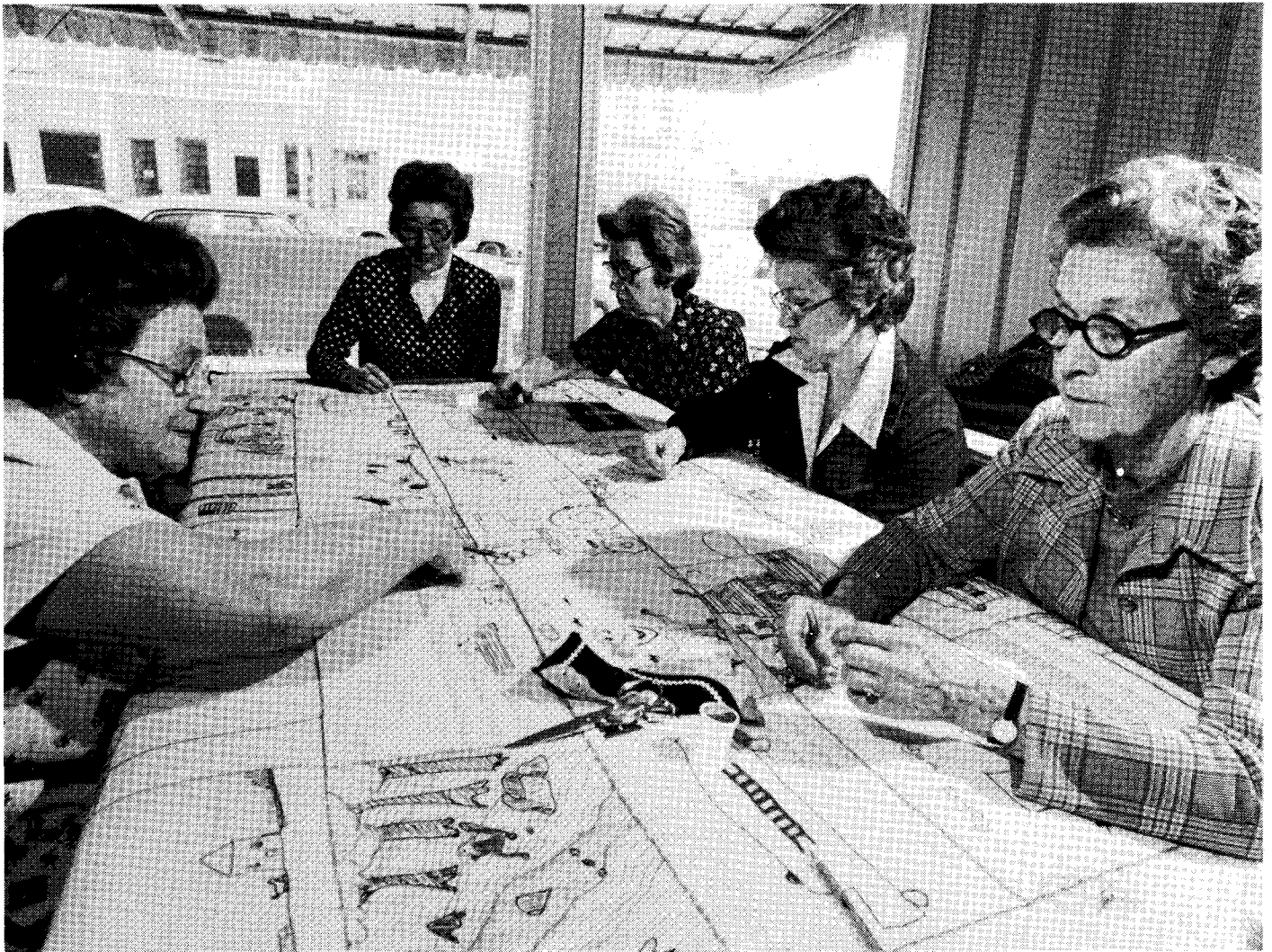


CHAPTER 11

Bicentennial Plans



Edna Dickerson, Wilma Eck, Helen Murray, Norma Mahone and Viola Beall work on the children's Bicentennial quilt.

On July 23, 1975 the first Bicentennial committee meeting was held. Norma Schorfheide had been appointed the village board member responsible for Bicentennial plans. Officers elected were Norma Schorfheide, president; Barbara Jostes, vice president; Virginia Bohlen, secretary; and Garland Lockart, treasurer. Other members appointed to the committee were: Howard Burns, Mary Ann Hedges, Lois Jones, Howard Knight, Evelyn Pistorius and Betty Shaw. The committee's purpose was not only to formulate plans for the "Giant Jollification" to be celebrated July 1st through 5th, 1976, but also to keep "Moweaqua on the Move".

In order to become a "Bicentennial Community", an honor granted to Moweaqua in March, 1976, the committee had to see that the three requirements of the national Bicentennial association were met.

These requirements were: Heritage — For this the *History of Moweaqua to 1976* was written and a recipe book compiled which contains recipes from our ancestors.

Festival — Our "Giant Jollification" in July meets this requirement. The name for our festival came from the newspaper headline announcing the community reaction to and celebration of the discovery of coal here.

Horizons — Plans are being made to preserve and beautify the downtown area and plant trees. Other projects are under consideration.

To give our Bicentennial Year its due, many other projects are planned. A log cabin quilt and a quilt made from art work submitted by school children have been made and will be raffled off in July. Fifteen pillows using children's art were also made. Films taken of the Moweaqua Centennial Celebration in 1952 were shown in April. A "tasting dinner" featuring foods for which recipes appear in the Bicentennial Cook Book was held in June. The local Future Homemakers of America scheduled a fashion show of authentic olden days apparel, as well as new creations copied from the past. This was in May, as was a tea and program for senior citizens. The Dr. Pistorius choir presented a Bicentennial concert in June.

Following is the schedule of events for the Giant Jollification. There will be displays of large farm machinery and Indian relics throughout the five days.

Thursday, July 1

Dedication of softball field and exhibition game at Moweaqua Park west.

Friday, July 2

Stitchery Fair — items displayed will remain all week.
Softball games throughout the celebration.
Opening Ceremonies — Don Drew, Master of Ceremonies.
Baby Contest.
Beards judged — contest began in February.
Entertainment by local girls sextette.
Western Style Square Dance.

Saturday, July 3

Food Fair.
Bicentennial Parade.
Games for all ages.
Old Time Fiddlers.
Magic Cavalcade.
Food served cafeteria-style at school.
Variety Show and Singalong.
Dance for young people.

Sunday, July 4

"Shilos" Singing Group.
Basket dinner picnic.
Concert.
Community Church Service, Rev. C. William Nichols.
Music by Men's Quartet.

Monday, July 5

Firemen's Chicken Fry.
Lakeland Opry.
Drawing for Quilts and Prizes.
Fireworks.

Much community interest and cooperation have been shown for every phase of our Bicentennial Year. We look forward to a successful completion of these plans.

This brings us to the present moment of our history. Our book is not complete because it would take years of research and writing to make it so. Perhaps this book has indicated, however, why we are proud of our heritage.