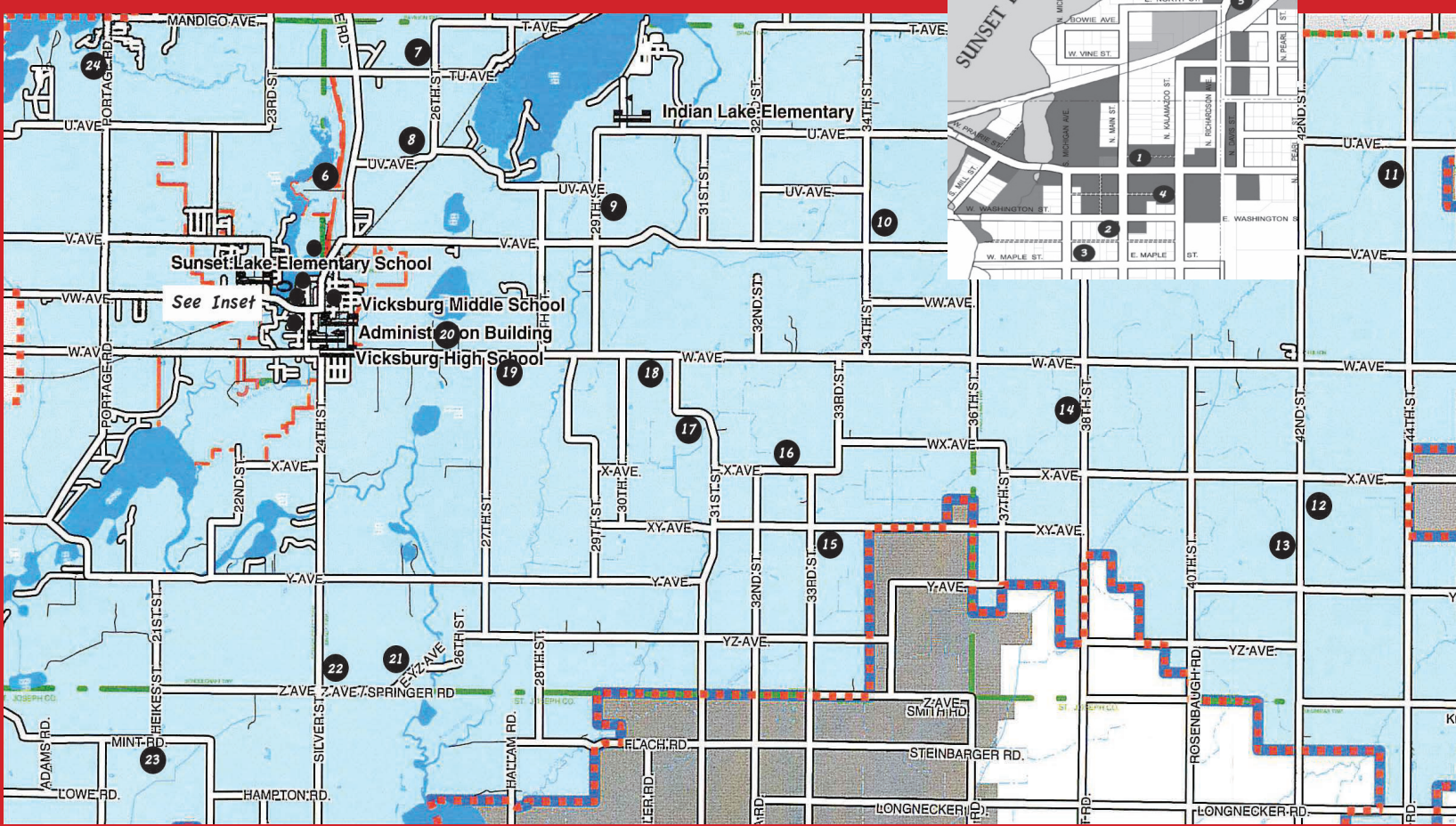


From Town To Farm

Experience the Historic Charm



1. WREATH OF LILIES



101 East Prairie St. at Main St.

This bright quilt block in the center of town is set "on point" to be unique. Leonard & Christina Klok chose it to remind us of the American Lotus water lilies that grew here on Sunset Lake. Tourists came in August to see the large blooms, but the plants disappeared in the 1920s due to overharvesting the seedpods for dried arrangements.

2. WATERWHEEL



202 South Main St. at Washington St.

The Rawlinson's Appliances building began life in the 1880s as a grocery. By 1925 it housed village offices and the police department and jail. Ask owner Julie Merrill to visit the old jail complete with bunks and toilets! WATERWHEEL highlights Vickers Mill, which began in the 1830s just west of here in Clark Park. That's where Vicksburg got its name.

