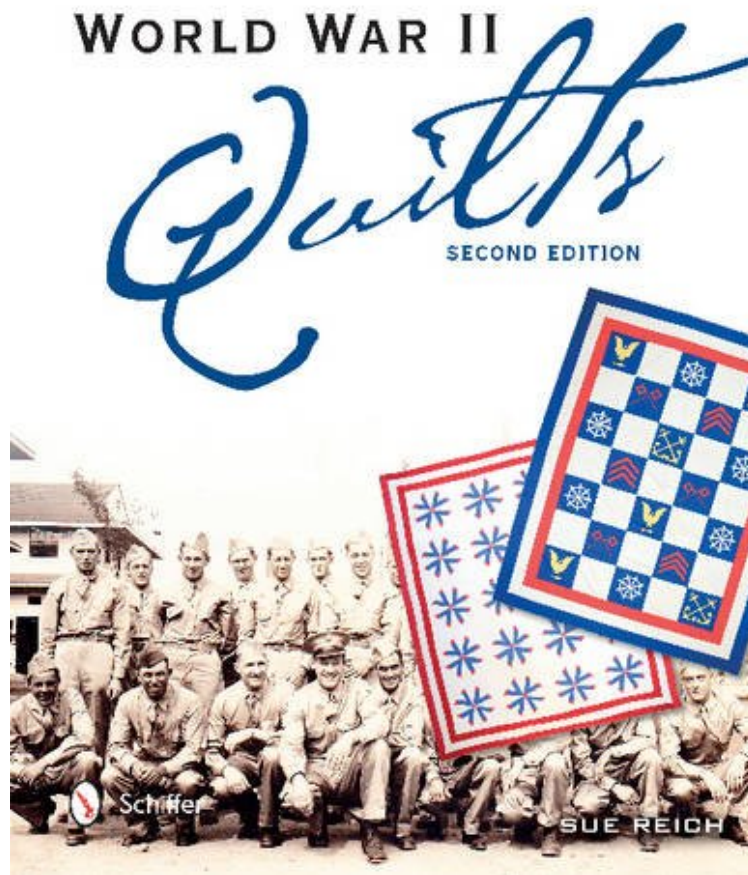


(Read free) World War II Quilts

World War II Quilts

Sue Reich

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Sue Reich : World War II Quilts before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised World War II Quilts:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful volume with phenomenal historical contextualization By Earl World War II Quilts from Sue Reich is both a delight to look at and enlightening to read. In addition to being a wonderful coffee table book it is also an example of the most engaging type of history, that told through objects and artifacts. World War II is primarily understood through a military lens and, to a slightly smaller extent, a political lens. This is understandable, it was a war after all. Yet as the use of objects to both accentuate the larger narrative and create secondary narratives has become more common we have learned to appreciate the events of history from many more, and nuanced, perspectives. In the writing of this book Reich weaves (quilts?) the larger war narrative with the many narratives among the Allied countries of sewing and quilting as ways of both rationing materials at home and providing needed supplies abroad. A friend of mine has become interested in quilting in the past few years and as a

result I have gained a curiosity for the art as well as a deep appreciation for the skill and patience involved. It was the combination of quilts with a major historical event that piqued my curiosity in this book. I expected a good discussion of the quilts and their designs and I was very happy with that aspect. I had merely hoped to get enough contextualization to be able to understand what makes WWII quilts and quilting special. In this area Reich far exceeded my expectations. The discussion of what was taking place on the home front went from big picture (rationing, women entering the workplace in larger numbers, etc) to the details essential for the story of quilting during this period. I found of particular interest the way in which quilting (and sewing in general) became ways to maintain and enhance community. From local groups forming for this purpose to newspapers having scrap drives, sewing and quilting became yet another way in which those at home could contribute to the overall effort. The discussions of the quilts themselves made the war effort personal as we learn about who made the quilts and what some of their more personal reasons were beyond simply helping the war effort. And of course the quilts themselves were amazing to look at. While quilting has often used scraps and "parts and pieces" these works were bred of necessity, not unlike the decade before or the times when families were more isolated during "frontier times." The creativity that went into these works were phenomenal. I would recommend this to anyone who likes quilts but also anyone interested in history in a more holistic mode. The pictures from newspapers and magazines provide primary source material for looking at the war from the home front perspective. Reviewed from a copy made available by the publisher via Edelweiss. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I enjoy history and love quilts so it made sense for ...By Laura M. I had the privilege of meeting the author at the Paducah quilt show. I preordered the book and have been enjoying a few pages each day. I enjoy history and love quilts so it made sense for me, however, I am surprised how the two came together so beautifully. Understanding how textiles played such an important role to the war effort and how resources and creativity were utilized to the max is inspiring. I have learned so much reading this book and it leaves me wondering how many times, unaware, I have passed by such important works and tributes. It also makes me long even more for unity in this country and leadership as we had during this period.

Many American women made warm and attractive quilts to honor and benefit US soldiers during the period 1940-1945, either as outright gifts or as raffle items to raise money for the war effort. This book reflects extensive original research of newspaper and magazine articles of the era, and authenticates the patterns and designs available to quiltmakers, anchoring the quilt historically in time. Color photos and descriptive text identify many colorful and patriotic quilts made for donation to the Red Cross and organizations such as Bundles for Britain. When possible, original patterns and designs that inspired the quilts are included. The quilts can now be interpreted from factual and objective perspectives, enhancing their historic and emotional importance.

About the Author Sue Reich began her love of quilting as a child at her grandmother's farmhouse in northwestern Pennsylvania. Her interests expanded to historic documentation, appraising, judging, and lecturing on quilts. As a nationally recognized author of quilt history books and the curator and keeper of focused quilt exhibits, Sue travels widely sharing her quilt research and knowledge.