lyceum rooms. In 1932, motion picture equipment was installed in the auditorium, and the Campus Movie Theater was born. This facility was also the village's movie theater from then until 1972 when the building was pronounced a fire hazard and closed. At that time, in addition to the auditorium-theater on the second floor, the structure housed the university English Department offices and classrooms on the ground floor.

I 3

Crandall Hall

Mrs. William Crandall

Located at 4 South Main Street in Alfred, this building was erected about 1858 by Ira Babcock Crandall, a resident of Alfred and a trustee of Alfred University from 1856-1869. Built of wood, the architecture is early American in style. Alfred University acquired title to the building and its extensive grounds in 1928. In the summer of 1933, the university's sixth president, Paul E. Titsworth, and his family moved into Crandall Hall, which became known as "the President's home." Four other of the university's chief executives lived there until a new presidential dwelling was constructed on Pine Hill in 1969-1970. Through the efforts of the Alfred Historical Society, the building was preserved. Known once again as Crandall Hall, it houses in 1976 the university's admissions offices.

I 4

Map of Baker's Bridge

Mrs. Susan Greene

This square is a reproduction of a map of Baker's Bridge as it was in 1869. Settled in 1807, the community was known by that name until 1895 when it was changed to Alfred Station. In 1822, Baker's Bridge was designated as the first post office in the town of Alfred. During most of the nineteenth century, it was a thriving community, the seat of several types of manufacturing that used water power from the Kanakadea Creek. The map depicts this stream, the early roads and streets, residences, businesses, and some of the factories.

I 5

The Parish House

Mrs. Janette Rogers

Located on West University Street in Alfred, the Parish House of the Seventh Day Baptist Church was built in 1906 at a cost of \$9,000. It provides social and educational facilities for the congregation and community. Its construction was planned and financed by the Ladies Aid Society of the church and its committee, Mrs. Earl P. Saunders, Mrs. Boothe C. Davis, Mrs. William C. Whitford, and Mrs. D. B. Rogers. By tradition the building is administered by the women of the church. On Election Day in November, a Rummage Sale has proven to be an interesting and profitable venture after voters have gone to the polls across the street in Fireman's Hall (Village Hall.) During May and June of 1976, the Alfred Bicentennial Quilts were "put on" and quilted in this building.

<u>Block or Square Number</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Artist</u>
I 6	Alfred Christmas Tree	Mrs. Agnes Rhodes
<p>The square depicts the former tradition of a lighted evergreen tree at Christmastime that was started during the early 1950's by Fred Palmer, who was Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds at Alfred University at that time. In the quilt, the tree stands in front of "The Brick," a women's dormitory on the university campus.</p> <p>The first year it was lighted, the tree was 33 feet in height. The strings of lights were attached to a piece of pipe set against the trunk of the tree. Each year, this section of pipe had to be lengthened to accommodate the growth of the tree. Of course, the length of the electric wiring had to be extended also.</p>		
I 7	The Coon House	Mrs. Clarence Klingensmith
<p>This building is located at 89 North Main Street in Alfred and is presently owned by Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Klingensmith. It was built about 1840 in the Greek Revival style. For many years, Dr. W. W. Coon, the village dentist, lived there. In 1950, following the death of Mrs. Coon, the house was sold to its present owners.</p>		
J 1	Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church	Mrs. William Parry
<p>Located on Church Street in Alfred a short distance from Main Street, this building was started in 1853 and occupied in 1854. It replaced the first church building in Alfred that was erected in 1824-1828 on the west side of what is now Route 244, about one mile north of the village.</p> <p>As an independent organization, the church dates from October 20, 1816. Services and meetings were held at first in homes and school houses. From about 1890 to well into the 1900's, the membership was around six hundred.</p>		
J 2	The Steinheim	Mrs. Lana Meissner
<p>Inspired by a castle on the Rhine River in Germany, the walls of this building on the campus of Alfred University are a geological museum. They contain more than 8,000 rock specimens, many of which came from the glacial deposits in the Alfred area. The main structure was erected by Jonathan Allen, the second president of Alfred University, between 1876-1880 to house his collections of curiosities, minerals and rocks. Through the years, many other items were added. It was closed as a museum during the early 1950's. This structure, through the efforts of the Alfred Historical Society, has been entered in the National Register.</p>		
J 3	The Box of Books	Mrs. Sally Mueller
<p>This structure is thought to be one of the earliest buildings in Alfred, possibly going back to pioneer times. Throughout its history, it has been the site of several businesses, including a pool hall, an insurance office, a bicycle shop, and a book shop. The historical record indicates that about one hundred years ago it was standing where Hitchcock's Pharmacy is presently located on Main Street. In 1912, it was relocated to make room for the Rosebush Block by moving it around the corner on West University Street. It was at that time that Nora Binns, daughter of Dr. Charles F. Binns, acquired title to the building but not the land on which it stood. She converted it into a book shop and operated it as such until Hazel Humphreys, the present owner and operator, acquired it from Miss Binns in 1923. The former had come to Alfred University as a freshman in 1915 and worked in the</p>		

