

This Quilt Barn Trail was a collaborative effort with the Black Swamp Arts Council, Sauder Village, local community individuals and property owners as a national grassroots rural public arts movement. The project relates rural heritage and an appreciation for quilting and is a way to honor quilters past & present who live in the area. The Quilt Barn Trail movement began in Ohio in 2001 and has spread countrywide.

Learn more at [barnquiltinfo.com](http://barnquiltinfo.com)

Narrated driving tour of Trail 1 CDs with stories from the barn owners are available at Threads of Tradition Quilt Shop at Sauder Village for \$12.

## TRAIL #1

### 1 Double Windmill Variation

4896 Hwy 66

Sauder Village, Ohio's largest living history destination, purchased this farm from the Rupp family with intentions of eventually expanding the timeline portrayed at the Historic Village. Currently this bank barn is used for farm implement storage. The Double Windmill block was chosen to represent the windmill logo of Sauder Village.



### 2 Summer Winds

21860 County Road C

This farm has been in the Short family for many years. Owners Walt and Darlene (Short) Polasek chose the Summer Winds block as a symbol of the many quilt blocks that were sewn here as well as numerous quilting bees that took place at this homestead. In this area, quilting was, and still is, an important form of socialization for many women.



### 3 Harvest Time

1041 County Road 21

Rufenacht Farms consists of brothers Cork and Jim and their three sons Brian, Cory and Jason who are all partners in the business and work full time on the farm. Along with their families, they chose the Harvest Time block because the colors and complexity of this block remind them of the beauty of autumn in Ohio, the joys and challenges of working together as a family, and gratefulness for the blessing of a safe and bountiful harvest.



### 4 Swamp Angel

U185 County Road 21A, Napoleon, OH  
N41 27.553 W084 16.530

Lifelong residents of this area, Eugene and Dian Wendt purchased this farm in 1964. The barn, built in the 1900's, housed market hogs until 1996. In 2004, Gene and Dian's son Jeremy and his wife Amy purchased the homestead. Jeremy and his brother Dean have continued on with the family tradition of farming, primarily raising grain crops. This barn now serves as home to daughter Anna's 4H project hogs during the summer months. The Swamp Angel block design was chosen because of its beauty and simplicity.



### 5 Fannie's Bouquet

3768 County Road 25

In the 1920's Linda's great grandparents lived on this farm. In fact, her great-grandpa built the barn and the house located on the farm where Mike and Linda Stuckey have lived since 1983. Linda's grandparents met on this farmstead and were married here. This block was named Fannie's Bouquet in honor of this family history and good memories of Grandma Fannie.



### 6 Contrary Wife

5380 County Road 25

This Centennial farm has been owned by the Stuckey family since 1855. Randy Stuckey, the present owner, is the 4th generation to live on this site. Although the quilt block is hanging on a more modern metal barn built in 2009, the hip roof barn on this property, like so many other barns in this community, was built around 1900 at an old fashioned barn-raising. Up to 150 family members, friends and neighbors, including men, women and children worked together to build barns like this one in just a few days.



### 7 Blazing Star

8904 County Road 23

Dan and Judy Leininger are the third generation to live at this location. The farm was originally purchased in February 1919 by Dan's grandparents, Edward and Carrie Leininger, and was later owned by Dan's parents, Albert and Myrtice Leininger. This area was originally known as Darby's Corner. The Blazing Star is a version of a four-pointed star pattern and is sometimes called Mother's Delight.



### 8 Shooting Star

8125 County Road 21

Gary and Mary Waidelich purchased this farm in 2001 and have used the barn to raise steers and replacement heifers ever since. Their barn is not as old as many others in the area because the original barn at this location burned in the mid 1900's and was replaced by the current structure.



### 9 Garden Patch

21104 US 20-Alt

Located on the site of the first settlement in northwest Ohio, owners Chris and Becky Ott saw the potential in this bank barn built in the mid 1800's and bought the farm in 1995 to raise a family and some hogs. This house quickly became a home for them as they expanded the farm with another barn and a small mulch business. It took input from the entire family to choose this quilt pattern and colors because they are all very proud of what they have accomplished together.



### 10 Starry Night

21392 County Road D

In 1845, Joseph Sauder, the great-great grandfather of current owner Martha Wyse and the late Ivan (Sparks) Wyse purchased this land. The house and barn were built in 1893 and have been in the family ever since. Huge trees on the property were cut down to make the barn beams and each sixty foot purlin running the length of the barn is cut from a single tree with no splice in the beam. Martha is glad to have the Starry Night block on her barn, because her family loves to go out and look at the stars in the night sky.



## TRAIL #2

### 1 Ohio Star

(Grandmother's Flower Garden Variation)

8848 OH 108  
Wauseon, Ohio

The Fulton County Visitors Bureau and Welcome Center and the Fulton County Historical Society Museum are both housed in this building to promote Fulton County and Heritage Tourism. This quilt block was designed to symbolize the partnership between the State of Ohio and Fulton County (represented by the 12 township hexagons in the quilt block) to create this multi-use facility in 2017.



### 2 Sunburst

9732 County Road 19  
Wauseon, Ohio

Having a quilt block on the barn reminds Greg and Jodi Nofziger that all of their grandmothers, as well as Greg's mother, loved to quilt. The color purple was chosen to honor both Greg's mom Janeth and his sister Karen because it was their favorite color. This pattern is a variation of a compass which always provides a way to "come home".



### 3 Flying Geese

18160 US 20A  
Wauseon, Ohio

Marv and Kathy Leatherman bought this place in 1978. They both love local history and are involved with the Fulton Co Historical Museum. They enjoy watching the geese fly north in the spring and south in the fall. Kathy is a quilter and enjoys learning about quilt history. Although not confirmed by historians, popular folklore hints that the flying geese pattern may have been used as a directional sign for the Underground Railroad.



### 4 Carpenter's Wheel

17883 County Road F  
Wauseon, Ohio

Terry & Terri Rufenacht purchased this farm in 1983. Both of them grew up on local family farms. They initially chose the "Carpenter's Wheel" because they liked the design. Stories passed down through the generations suggest that this pattern was symbolic to runaway slaves, silently communicating directions to escapees who were travelling the Underground Railroad. Quilts with special patterns could be hung on a line or out a window and not raise any suspicion. It simply looked like a housewife airing her bedding!



### 5 Capital T

3293 County Road 16  
Wauseon, OH

Daryl and Margaret Nofziger have lived on the family farm, previously owned by Daryl's parents Moses and Ida, all their married life. Ida pieced and quilted many quilts in her lifetime and the pattern Capital T reminds them of her meticulous work.



