

Rose Marie Werner

Rose Werner lives just west of Northfield, and for the last 13 years she has been collecting 20th century kit quilts and researching the origin of this style. She has now published a book titled "Quilt Kits, 20th Century Shortcuts", sharing all the information she has found regarding these quilts.

At an American Quilt Study Group Exhibit in Lincoln, Nebraska, she first learned about kit quilts and quilt designers Marie Webster, Ann Orr, and Hubert de Mahren of Des Moines, Iowa, who had started a cottage industry in quilting. Rose has also published a book on quilts featuring state birds and flowers. It is an identification guide for those wishing to know more about this style.

Rose's collection of kit quilts now numbers 100, some of which she has completed herself. She has documented her collection and put this information on her website so others can learn about the kit quilts they have.

The decision to publish her book about these quilts has been a long time in the making. Publishers have not been interested, giving various reasons why the general quilting public would not buy such a book. However, Rose felt she had something to say about quilting trends and why they were important. There were many kit quilts made during the 1930's and 40's, and they are a part of American quilt history. They have a unique style and as the years go by will become an even more important phase of our quilting lexicon.

Rose's website is <http://www.quiltkitid.com/>.