3. FANNY'S FAN



215 South Michigan Ave. on Maple St.

In 1902 Mrs. Fanny Bair, a member of the Ladies Library Auxillary, built a brick Romanesque library that is now a Historic Site. It featured such "modern" conveniences as electric lights and running water. In 1986 the new addition to the Vicksburg District Library was built. FANNY'S FAN was painted from 1902 color chips and placed near the original entrance.

4. PURE MICHIGAN MAPLE



120 South Kalamazoo Ave.

Every spring Bill & Ruthie Dorrance make maple syrup, so this variation of a traditional quilt block was a natural choice. Their historic barn was built by Bill's grandfather and everyone always referred to it as 'the barn on Kalamazoo Avenue'. Ruthie painted the quilt block in her store on Main St., *Ruthie's Paint and Yarn Shoppe*.

5. RAILROAD CROSSING (Also AT THE DEPOT)



300 North Richardson St.

This pattern was a natural choice for the Vicksburg Historical Society which runs the 1904 Depot Museum within the Vicksburg Historic Village. The Village consists of restored buildings displaying items of the lively 1830-1930 Vicksburg era. It is a growing collection so visit often and let the kids climb the red caboose! Open Saturdays 10 am-3 pm May through December.

6. BASKETS (Self Designed)



12368 Sprinkle Rd. at UV Ave.

Long ago quilters got their inspiration from everyday items such as baskets. A quilter herself, Lynn Timko designed this variation of the popular block and her husband Joe hung it. The colors match their beautiful 1861 Italianate home. BASKETS was reputedly used as a Signal Quilt pattern for slaves escaping north, it signaled to gather their belongings.

7. LOVE THE LAND (Self Designed)



5842 East TU Ave.

Richard & Freddi Coppes love America! Richard is a WWII veteran and Freddi loves her Dutch ancestors who were loggers. Their barn was built in 1911, the date is stamped into the concrete step. Years ago the stone milk house in front held cold well water to chill the milk cans.

8. NORTH STAR



5853 East UV Ave. (facing the house)

Ken & Lee Evensen hung this barn quilt in 2008 and it became the inspiration for the entire VQT. It is enamel on galvanized metal. Lee, an avid quilter, chose the popular NORTH STAR pattern because they love to go up north. This pattern also was used in Signal Quilts for runaway slaves going north on the Underground Railroad. This 1800s barn is post and beam construction using oak and tamarack woods.

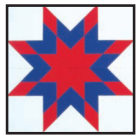
9. BACK TO SCHOOL



12665 South 29th St. near UV Ave.

Across the street at Three Corners was Morse School, a one room schoolhouse named after its caretakers who lived on this farm. Owners Joe & Stephanie Orr like what a local teacher said in 1933, "Children should be taught to appreciate their opportunities." The Orrs took the opportunity to restore their 1917 farmhouse and barn, a goal of all quilt trails.

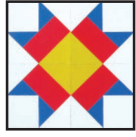
10. BRIGHT MORNING STAR



12855 South 34th St. at V Ave.

Matt and Julie Skrzypek like the red & white Vicksburg Bulldogs colors because the whole family are alumni. They moved here in 1985 to farm over 1000 acres, 16 just for sunflowers that bloom in August. BRIGHT MORNING STAR has had many names over the decades but this one makes it a New Testament Quilt. In Revelation 22:16 Jesus said, "I am... the bright Morning Star."

11. CENTENNIAL



12084 South 44th St. in Fulton, MI

David and Lori Fry are the fourth generation to run this farm since 1876. That makes it a Michigan Centennial Farm and a perfect spot for CENTENNIAL block. The Fry generation has lived on these rolling hills since 1987. Twin Brook Farms refers to the 2 creeks that wander through the property on their way to the Portage River.

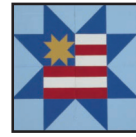
12. COUNTY FAIR



15181 South 42nd St. in Fulton, MI

This farm was called Elm Acres and the 1900 barn reputedly required 20 acres of timber. Local teams played basketball inside! Kathy Shook Mitchell chose COUNTY FAIR in loving memory of her husband, Joe who helped their two kids with 4-H activities. Several livestock awards were won at the Kalamazoo County Fair. See the 4-H colors?

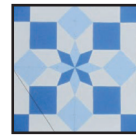
13. PATRIOTIC STAR



15388 South 42nd St. in Fulton, MI

This barn was built in 1902, long ago someone scratched that into the concrete. This a bank barn and it has a single huge 60' beam supporting the floor. Joe and Karen Austin were 'drawn to' this quilt block and it displays their pride in the U.S.A.

14. STARLIGHT



14280 South 38th St.

This early 1900s barn is reputed to be the tallest in Kalamazoo County. It is a bank barn where horses could pull a wagon up through the big doors. The Fritz family chose this traditional quilt pattern because they love stars. STARLIGHT was designed for the late 1800s American nursery rhyme that all children love... "Starlight, star bright, first star I've seen tonight." Go ahead and make a wish!

