

Nancy Page Club— Magic Vine Quilt

Block 3— The Arrowhead

In making the quilt the Nancy Page neighborhood club found that they would have to brush up on wild flowers and those which were better known in grandmother's day than in their own. Few of the members had ever heard of the flower called arrowhead and yet Nancy assured them it was well known in the woods near her childhood home.

"This flower," began Nancy, "is a member of the water plantain family. It is usually white in color but I have seen it in the palest of pinks and so I chose it in that misty, filmy, baby pink for our second quilt block in this magic vine."

"Evening primrose in pale yellow and arrowhead in pale pink can well grow on this vine that-never-was but soon-will-be in our nice new quilt. The stamens of this flower are a soft orange shading into yellow. I suggest a fast color calico or English print for the round center which looks something like the ice cream in a cone."

"The triangular flower with its two-petals showing is of the pale pink, also of fast color gingham."

Nancy warned the members again about the necessity for choosing only fast color materials. She suggested that the cloth be as soft and fine as possible since the whole effect was better and since the quilting would be easier.

She really should have used a triangular shaped leaf with this plantain but since the vine is the magic one which never grew on land or sea she designed the same leaves for all parts of the vine, no matter what the flowers might be.

Then members cut today's square out of paper, pasted it on lightweight card or tag board, dried it under pressure and then cut out the various parts for pattern.

In laying the patterns on the materials, they were careful to allow a quarter-inch on all sides for turning under.

The dotted lines represent the material which is slipped under the outer pieces. For instance the two leaves are slipped under the vine. The center of the flower slipped under the flower petals.

Before placing the flower and vine on the second block it was stitched or seamed to the first block.

Then a leaf, made according to the pattern given last week, was pinned in place as indicated by dotted line.

This leaf extended over the vine of first block and under the flower center in second block.

This leaf gave the effect of continuity or an unbroken vine to the pattern. Without it the quilt would show a series of six-inch white blocks, each one having vine, leaf and flower but no connected in any way with blocks to come not with those which preceded.

At the base of the arrowhead flower vine you can see a dotted line which indicates where next week's leaf will be appliquéd.

The leaf may always be made ahead of time, since it is always cut from the same pattern but applied first in one slanting direction and then in the other.

The pressed pieces of material are appliquéd to the white block with fine slanting, invisible hemming stitches.

A duplicate of this block was made for the third vine strip which would make up the series of four in the finished quilt.

The first and third strips are duplicates; the second and four strips are alike.

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