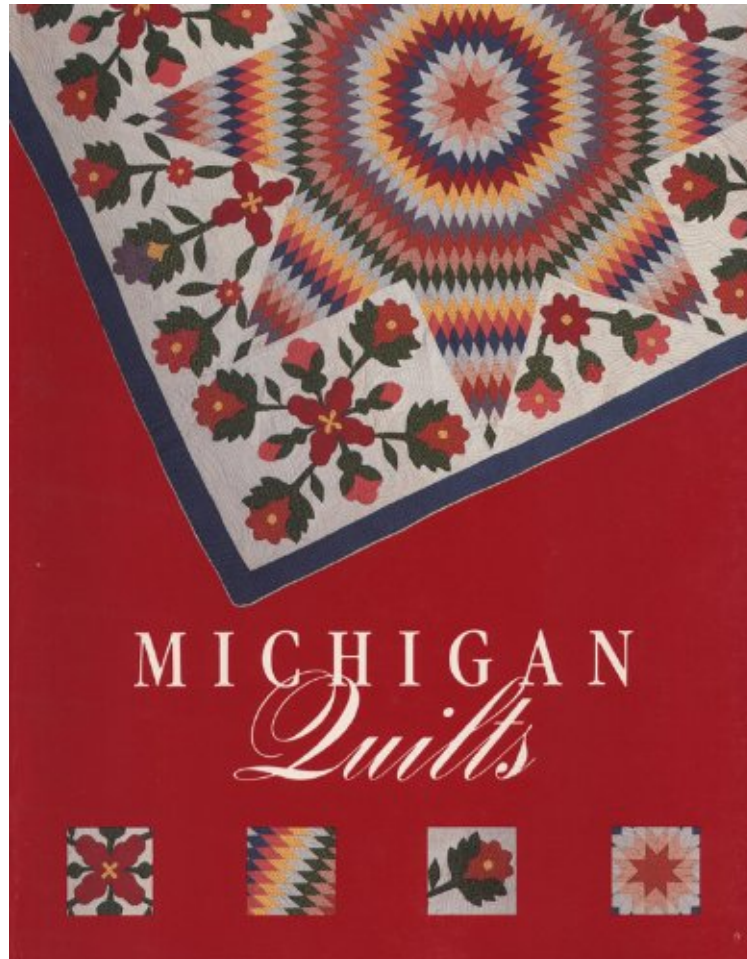


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Michigan Quilts: 150 Years of a Textile Tradition

Marsha MacDowell, Ruth Fitzgerald

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Michigan Quilts celebrates the 150th year of Michigan's statehood by focusing attention on quilt making, quilts, and quilters. Quilts have always represented prized family possessions, important family and community documents, and

the strength and breadth of quilting as an art activity in the state.

About the Author Marsha MacDowell is a professor in the Department of Art and Museum Curator of Folk Art at Michigan State University. She has had nearly thirty years of university museum-based experience in teaching, collection development and management, and development of exhibitions, festivals, publications, and arts policy, particularly as it relates to traditional arts. MacDowell also serves as the coordinator of the Michigan Traditional Arts Program (a partnership program of the MSU Museum with Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Michigan University Extension Service). She is past president of the American Quilt Study Group and currently serves on the board of The Alliance for American Quilts. Her recent activities include the development of the NEH-funded The Quilt Index, the Mellon and Ford-funded South African National Cultural Heritage Training and Technology Project, a national 'Quilt Treasures' oral history project, the Great Lakes Quilt Center, the Great Lakes Folk Festival, and the exhibition 'Carriers of Culture: Contemporary Native Baskets.'