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Centennial Prairie Quilt

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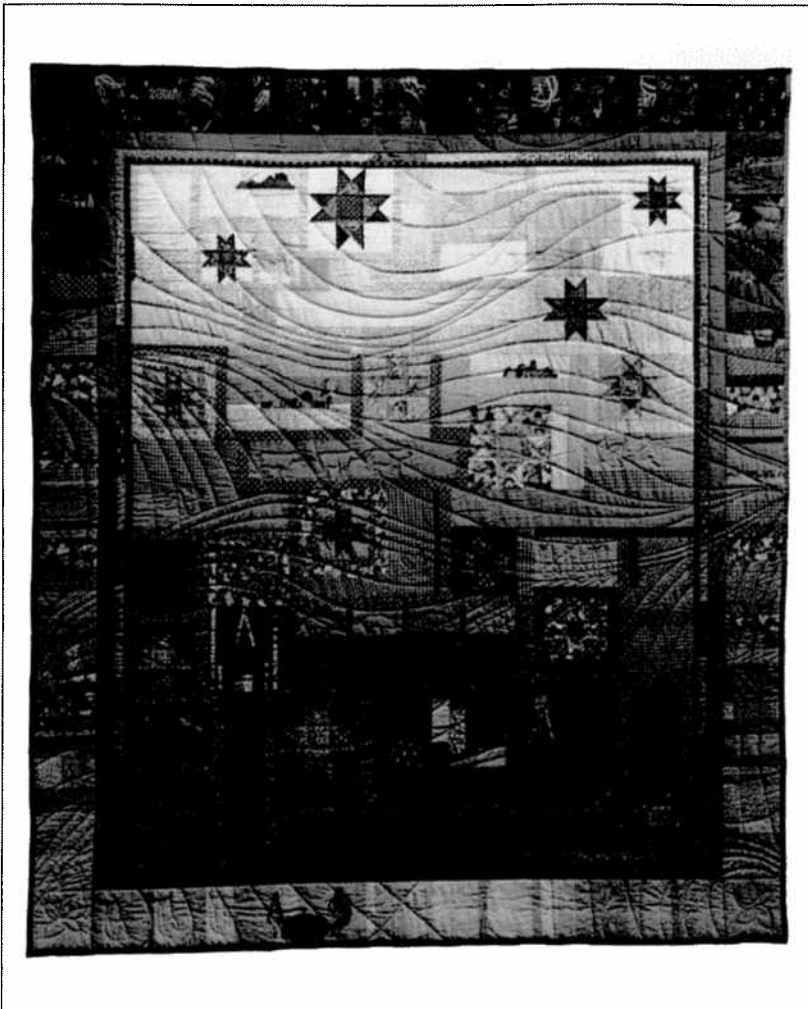
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Centennial Prairie Quilt

Joanne Alberda

66" x 76". Machine pieced and quilted with some additional hand quilting and applique. Cotton fabric.

This quilt was created for the 1991 Sioux Center Centennial. The abstracted prairie scene suggests the movement from morning to evening. Included in the work are many recognizable features, a church, a sky-line of Sioux Center, several farmsteads, pigs, cows, corn, blue-grass, leaves, and the Centennial lily. The machine stitched, swirling lines suggest the wind and breezes common to the prairie, and caught in the wind, of course, is the cottonwood leaf. The stars stamp the scene with celebration. Several quilting friends assisted with the hand stitching.

*At first glance of day-break the prairie awakens
darkness brightens to dawn;
the sky breathes the new light
and slowly unfolds
to a canopy, endlessly drawn.*

*The fresh sun-light deepens the land's auburn glow
as horizons forever unfurl,
and cottonwoods dance
in a shiver of silvery winds
that scatter and swirl.*

*The prairies great arms open wide to a town on the plains,
a place where faith can be heard
in the prayers its people confide
in a God who has listened for one hundred years,
whose promises still may abide.*

from "The Centennial Anthem"
words by James C. Schaap