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Artist

bookstore as an assistant to Nora Binns. In 1949 Miss Humphreys moved it again to its present location on the southwestern corner of West University Street on a plot of land owned by Alfred University. In addition to its quaintness, this building is unique in two other ways: (1) it has been operated as a book shop for over fifty years, and (2) since it has been a book shop, it has occupied land owned by someone else. Only the title to the structure has changed hands.

- J 4 Kenyon Hall Mrs. Grace Nease
- Completed in 1882 during the presidency of Jonathan Allen, this building was a memorial to his predecessor as president of Alfred University, William C. Kenyon. The foundations were four feet thick and set in Allegany County hard pan. The walls were of thick stone, faced with brick. The corner trim, window caps, and window sills were of blue sandstone from a quarry in nearby Canisteo. It originally housed the departments of industrial mechanics, history and political science, natural history, and theology, as well as the library and a reading room. During World War II, the observation tower on the roof served as an aircraft spotter's station. The building was razed in 1958 to make room for Rogers Campus Center.
- J 5 Greene Block Mrs. Wynn Frechette

Standing on Alfred's Main Street, this brick structure was erected in 1889. It was finished and decorated with terra cotta tiles from the Celadon works of Alfred. It was built on the site of a former general store that had been opened by one of the early arrivals in Alfred by the name of Luke Green. (The family later added the final "e" to the name.)

In 1895, the building consisted of three ware rooms or stores on the first floor and two suites of rooms for residences on the second floor. Luke Greene and his son sold furniture here at that time. The April 16, 1895 Alfred Sun states, "It is a pleasure to say in connection with this firm that, upon principle, tobacco has never been sold here in any form."

This building was acquired by Alfred University in 1913. In 1923, it was renamed "Greene Hall" and converted to classroom and office space. At one time, it also housed a music studio. In recent years, university administrative offices have been located on the second floor.

- J 6 Wingate House Mrs. Daniel Rase

One of the first homes in Alfred, it was built in 1818 by the Spicer family who had settled in Alfred Centre (now the village of Alfred) even earlier. They operated a "public house" or tavern at this location. The large room to the right of the front hall, now a sitting room, was the barroom. This room, as well as the north chambers, has the original chair rail. Of New England barn construction, the building is in the Federal style architecture with a tile roof. The tiles were produced at a plant that stood across Main Street. The doorway has a hand-carved pineapple decoration. Many of the windows are original, and one is with etching done in 1874.

In 1839, it was purchased by Anstice and Amos Burdick from the Spicers. Six generations of this same family have lived there, including Mrs. Daniel (Peggy Wingate) Rase and her family. One of the descendants of the Burdicks, Miss Gertrude Burdick, lived there from 1870-1961. In the early years of this century, she wrote a little book, "Our House," which chronicled her childhood life in this home. It also included anecdotes of Alfred history. Recently, Mrs. Rase and her family had the account published in the form of a booklet.

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J 7

Champlin Community House

Mrs. Fran McGraw

This building stands at 5-9 Church Street in Alfred, a short distance from the business section. Built about 1880, in the Green Revival style with a tile roof and of wood frame construction with interlocking joints, it was acquired in 1920 by the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church from Dr. Emerson Ayars. It is named for Eva St. Clair Champlin, a champion of the early women's rights movement, who left a legacy to establish a club house for the women of Alfred. The Champlin Civic Betterment Corporation was formed in 1922 and now administers this property as a community house. Open to the public, the first floor includes rest rooms, meeting rooms, and an apartment for the caretaker. There are three bedrooms upstairs and a small garage with a tile roof at the rear.

