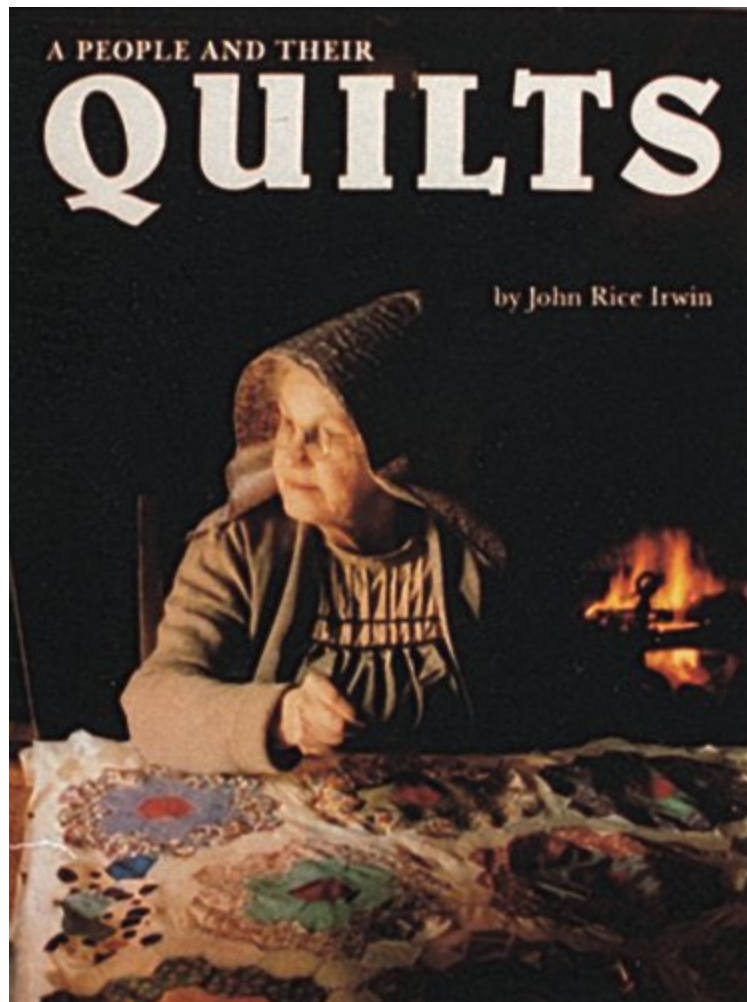


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## A People and Their Quilts

*John Rice Irwin*

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**John Rice Irwin : A People and Their Quilts** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A People and Their Quilts:

15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Captures the true essence of Quilting. Inspirational By Donald A Casey I first discovered this book while visiting my Aunt in North Carolina. She had received it as a gift from a quilter friend. I read this book every night before falling asleep. I love this book so much that when I returned home from my vacation I bought a copy. I highly recommend this book. This is not another pattern book, it is not another glamorous glossy picture book. It IS a wonderful adventure through the mountain regions of Tennessee, Appalachians and the old frontier. This book captures the history, lifestyle and dialect of a hardworking people. You will never look at your scrap bin the same way again. I have a renewed respect for every inch of cloth I own. We take so much for granted that to be immersed in a people who made primarily utilitarian quilts, and made them beautifully with REAL scraps is

a humbling experience to read. I recommend this book to anyone interested in personal histories and real life images. This book should be in everyone's library and when you have had enough of pretty picture books and endless patterns pick this book up and discover who you are in all of this. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ... the stories yet - very interesting to see how intelligent these women were to make such beautiful "works of ...By Jane Doe Haven't read all the stories yet - very interesting to see how intelligent these women were to make such beautiful "works of art" which they made to keep their family members warm. Lots of mathematical and engineering skills are required to construct some of these intricate designs and these ladies did it with very little formal education. In an age where we are becoming more and more dependent on computers rather than our brains - it makes you stop and think! Most of our younger generation can't make change for a dollar much less figure something as complicated as these quilt designs. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful documentary of a valuable skill. By Book Gobbler I love any stories of how our ancestors lived and the ways they expressed themselves artistically. The functional use of quilts gave many a good excuse to practice what they loved to do. Bravo to Irwin!

Quilts are a reflection of the people who make, use, and cherish them through the years. John Rice Irwin has personally conducted interviews with hundreds of old-time quiltmakers, some of whom were over one hundred years old. Detailed photographs taken by Pulitzer Prize winner Robin Hood depict an opulent conglomeration of quilts, from the community quilt which became known as the Murder Quilt. More importantly, Irwin looks under the quilts, at the lives of the people who created and used them. He explores their ambitions and aspirations, their struggles and disappointments. From the young ladies of Salem Valley who pieced a quilt for the town's most eligible bachelor in the hope that one of them would sleep under it, to the retired physician who began quilting in his late sixties to fill his spare time, Irwin presents their stories with compassion and candor. This lavishly illustrated volume is a treasure trove of creative needlework, colorful anecdotes, and intriguing personal histories which will entertain readers of all ages.

About the Author John Irwin is an educator-historian and one of the area's leading authorities on the pioneer-frontier culture. He is the founder and director of the nationally-known Museum of Appalachia in Norris, Tennessee.