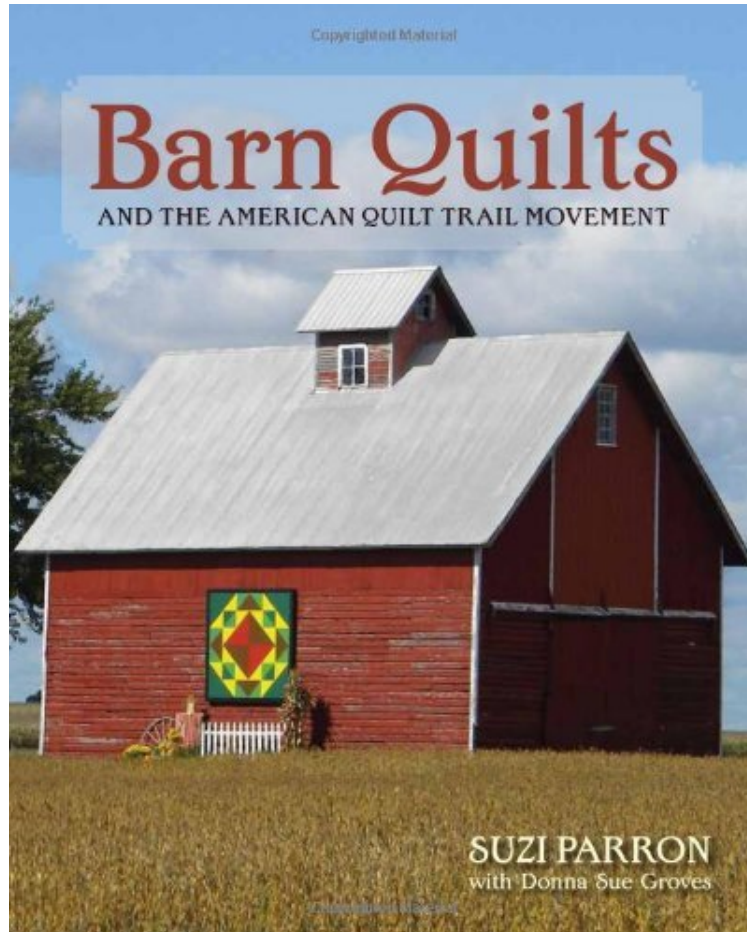


Barn Quilts and the American Quilt Trail Movement

Suzi Parron, Donna Sue Groves

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Suzi Parron, Donna Sue Groves : Barn Quilts and the American Quilt Trail Movement before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Barn Quilts and the American Quilt Trail Movement:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Photos are nice, writing is fairBy Margaret TimmermanThis book tells the story of the Barn Quilt trail movement in a bunch of states. Much of it is fairly boring, and it could be a lot shorter and tell the story just as well. The writing is fair. The photos are quite nice, but the author frequently talks about barns/quilts for which there are no photos, which is frustrating. More photos and less text would make it more interesting--just photos in the order they are along the road, with a short story about each one, would be more effective.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not Very helpful if you want to see barns with quilts on themBy lynNot what I was looking for - writing is oK but I would have liked to know where the barns where and info about the areas the barns where in. Writer tries to be all artsy and the plain truth is, that is not necessary in this type of book.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. SUPER BOOK!By txbluebonnetThis is what I would consider a very thought-provoking and well-written book! Also a lovely tribute to the "founder" of Barn Quilts and the

American quilt trails all over the country. It really grabbed my attention - so much so that I rushed out and bought a 36" x 36" piece of furniture-quality plywood, paints, sealers, and protective coatings - even before I had finished reading the book! This will be one of my Spring or Summer projects here in Central Texas! I later figured out that most of the barn quilts are much larger than my board; however, one of our barns is close to the farm-to-market road, so it should work out fine for this barn. The other barn is farther back, so it may require a 48" x 48" board - which I also have! I wish there could have been more pictures of the many described barn quilts. And it also would have been nice if the instructions for actually making a barn quilt had been included. I'll muddle my way through my project and some time this year, Texas will have at least one more Barn Quilt on display!

The story of the American Quilt Trail, featuring the colorful patterns of quilt squares writ large on barns throughout North America, is the story of one of the fastest-growing grassroots public arts movements in the United States and Canada. In *Barn Quilts and the American Quilt Trail Movement* Suzi Parron travels through twenty-nine states and two Canadian provinces to visit the people and places that have put this movement on Americans' tourist and folk art map. Through dozens of interviews with barn artists, committee members, and barn owners Parron documents a journey that began in 2001 with the founder of the movement, Donna Sue Groves. Groves' desire to honor her mother with a quilt square painted on their barn became a group effort that eventually grew into a county-wide project. Today, registered quilt squares form a long imaginary clothesline, appearing on more than three thousand barns scattered along one hundred driving trails. With more than fifty full-color photographs, Parron documents a movement that combines rural economic development with an American folk art phenomenon.

From Booklist When German immigrants arrived in America, they brought with them a passion for brightly colored geometric patterns that they stitched into quilts that kept them toasty on frigid winter nights. They also decorated their otherwise plain barns with hex signs serving as talismans or as purely exuberant decoration. A decade ago, an enterprising Ohioan combined these traditions and mounted outsize quilt patterns in bright colors on old barns. Others quickly followed suit, and now many Midwestern and Eastern states have "quilt trails" that tourists pursue in outdoor "museums" of folk art. Parron and Groves have documented these trails with full-color photographs that show how imaginative many artists have become, incorporating butterflies, horses, flags, and other natural and man-made designs within the more abstract geometries of traditional barn quilts. The text profiles many of the artists whose work dazzlingly enlivens Americans' farm country. --Mark Knoblauch "The book printed on high quality paper with dozens of captioned photographs is everything that a lover of traditional folk culture could desire. Author Suzi Parron and barn quilt pioneer Donna Sue Groves take the reader to the origins of the Quilt Trails in Appalachia and then to other states, particularly those of the Heartland. The reader meets the dozens of local heroines (and heroes) who organized the Trails in their communities." --National Barn Alliance "Parron and Groves have documented these trails with full-color photographs that show how imaginative many artists have become, incorporating butterflies, horses, flags, and other natural and man-made designs within the more abstract geometries of traditional barn quilts. The text profiles many of the artists whose work dazzlingly enlivens Americans' farm country." --Booklist