T H E G O L D Q U I L T

Block or Square
Number

Subject

Artist

A 1 Champlin Club House Mrs. Fran McGraw

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A 3 Terra Cotta Tile Ms. Pam Jones

The subject of this square is symbolic of the tiles manufactured by the Celadon Terra Cotta Company of Alfred from 1889-1909. Organized to produce bricks and roofing tile, the company soon turned also to manufacturing ornamental architectural tiles which included bas-relief heads and fruit and geometric designs. The raw materials came from shale beds and clay deposits in the vicinity of Alfred.

A 4 Palmiter House Mrs. Lyle Palmiter

This structure was the farm homestead of Nathan Green, one of the first three men who came to the area of what is now Alfred Station in 1807. The original part of the house was built around 1835. Some years later an addition was made in the Greek Revival style. At the present time, it is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Palmiter. Adjacent is the location of "The Pumpkin Patch" where thousands of pumpkins are grown and sold each October.

A 5 The Steinheim Mrs. Becky Butts Prophet

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A 6

The Honey Pot

Mrs. Pam Lakin

This building, located off South Main Street near the village limits, is the former barn on the Sherman property which was converted to a house by Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd R. Watson during the early 1900's. Dr. Watson was an internationally renowned authority on the honey bee. His principal success was in perfecting procedures and instruments for the artificial insemination of queen bees. His research led to the maintenance of many beehives that produced enormous amounts of honey. Mrs. Watson found a way to use this product. She overcame the natural stickiness of the honey so that it could be used in sweetening candy. This honey candy, a totally unique product, accounts for the name, "The Honey Pot," as the place where this candy is still made today.

B 1

Alfred Station Railroad Station

Mrs. Margaret Kenyon

This station is thought to have been built sometime between 1895-1897 to replace the original depot, erected in 1850 or 1851 while the railroad was under construction, and which burned in 1895. Passenger trains stopped here for about 100 years. The building, of wood frame construction, was originally topped with a roof of Celadon tile from the terra cotta plant in Alfred.

B 2

The Box of Books

Mrs. Sally Mueller

This structure is thought to be one of the earliest buildings in Alfred, possibly going back to pioneer times. Throughout its history, it has been the site of several businesses, including a pool hall, an insurance office, a bicycle shop, and a book shop. The historical record indicates that about one hundred years ago it was standing where Hitchcock's Pharmacy is presently located on Main Street. In 1912, it was relocated to make room for the Rosebush Block by moving it around the corner on West University Street. It was at that time that Nora Binns, daughter of Dr. Charles F. Binns, acquired title to the building but not the land on which it stood. She converted it into a book shop and operated it as such until Hazel Humphreys, the present owner and operator, acquired it from Miss Binns in 1923. The former had come to Alfred University as a freshman in 1915 and worked in the bookstore as an assistant to Nora Binns. In 1949 Miss Humphreys moved it again to its present location on the southwestern corner of West University Street on a plot of land owned by Alfred University. In addition to its quaintness, this building is unique in two other ways: (1) it has been operated as a book shop for over fifty years, and (2) since it has been a book shop, it has occupied land owned by someone else. Only the title to the structure has changed hands.

B 3

Alfred-Almond Central School

Mrs. Linda Butts
Mrs. Sharon Burdick

Built in 1939-1940, it replaced village schools in Alfred and Almond. It serves these two communities and adjacent areas that form the Alfred-Almond Central School District. It is located about midway between the two communities.

B 4

Alfred Flowers

Mrs. Ann Eisenhardt

The colors were inspired by the purple asters and goldenrod of Alfred's autumn fields, as well as by the colors of Alfred University. One wonders if the latter were chosen for perhaps the same reason.

