Garden of Eden Quilt



~Circa 1840

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The "Garden of Eden" came from a museum located outside of Cleveland, Ohio that closed its doors during the last quarter of the 1900's. There was a tag that stated the quilt came from Esther Baldwin located in Atwater Township, Ohio. Esther Baldwin was born April 1900 and never married. She worked in a Rubber Factory as a bookkeeper.

Genealogy revealed that Moses Baldwin originated in Wallingford, New Haven County, Connecticut and traveled to Atwater, Ohio. Moses was born January 10,1786 and died January 31, 1873. Nancy (Burns) Baldwin was born in Lynchburg, Virginia December 17,1787 and died July 19, 1837. They were married February 6,1808 in Trumbull County, Ohio. The lineage continued with their eleven children. Esther Baldwin was the great granddaughter of Moses Baldwin and was the final caretaker of the "Garden of Eden".

Moses had a brother who also traveled to Atwater, Ohio from Wallingford, Connecticut. In 1816 Joseph C. Baldwin and his wife Rosetta Griswold came to Atwater, Ohio. They traveled in a two-horse wagon, experiencing many hardships during their six weeks journey. The Baldwin family continued to grow in the area that was named after Captain Atwater who arrived in the township in June 1799. Joseph Clark Baldwin was born November 20,1783 and died September 12, 1858. Rosetta (Griswald) Baldwin was born January 20,1788 and died June 23, 1872. They were married in Meriden, New Haven County, Connecticut December 24, 1805. The lineage continued with their eight children.

This charming quilt delights us with various designs of trees, birds and flowers. A variety of techniques were used to create the "Garden of Eden." Reverse applique, embroidered embellishments, needle turn applique and a multitude of circles were some of the applications used to create this one-of-a-kind design.

