

## **TREASURES FROM THE YORK COUNTY HERITAGE TRUST**

### **About the original quilt:**

From among over 100 antique quilts in the Trust's collection, one quilt in particular, was selected for reproduction of its fabrics. It is known simply as "the Strippy Quilt". Quilts of this type were seen most frequently in the early part of the Nineteenth Century, from 1810 to 1830. They were, possibly, the forerunners of the pieced block quilt, an American innovation that required smaller amounts of a single fabric than the wholecloth quilt which preceded it in the late Eighteenth Century.

The beautiful large plume print and the bird print were early glazed chintzes; and because of their narrow verticality, were probably recycled from former window or bed curtains. The diagonally-set squares and setting triangles were cut from what were described in a store advertisement in an 1815 edition of *The York Gazetteer* as "calicoes of the most elegant figures." In York, fancy "imported" fabric could mean as far away as Philadelphia (100 miles to the East). In Philadelphia, those imports came from England, France, and the exotic East (India and China).

To round out the collection, three exquisite prints were chosen from two other quilts of the same time period.

The documented fabrics have been faithfully reproduced, and all of the additional colors are accurate to the early 1800s.

### **About the Trust:**

The Historical Society of York County (PA) was founded in 1895 by interested citizens who wished to collect, preserve, and interpret the history and culture of York County and its people. In 1999, the Historical Society merged with the Agricultural and Industrial Museum and became part of the York County Heritage Trust. It currently oversees three museums, a research library and archives, four historic properties, one replica building, and the Murals of York. The York County Heritage Trust is one of the largest private, non-profit historical organizations in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.