



Preserving, promoting, and developing Wellington North's unique cultural resources to build a vibrant community and a prosperous economy.

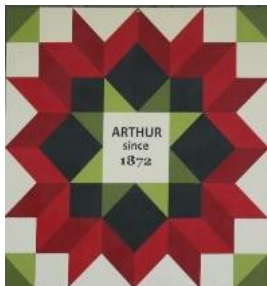
CULTURAL MOMENT FOR JUNE 6TH CELEBRATES THE ARTHUR BARN QUILT TRAIL PROJECT

The response in Arthur and area to the Arthur Area Barn Quilt Trail Project this year has been amazing. More than sixty barn quilts will be in the area for tourists to seek out any day of the year. But not everyone knows much about barn quilts.

Barn quilts are quite simply a painted depiction of a quilt square on wood or signboard which is then installed on a barn or other building. The modern versions are often posted on houses, garages, garden sheds or used as garden décor. They often tell you something about the owners; a story, an interest, a group they support, like this Guelph Junior Gryphons Barn Quilt on Schmidt Street.



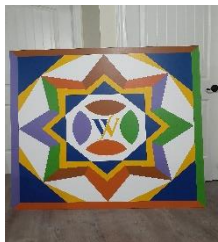
Modern Barn Quilts have a relatively short history according to the internet. A Small Farms Canada article from 2018 describes their beginning in 2001 with



Donna Sue Grover of Ohio who began to use these paintings to brighten up her tobacco farm buildings and to pay homage to her mother who loved to quilt. This symbolic Arthur Since 1872 Barn Quilt can be seen on Clarke Street in Arthur.

Barn hex signs have been around a lot longer. They were brought to North America in the 17th century by the Pennsylvania Dutch who interestingly are mostly German. The German word for German is Deutsch, so that may explain that apparent misnomer. The name Hex may have come from the German word for six (sechs) because the hex signs were often six pointed stars. There are commonly recognized hex signs that welcome or that wish for abundant crops or good health.

The Silver Fox in Arthur made this Mariner's Compass design into their own by adding their silver fox in each corner and the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable barn quilt is proudly mounted at the entrance into the Arthur Community Centre. Whether it is a barn quilt or a hex sign or a cave painting, people will always try to decorate their homes in some way. It is evidence that creativity and the appreciation of art is a part of the human makeup.



For more information on the Arthur Barn Quilt Trail, you can go to <https://www.facebook.com/BQArthurArea> and for the Wellington County Barn Quilt Trail Association. <https://www.facebook.com/wcbqta>

Submitted by Doris Cassan, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable