

Alcona County Michigan



Quilt Trail Stitching Together a Community

AlconaQuiltTrail.com

8 Old Stone Church

5606 Shaw Rd., Harrisville, MI 48740

The Haynes Community Church was established in 1887; at that time it was located at the corner of Alcona Road and Lakeshore Drive. It was moved to the top of the hill, across the road from the present site. That church building burned, but some pews, the pulpit and a few other furnishings were saved. The present "Old Stone Church" now standing was built during the Depression and took ten years to complete. It is still an active congregation. The church is a popular spot for weddings, signified by the "Double Wedding Ring" Quilt Trail block.

9 Stevens farm

1950 N. Barlow Rd., Lincoln, MI 48742

The farmhouse here was built in 1905, and has since been remodeled. Through the years, the family has unearthed a grinding wheel, axe and adze heads, and shoe lasts in the yard, evidence of early life on the farm when people had to do more things for themselves. The barn at this farm was built in 1902, and hosts the "Sister's Choice" Quilt Trail block in honor of Amy Stevens, the owner's sister. Amy has muscular dystrophy and is an active spokesperson for MD research; she is well-known in the community for her fund-raising efforts.

10 Somers farm

1940 N. Somers Rd., Lincoln, MI 48742

The Somers family has worked hard to make this Michigan Centennial Farm a showplace. The century-old barn is an appropriate location for the Centennial Quilt Trail block.

11 Godi farm

2249 Ritchie Rd., Lincoln, MI 48742

This barn was used originally for cattle, but now is storage for the Godi family, who have owned the farm for 16 years. Mrs. Godi's mother and grandmother both made quilts. Their Quilt Trail block is called "Farm Friendliness".

12 Lincoln Train Depot

Northeast corner of Lake and Fiske Sts., downtown Lincoln.

Open the first Monday of July, thru September. Hours: Mon 10-2; Tues 1-3; Wed 11-3; Thurs 2-4; Fri 6-8 p.m. Closed weekends.

Possibly the only remaining wooden depot in the state, built circa 1886, it has been restored by local volunteers over the last ten years. The building and grounds now host an impressive display of railroad memorabilia, including a caboose car and a switch engine. A group of local ladies hand quilt in the waiting room weekly; they make a quilt every year to raffle as a fund-raiser for the depot. Their Quilt Trail block is "At The Depot".

13 Flights of Imagination Park

Lincoln, north of Marshall Street

Formerly just a lot with a few picnic tables, the park is being developed through grants and volunteer labor into a wonderful recreation area. Future plans include an ice rink and gazebo. Their Quilt Trail block is called "Child's Play".

14 White Barn Gardens

4299 E. M-72, Harrisville, MI 48740

Seeking an Alcona County barn to restore, Bill and Billie Thompson located this circa 1930-40 bow-truss style barn on Hubbard Lake Road. It was disassembled, moved, then reassembled and restored on a new foundation in 1999 and is now in use. Look for their roadside produce and flower stand in season. Their Quilt Trail block is the "Giant Sunflower".

15 Seaver Country House

311 McLean Rd., Harrisville, MI 48740 989-724-6939, George and Marcy Redlawsk "Owners"

This scenic property was once owned by Mrs. Seaver, a wealthy, well-traveled widow who devoted her life to her family and raising prize-winning Hampshire sheep. The restored farmhouse showcases many of the architectural features Mrs. Seaver brought back from Europe, including carved wooden pillars from Italy, marble floors in the atrium, and handpainted murals. Their Quilt Trail block, "the Weathervane", is highlighted by a Hampshire sheep.

16 Greenbush School

5029 Campbell St., Greenbush. Owned by the Greenbush Historical Society, contact Ed & Donna Roddy, 989-739-2159

This schoolhouse served the area from 1870 to 1947. Greenbush, previously named "Perfection", once boasted a hotel, a bar, and three gas stations. A tunnel (since filled in) ran underground from the hotel to the beach, allowing patrons to reach the shoreline without having to cross the busy highway, now US 23. Greenbush is the most populated township in Alcona County. Their Quilt Trail block shows the schoolhouse bell among the community's namesake trees or "green bush".

17 Spencer Park

Located on Ridley Rd., just west of Cedar Lake Rd., Greenbush

The park is named after retired Detroit fire chief Ray Spencer, who served as Greenbush Trustee and chairman of the Greenbush Chamber of Commerce. Their Quilt Trail block features a sunbonnet girl on a swing.

18 Bruce Park

Located on F-30, two blocks east of F-41, Mikado

Donated to the community by the founder of Mikado, Daniel Bruce, the park had fallen into disrepair until concerned citizens recently organized an effort to refurbish it. Featuring new restrooms, flagpole, benches, and picnic tables, the park was rededicated in the spring of 2009. The Quilt Trail block is called "Annie's Favorite", in honor of longtime resident Annie Loyer who made quilts of this pattern for local people in need.

19 Leeseberg Farms

2676 Proconier Rd., Harrisville, MI 48740 989-736-8655 or 989-335-0904 leesebergfarms@gmail.com also find us on Facebook.

Farm tours and beef purchase by appointment. Find us at farmer's markets in Lincoln, Tawas, Oscoda and Alpena.

Originally a Proconier family farm in the 1800's, the vacant 40-acre property had fallen into disrepair when Cindy and Gary Leeseberg purchased it in 1980. At one time it was a D & M railroad passenger stop for area residents going north to Lincoln and south to Bay City, including timber barons and lumberjacks. Apple trees have grown up along the railroad bed, evidence of snacks eaten by passengers who then tossed the cores out the window; hence the Leeseberg's Quilt Trail block, "A Snack For The Train". Local folks still come to pick their favorite heirloom apples from these trees. Railroad spikes, coal, and fire bricks are still discovered when the fields are worked. The Leesebergs originally wanted a few cattle and a garden for the family; by 2011 they had expanded their beef herd to 150 Angus cross cattle and are licensed and insured to sell their products. The cattle are born on the farm, have no added hormones and are antibiotic-free, remaining on the farm until they are transported to the USDA processing plant. They offer both grain-fed (non-GMO) and grass-fed beef in cuts like ground beef, single steaks, and roasts cut for small families and flash-frozen.

20 Denny & Cathy Bordner farm

1704 E. Mill St., Harrisville, MI 48740

Located in what was once the thriving town of Killmaster, the original barn on this property burned in the early 1930's. The Pheister family (Cathy's grandparents) purchased, disassembled, and moved this barn with horse and wagon from another farm five miles away. It was reassembled at its present location. Their Quilt Trail block, the "Double Ohio Star", honors all of Cathy's grandparents who came here from Ohio in the early 1920's.

21 Site of Klondike School (formerly Harmony Acres)

433 E. F-30, Mikado, MI 48745

For many years, Chuck and Mary Harmon successfully ran Harmony Acres, their beekeeping business where they produced honey, beeswax, cosmetics and other honey-related products. In recent years the bees began to die from the effects of pesticides and toxins in the environment, so the business closed in 2010. Mary's father attended the Klondike School that once stood here; the foundation is all that remains. Built by Henry Loud about 1910, the building was then sold to school district #4. Their Quilt Trail block is the traditional Honey Bee block, with the center portion altered to include the schoolhouse pattern.

22 MacNeill farm

351 N. Sanborn Rd., Barton City, MI 48705

A Michigan Centennial farm, this property has passed down through the family mostly in the women's lines. The pinwheel-style Quilt Trail block is called "MacNeill's Flywheel" due to Mr. MacNeill's interest in racing and engines; purple and gold are his racing colors.

23 Barton City Community Park

Barton City, MI 48705

This park is located on the site of a turnaround for the logging trains, back when Barton City was a lumbering community. Barton City has always had a men's baseball team, their colors are forest green and gold. Their Quilt Trail block is based on the log cabin block, combining the logging symbolism with the ball team colors to create their unique design.

24 Quart farm

1670 Stout Rd., Glennie, MI 48737

This barn was built in 1937 as a horse barn for Mr. Quart's show horses. Made of massive white pine logs cut on the property, the barn features glazed brick on the outside and a wooden brick floor so the horses would not slip. A barn dance was held when construction was complete. The cowboy boots on their Quilt Trail block are done in the colors of the horses that were raised here.

25 Curtis Township Library

4884 Bamfield Rd., Glennie, MI 48737

Established in 1996, this library primarily serves the communities of Glennie and Curtisville. The library used to be located in a 600-square-foot unheated room behind the fire hall. The new building was built with volunteer labor, and was funded entirely by grants. The primary construction crew was composed of the Library Board of Trustees and the Glennie Friends of the Library. The property was originally owned by George Sweet and was donated to the township. Their Quilt Trail block is called "Helping Hands" to honor all those who worked to create this library.

26 Alcona Canoe Rental

6351 Bamfield Rd., Glennie, MI 48737 1-800-526-7080. Open April thru September. www.alconacanoes.com

Located at one of the most beautiful places in Alcona County, this popular recreation area featuring camping and canoeing on the beautiful AuSable River. Their Quilt Trail block is called "Crossed Canoes".

27 Jack and Maxine Small farm

Corner of M-65 and Small Road, Curran, MI 48728

This barn was built circa 1886 by W.H. Wiedbruck. Ward and Alma Small moved to Curran in 1928; he was Mitchell Township Supervisor for many years, and she was the Curran Postmaster for 32 years. Their son Jack bought the property where the barn is located and lives nearby; the Small family now raise the black Angus cattle depicted on their Quilt Trail block.

28 Mitchell Township Hall

Tower Rd., Curran, MI 48728

Curran is known as the Black Bear Capital of Michigan. The center of local government, the township hall property is the site of the Curran Black Bear Festival which takes place in September each year. Their Quilt Trail block features a black bear silhouetted over the patchwork Bear Paw design.

About the Quilt Trail...

The Alcona County Quilt Trail Project consists of large painted wooden quilt blocks, which are mounted on barns or other structures or site of interest within the county. Designs are chosen to represent the history of the site or the people who live there.

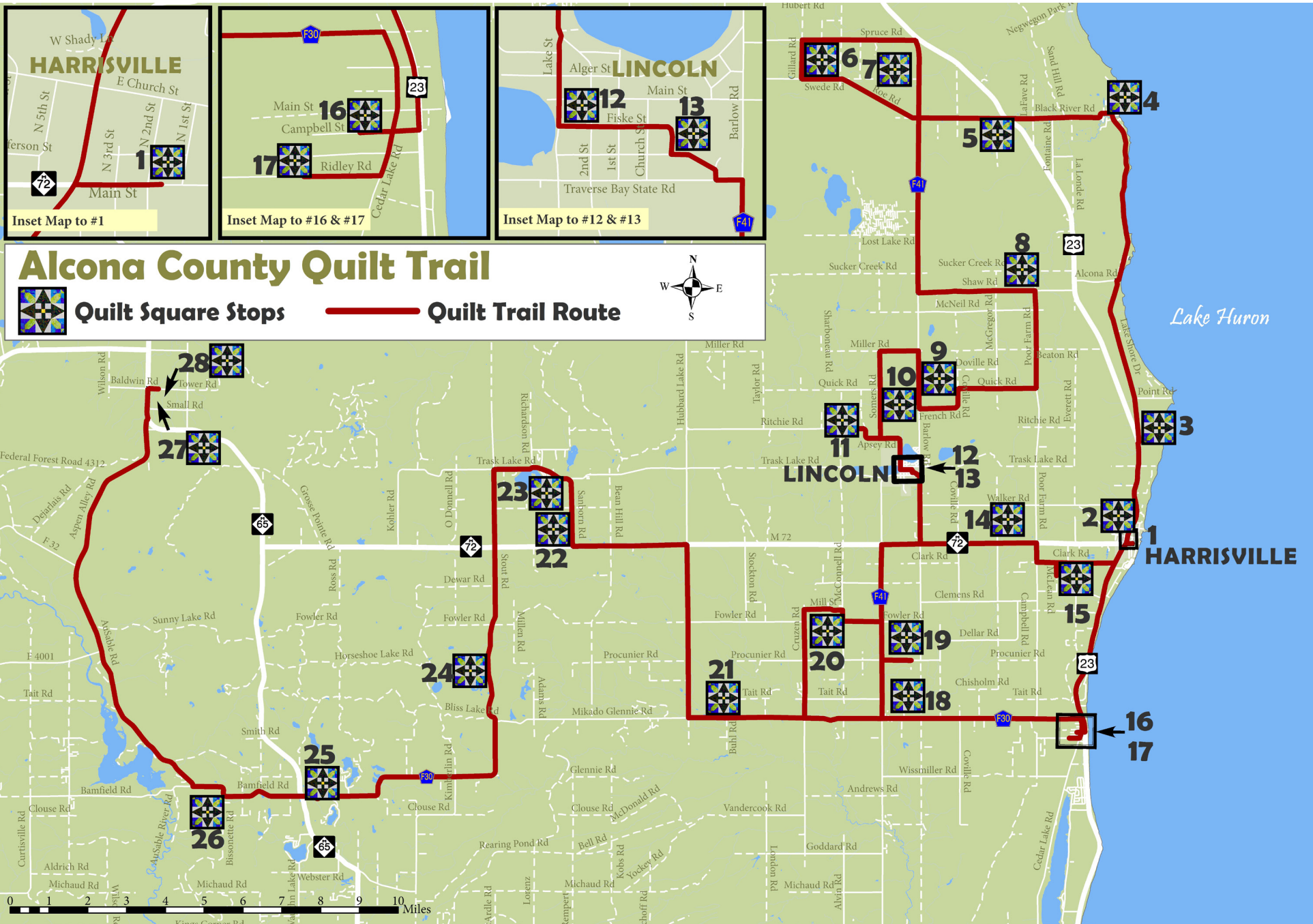
For more information about the Quilt Trail, contact alconamichiganquilttrail@hotmail.com

Commodity Code: 80050222

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Cover Photo: Cedarbrook Trout Farm (Photo courtesy of MDOT)

Brochure & map design by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments



1 Hollyhock Quilt Shop
 301 E. Main St., downtown Harrisville 989-724-7788 Mon-Sat 10-5
hollyhockquiltshoppe@hotmail.com
 This historic building began life as the Alcona House Hotel, circa 1866, and is one of only four original buildings in town that have survived early fires. The structure has also been a pharmacy with soda fountain, an appliance store, and a furniture refinisher. Their Quilt Trail block, the "Economy Block", reflects the building's business history.

