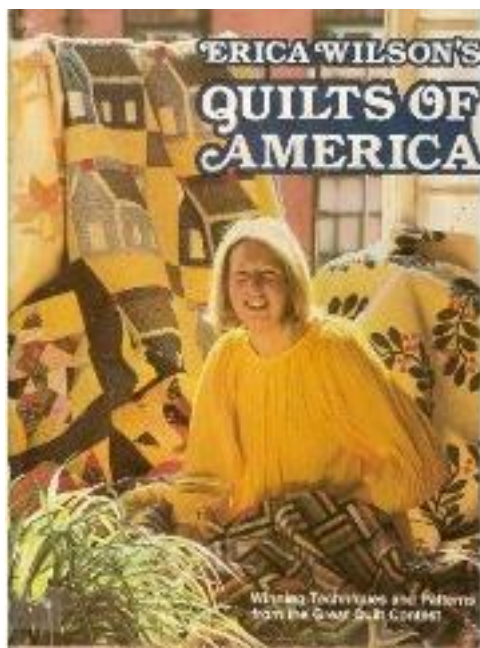


Erica Wilsons Quilts of America



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his book is just a short length of the continuous thread forming the story of quilt making in America. No other form of needlework seems to have become so closely involved with the history of this country and with the lives of our people.

The Great Quilt Contest was the brainchild of Robert H. Kline, president of the U.S. Historical Society. In 1975, in cooperation with the Museum of American Folk Art in New York City, he formulated a plan to find the one most outstanding quilt from each of the 50 states plus the District of Columbia. His idea was to organize a contest with the help of a national magazine and exhibit the winners in a book and a travelling show so that they could be enjoyed and appreciated by all.

The U.S. Historical Society, a private, non-governmental organization, might be called a national trust for "things." It works in cooperation with museums and other institutions in reproducing such memorabilia as historic firearms, swords, fine art prints, furniture, stained glass, and other art objects. From time to time, the Society has also sponsored national programs to encourage greater interest in America's heritage.

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