

# “ARMENIAN LOVE”

Circa 1840



*Pride of Pennsylvania*

*Pattern Series*

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The “Armenian Love” design was inspired by a doll quilt in the Christ Collection dated circa 1840. This design is often referred to as a “Pomegranate” or “Love Apple. During the nineteenth century small quilts were made for children. The same fabrics and pattern design for a child’s quilt were often used after creating a larger quilt. As a collector, it is a treasure to own an example of a doll quilt with such an interesting design.

One of the symbols of Armenian culture is the pomegranate. According to Armenian mythology the pomegranate symbolizes fertility, abundance and good fortune. Ancient Greeks believed the pomegranate tree grew out of the blood of Dionysus, who was the God of vegetation and winemaking. It has also been a sign of power due to the crown on its head. The shell of the fruit with the large amount of seeds can also symbolize the universe with its stars and planets. The Armenians refer to this fruit as “Nur.”

A bride throwing a pomegranate (Nur) against the wall during her wedding is a custom in Western Armenia. Breaking the fruit into pieces with scattered seeds indicates the bride will have children.



*Original “Armenian Love” Doll Quilt © 1840*

*Measurement 11” x 11 ½”*