2 Crick Home
 501 N. State St. (US 23), Harrisville, MI 48740
 This home was built in 1907, and the building that is now the garage (where their block is mounted) was originally built as a stable in 1908. Their block, the "Mill Wheel", was chosen as their property crosses the old mill pond. The state-owned waterway is a tributary that feeds into Lake Huron.

3 Cedarbrook Trout Farm
 1543 N. Lakeshore Dr., Harrisville, MI 48740 989-724-5241
 Bait & equipment furnished, no license required.
 Hours: Open 7 days, 12-6 p.m., Father's Day thru Labor Day. Then Sat & Sun, 12-5 p.m. thru Oct. 15; then closed till spring.
 Located on what used to be the main road along the Lake Huron shoreline, this place has long been a watering spot for native Americans, trappers, explorers and logging teams. 75 years ago, Cedarbrook became the first licensed fish farm in Michigan; it's been owned by Jerry and Michelle Kahn for 38 years. Their Quilt Trail block depicts their customer – a child in overalls with a fishing pole.

4 Alcona Township Black River Park
 Located south of the intersection of Lakeshore Dr. and Black River Rd.
 This park is a popular recreation area for locals and visitors alike. Their Quilt Trail block signifies the annual "Black River Bridge Walk" which takes place on Labor Day every year - significantly shorter than the larger up-north one!

5 Benghauser farm
 4028 Black River Rd., Black River, MI 48721
 The Fontaine family came from Canada in the late 1800's to settle in Black River. They bought 80 acres and built a log cabin in the area that is now the center of the circular drive. In 1892 they built the present two-story farmhouse and soon after bought the remaining 40 acres adjoining the farm to the Huron National Forest. In 1954 the Floyd Benghauser family purchased the 120 acres and added another 80 acres in the early 1960's. Working with the Michigan Forestry Dept. and the DNR in the 1960's, "Beng" Benghauser began a series of conservation programs; among them were three tree plantations on the property, hence the "Pine Tree" quilt block.

6 Spruce Presbyterian Church
 6230 Gillard Rd., Spruce, MI 48762
 Originally called Caledonia Presbyterian Church after the township it is located in, the church was organized in 1888 by settlers of mostly Scottish and Swedish descent. Rev. Boyce was the longest-serving pastor, from 1901 until 1933 with the exception of six years. On the night of Oct. 1, 1933 the white clapboard church burned to the ground, the cause of the fire is unknown. In December 1933 Rev. Boyce died. The Gothic-style fieldstone church was built & rededicated in 1936. "Cross & Crown" is their Quilt Trail block.

7 Holsworth farm
 6195 F-41, Spruce, MI 48762
 Pull in the driveway for a safe view of the barn off the busy roadway. A Michigan Centennial Farm, this property is now owned by Ramona Clark-Holsworth and Jim Holsworth. The barn was built in 1921 by George S. Snowden, grandfather to the late Harold Clark. Harold and his father Thomas raced horses in Alpena in the 1950's. There have always been horses on the farm; today they are kept for pleasure riding. Their Quilt Trail block features a horse's head in the center of a log cabin, as horses are the center of their farm life.
[Quilt Trail stops continued on back...](#)

How it all began:
 The Alcona County Quilt Trail is the first quilt trail in Michigan; other states have quilt trails in place. The project was begun in 2008 as a way for the community to share its unique history with visitors. A committee was formed and construction of quilt square blocks began. Eight blocks were mounted during the summer of 2008 in the eastern half of Alcona County. Twenty more were put up in 2009 to create a trail that encompasses every township in Alcona County.

A big thanks to all who made the Trail possible:

- **The East Shore Arts Guild.**
- **Behr Process Corp for their generous donation of paint.**
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- **The Harrisville Lady Lions.**
- **Everyone who donated time, materials, and money to the project.**
- **Printing: Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan, Alcona County Chamber of Commerce, Harrisville Arts Council, & Coming Attractions.**

Donations:
 The Alcona County Quilt Trail Project was funded entirely by private donations and grants. All labor was done by volunteers from the community. If you've enjoyed visiting our Quilt Trail, please consider making a donation so that we can continue to help Alcona County promote its wonderful resources - the land, the water, and the people who live and work here.
Please send your check or money order to:
The Alcona County Quilt Trail Project, 4299 M-72, Harrisville, MI 48740