<u>Block or Square Number</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Artist</u>
B 5	Alfred Hills, Night Scene	Mrs. Sherry Volk
<p>Mrs. Volk notes that she chose these hills for her quilt square because, in her words, "I grew up in them, berried on them, picnicked on them, fell in love with them . . . They're my home."</p> <p>They are one of the unique items about Alfred and the oldest things around. The scene includes also sentinel pines and a representation of the Kanakadea Creek.</p>		
B 6	Country Store, Alfred Station	Mrs. Juanita Zwiebel Mrs. Ruth Emerson
<p>This structure is located on Route 244 in the center of the village. The date it was erected is not known. It is possible that it served as a store for Roswell Adams during the 1830's. Subsequent storekeepers were F. S. Champlin, Mel Niles, Clyde and Etta Willard and Charles Wheaton.</p>		
C 1	Helen Thomas House	Mrs. Barbara Weisman
<p>This home, located at 60 North Main Street in Alfred, was built by James R. Crandall following his service in the Civil War. A large home with twelve rooms, it is unique for its mansard roof, the only such roof in Alfred. Mr. Crandall built the house carefully and apparently slowly since he and his wife did not occupy it until 1878. The home is presently owned and occupied by Mr. Crandall's granddaughter, Miss Helen W. Thomas.</p>		
C 2	Lang's Pond, Kenyon Road	Mrs. Jean Lang
<p>This view is along Kenyon Road in Alfred township, off the hill to the south of the village of Alfred. The road was named after the Laverne C. Kenyon family who lived and farmed in that area for over thirty years. Mrs. Kenyon's father owned a cheese factory located at the Erie R. R. end of the road.</p>		
C 3	Bicentennial Insignia	Mrs. Lillian Nevins
<p>A quilt, celebrating the two hundredth anniversary of our country, would not be complete without the official Bicentennial Insignia.</p>		
C 4	Seal of the State University of New York	Mrs. Jean Lang
<p>This square recognizes the contributions of the State University College of Ceramics, a part of Alfred University, and the State University Agricultural and Technical College to the history of Alfred. The College of Ceramics, an integral part of Alfred University, was established in 1900 as the New York State School of Clayworking and Ceramics. The New York State School of Agriculture was founded in 1908. It is now a public two-year agricultural and technical college. Both institutions became part of the State University of New York when it was established in 1948.</p>		

Block or Square
Number

Subject

Artist

C 5 Hardware Store Mrs. Punkie Butts Sinesiou

The hardware store -- "that place where you can buy just about anything" -- is one of the oldest businesses in Alfred, operating continuously since 1883. After many years on the ground floor in the building at the north corner of the business block, the business was purchased in 1947 by Stanley and Lydia Butts from Reuben A. Armstrong. They moved the store to the second floor of this same building. In 1971, the business was housed in its present location along Route 244 between the villages of Alfred and Alfred Station. Robert Volk, the Butts' son-in-law, joined the business in 1972 as a third partner.

C 6 Butts' Home Mrs. Lydia Butts

Standing on a knoll above the intersection of South Main Street and Hill Street in Alfred, this rambling house of Greek Revival style was well-built in 1873. The interior woodwork is of native chestnut and walnut. It was the first house in Alfred to permit dancing within its walls. Throughout its history, it has been the home of many people prominent in the history of Alfred. Among them were Ruth Sherman, the wife of President John Norwood of Alfred University, Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd Watson, who were among the prime movers in acquiring the Carillon, and M. Elwood Kenyon. Current residents are the Stanley Butts family.

D 1 Grist Mill Monument John and Catherine Jacox

Erected probably about 1920, this monument stands on the left hand side of the former Gorge Road, south of Alfred village. This road used to follow a creek coming from near the Jericho Hill-Elm Valley Road down to the Railroad Valley road to Andover. The monument is about three-quarters of the way down the hill. Of simple concrete, it marks the location of the first grist mill in the Town of Alfred. The mill was built by Mr. Coon in 1820. It is difficult to imagine that a mill once occupied this site. Charles Lusk, who owned this property, had the monument erected.

D 2 The Brick Carol and David Lewis

Once known as "Ladies Hall," the cornerstone of this women's dormitory at Alfred University was laid on September 13, 1858. It was first occupied in the fall of 1860, housing 100 female students. It was severely damaged by a fire in 1932 and subsequently rebuilt in its present Georgian Colonial style. The curved front entrance stairway replaced the large north porch of the former building as an entrance.

D 3 Alfred Post Office William and Nell Parry

The building in the square presently houses the post office on Main Street, its third location. Before 1887, it was located where the Greene Block is today. It was moved later to the present site of the Campus Cave clothing store. Until 1965 this post office was unique in that it was open on Sunday closed on Saturday in deference to the Seventh Day Baptist community in Alfred. House-to-house delivery also was initiated in this same year.

Block or Square
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Subject

Artist

D 4 Alfred Carillon Bells Mrs. Phebe Polan

This square symbolizes the forty-three bells of the Davis Memorial Carillon on the campus of Alfred University. Thirty-three of these bells were cast during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in Europe by Pieter Hemony, Van den Gheyn, and Dumery Founders. The others were cast by Petit and Fritsen of Aarle-Rixtel, Holland in 1953. This carillon of mostly ancient bells is unique in the New World. The bells were given in memory of Alfred University's fifth President (1895-1933), Boothe C. Davis, and his wife by friends and alumni of the university. Dr. Ray W. Wingate was carillonneur from 1937 until his death in 1968.