15. GOD'S EYE



15515 South 33rd St. at XY Ave.

Dave & Charlene Taylor chose this vivid quilt block because it's keeping a watchful eye over their loving family, farm and community. Several blessings are written on the back. This late 1800s farm once supplied cream for a local creamery and more recently the rolling hills provided fun hayrides for church and school outings.

16. HUNTER'S STAR



9245 East X Ave.

Doug & Joanne Craddock's quilt highlights Bear Creek Game Ranch that they began in 2008. They specialize in deer and pheasant hunts, the Bear Creek meanders through the 120 acres. This farm was established in 1845, the barn has a gambrel roofline and unusual lightning rod.

17. BLUEBIRDS (Also DOVE IN THE WINDOW)



8308 East WX Ave.

You can still smell the mint when you mow, it was the original crop in these lowlands back in the 1800s. Next came dairy cows & draft horses. Jeff & Karen Foster moved here with Arabian horses in 1991 and have made this farm and Victorian home a real showplace. They love the many bluebirds that arrive each spring.

18. DRUNKARD'S PATH



7970 East W Ave.

Deb Fisher replicated her great grandmother's late 1800s quilt. DRUNKARD'S PATH quilt block was popular with the women of the temperance movement of that period, they urged abstinence from 'all spirits'. One might even develop a 'thirst for drink' if you even slept under this quilt!

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19. ARROWHEADS
6806 East W Ave.
Leroy & Barb Fink came here in 1957 to raise five kids and farm 240 acres. After plowing it was fun to find arrowheads on this former Indian hunting land near the Portage River. Middle school art students painted ARROWHEADS using colors for the Indian spiritual elements of air, earth, fire & water.

20. BROKEN STAR
6405 East W Ave.
Siblings Daryl Hippen and Dawn Hippen Hall chose the colorful BROKEN STAR quilt block. The challenge of painting it to look like real fabric went to the high school art students. Everyone signed the border. The Western-style barn was built in 1881 using nearby materials, it has a gable roofline.

21. AROUND THE CORNER
6115 East Z Ave.
Around some bends in the road you'll discover AROUND THE CORNER. This barn quilt is hosted by Chuck & Deb Peterson and their early 1900s barn is next to the cool Portage Creek. Kayakers like to rest here. The Peterson's chose some Behr paint names that reflect what we all like about summer... Corn Silk, Lemon Sorbet and Summer Heat. It's hot!

22. CORN AND BEANS
16611 South 24th St.
Rob & Regina Richardson chose CORN AND BEANS quilt block because their family farms over 3000 acres. The rotation of seed corn and soybeans keeps the soil fertile. That is represented by the orderly rows of triangles in the quilt design. The Italian Revival home is 1850s.

23. LORI'S STAR
20499 Mint Rd. at 21st St.
Lori Lash got quite a surprise from her husband, Bud and their children. She was returning from quilt club in 2011 when she saw a quilt block on their Prairie-style barn! LORI'S STAR is in patriotic colors, a family favorite. Mint Road is located in the old "mint district" where spearmint was grown for the A.M. Todd Company.

24. QUILT GALLERY
11428 Portage Rd. in Portage MI
A first for Michigan! Dan & Mary Fish are proud to display the QUILT GALLERY, their 1940s Jamesway Barn was built from a kit. Four Vicksburg quilt groups collaborated on this project; (l to r) Quilt-n-Friends/FRIENDSHIP STARS, Sew What Now God?/LOG CABIN TWISTED, Hearthside Quilters/MICHIGAN STAR, VQT Committee/DOUBLE WEDDING RING.

The Quilt Trail movement began in Ohio in 2001 and has spread country-wide. Learn more at barnquiltinfo.com. Author Suzi Parron will feature the Vicksburg Quilt Trail in her next book titled FOLLOWING THE BARN QUILT TRAIL, look for it in 2016. Many thanks to the people who helped make the VQT possible: *Vicksburg Historical Society, Vicksburg Foundation, Vicksburg Department of Public Works, Quilt Trails Of Michigan, the property owners and many volunteers.*

The VQT is funded entirely by grants and donations. All labor is done by volunteers. If you have enjoyed visiting the Quilt Trail please consider making a tax deductible donation to the Vicksburg Historical Society (300 N. Richardson St., Vicksburg, MI 49097) so it can continue to promote the community's agricultural heritage. Please add that your donation is for the Quilt Trail.

MICHIGAN MADE VICKSBURG PROUD!

For more information contact us at 269-329-0481, hkrinehart@msn.com, and vicksburghistory.org. Please call about a presentation for your group and be sure to LIKE us at [facebook.com/VicksburgQuiltTrail](https://www.facebook.com/VicksburgQuiltTrail).

Vicksburg, MI
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The Quilt Trail is 45 miles long and covers the large Vicksburg School District. Please be respectful of private property. Use caution when you slow or stop to view the barn quilts. Thank you.

MDOT 80091263 Rev 2015

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