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Subject of Square: Portrait of Edward Tuck

Quilter's Name: Christine Bushway

Background on subject:

Edward Tuck was born in Exeter, NH on August 24, 1842, to Sarah Ann Nudd and political figure Amos Tuck. Amos Tuck was the son of John Tuck who was a descendant of Robert Tucke one of Hampton's first settlers in 1638.

The large, framed portrait that hangs over the fireplace mantle in the main room of the Tuck Museum intrigued me. Who was this person and why was he given such prominent billing here? Turns out Mr. Tuck donated funds to buy the house and land that is now the Hampton Historical Society's museum and park, which appropriately was named the Tuck Museum. In addition, Edward Tuck generously supported the Hampton Academy and high school as well as giving \$10,000 in 1927 for the development of the sports facilities on town land for the youth of Hampton, now known as Tuck Memorial Field. Clearly Edward Tuck was a significant Hampton benefactor.



Why you chose this subject:

I chose to make a quilt block to depict Edward Tuck because, I assume that many other townspeople attend events in the big room with his portrait but don't know who he is or why he's remembered in such a grand way.

Thoughts on your representation/design/color choices/etc.:

After studying the Tuck portrait, I attempted to duplicate it in fabric as close as possible rather than simply abstractly creating a picture of a man. To do this I used actual suiting material for his suit, and material from an actual shirt for his white shirt. The tie I made from knotting a grey striped fabric. The hard part was capturing his facial features in hand stitching - especially his handlebar mustache!

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What you hope this quilt will mean for the people who see it:

I hope that our quilt will make people realize that they don't know as much about Hampton as they should and will motivate them to learn more. I also hope it will make people realize that even in our high-tech world, old time skills such as quilting can still be used to convey long unknown or forgotten stories.