D 5 Howell Hall Mrs. Terry Finlay

Known also as Social Hall, the center portion of this building on the campus of Alfred University was built during the early 1930's. It was the gift of Susan Howell Ames, a native of Alfred and a student at the university. She became a widely recognized musician. The building was erected in the memory of four relatives with the name of Susan Howell. An additional bequest by Mrs. Ames in 1954 made possible the addition of the two wings.

D 6 Sugar Shed Mrs. Ollene Smith

This building stood on the Clarence Jacox property, just south of Alfred and to the left of the Jericho Hill-Elm Valley Road. Many people from the area used to visit the shed in the spring during "sugaring off" time. The square is reminiscent of other similar structures which at one time dotted the countryside around Alfred.

E 1 Century House, the Robert Kelley Home Mrs. Sandy Cameron

This home, located at 8 Glen Street in Alfred, was built in 1818 by David Stillman, a member of one of the pioneer families of Alfred. Since that time, it has had the distinction of having had four generations of the same family born under its sheltering roof: David R. Stillman, Charles Stillman, Mrs. Paul E. Titsworth, and the daughter of Mrs. Titsworth. In 1927, it was sold to Archie and Carol Stillman Champlin by Ruth Stillman Babcock. In 1961, it was purchased by Robert Kelley from Mrs. Champlin.

David Stillman and some members of his family are buried in the small cemetery on the knoll where the Alfred Station road branches off to Main Street in Alfred and the Belmont Road.

E 2 Carillon Tower Mrs. Suzanne Wood

The wooden tower which housed the famous Old World carillon bells for many years was provided by Justin B. Bradley in 1937. Mr. Bradley attended Alfred University and was the head of an oil production company, whose headquarters are in Wellsville. During the 1950's, a bequest by Mr. and Mrs. Orra S. Rogers was used to replace the wooden tower with a steel structure.

E 3 Alfred Pots Mrs. June Brown

Three traditional designs are shown. The originals are in the collection of Alfred pottery belonging to Rod and June Brown. The square commemorates the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University, known world-wide as a center for ceramic design and engineering.

Block or Square
Number

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Artist

E 4

Robert Turner House

Mrs. Robert Turner

Located on Cook Road in East Valley out of Alfred Station, the original house was probably built in the mid-to-late eighteen forties. The older part is 19' x 19' of barn construction with hand-hewn ceiling timbers of beech, and ash and chestnut floors. The southeastern section, probably built in the eighteen fifties and adjoining this older part, also has barn construction with corner beams and plank walls. Later reconstructions were made in 1874 and 1894. Upon acquiring the property in 1951, the Robert Turners remodeled the wing by rebuilding to the same general shape as the original and replacing the roof tiles following reconstruction. The large barn on the property was raised in 1895.

The earliest title holder of record to the property was Jared Stillman who acquired a deed to a farm tract of 96+ acres in 1844. On March 5, 1847, John Langworthy acquired it from Stillman. James B. Langworthy gained title to it from John Langworthy on January 11, 1852.

There is speculation as to who built the original dwelling, Jared Stillman, John Langworthy, or James B. Langworthy. The house appears on a map, dated 1856, as the residence of J. B. Langworthy. It was he and his wife who did the rebuilding in 1874. Another Langworthy, Albert W., and his family lived there at the turn of the century. They did the reconstruction of 1894. After the death of Albert, his widow, Agatha, married a Mr. Vincent, who sold the property in 1922 to the Cook family of Alfred Station. They lived there until 1949 when Harold and Margaret Metzger acquired title. In turn they sold the property in 1951 to the Turners, the present owners.

E 5

A. E. Crandall Hook and Ladder Company Mrs. Linda Doerschug

This new fire hall, facing south Main Street in Alfred, was built in 1973. Organized in 1887, the A. E. Crandall Hook and Ladder Company, Alfred's volunteer firemen's department, was housed between 1891-1973 in Fireman's Hall on West University Street.

E 6

Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity House

Mr. Joseph Fasano

Located at 79 North Main Street, this building was erected in the 1850's for William C. Burdick. During the 1880's, the interior was remodeled by Italian designers brought to Alfred for that purpose. As a result, it was one of the most pretentious homes in Alfred. In 1921, the fraternity purchased the house from Susan M. Burdick.