



Loyce Wood Sage Interview Transcript June 28, 1985 Tape 5

TAPE NO. 5

INTERVIEWER: Jeannette Lasansky (J)

INTERVIEWEE: Loyce Wood Sage (L)

PLACE: Gallup, New Mexico

DATE: June 28, 1985

- (J) The template being made of oil cloth. Would you go over that again. What was so great about oil cloth?
- (L) The bottom was a thin woven material, then the finish was melted into that. That way it seemed like what we use sandpaper for now. It held tight against the piece of material you were gonna cut. Then for the same reason you used it for templates to mark quilting patterns on the material, on the quilt after you got it framed and it would stick, it wouldn't slide to where you could mark real easy. Everybody made their templates out of oil cloth. Of course you'd cut it out of/finished back or newspaper or anything.
- (J) Here we're from, we see piles of cardboard templates. You would be sewing the oil cloth.
- (L) Yes, we always cut them out of oil cloth. I never had an apron, and I suppose, very few dresses, that either didn't have a flower garden cut out and patched back or...I was always doing that.
- (J) Did you ever see tin ones?
- (L) No, never saw a metal one and never heard of one until after I started getting Quilter's Newsletter or some of those that had metal templates for sale, and I wondered about them but you'd still have to put something it would have to be rough on one side or it'd be so slippery that the plastic template material or anything like that. I cut out coffee can lids, plastic. I cut a lot of templates out of that but I give a little piece of sandpaper on the back to hold it so it won't slide because it can give enough to throw a whole pattern off.
- (J) How about roofing material. Did you ever see any asphalt...?
- (L) No, never.
- (J) The sandpaper then, is that usually backed with..... or just as a piece of sandpaper the way this piece is?
- (L) You'd have to glue it on sandpaper if you was gonna cut a million of them. Like if you were cutting Irish Chain or Flower Garden and you were going to cut thousands of them, it would wear out. The edge would wear out. But you could cut another one, but sandpaper works good.
- (J) Now you had talked about the women getting together in groups at

COLLECTION

AR.00027 Traditional Quilt Makers in New Mexico Survey

IDENTIFIER

MOIFA.AR.00027.T011

DOCUMENT

DESCRIPTION

On June 28, 1985 Jeannette Lasansky interviewed quilter Loyce Wood Sage. The interview was transcribed into typescript circa 1985-6, and the transcript was digitized May 23, 2017.

Loyce Wood was born November 7, 1919, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Her family was of Scotch-Irish descent. She completed high school. She was married to R H Sage May 18, 1937, in Socorro, New Mexico, but they divorced in about 1950. In 1985 she reported that she was retired from "the telephone company."

Loyce Wood Sage made quilts "from necessity" [underlining hers]. She used scrap, traded, and recycled fabrics, including dressmaker's cuttings, feed sacks, flour sacks, sugar sacks, and tobacco sacks. She gathered patterns from family and friends, newspapers, magazines, and batting wrappers. She didn't buy her battings, though. At one time, she carded up an entire mattress to make her own batting, and got at least 30 batts out of it. At the time of the 1985 survey, she had given all her quilts away.

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DATE

June 28 1985 Date created



May 23 2017 Date modified

DIMENSIONS

11 in (length) x 8 ½ in (width)

CURATORIAL CATEGORY

Textiles-United States and Canada, Textiles and Dress

RELATED PEOPLE

Museum of International Folk Art (publisher)

Jeannette Lasansky (contributor)