

Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina

Bakersville

Bakersville is the seat of Mitchell County. It is a very small town full of delightful galleries and history. The blocks are tightly clustered so you can see at least 7 blocks within about 5 minutes.

Be sure to visit the galleries while in town as they are chock full of local artists' work and we are proud of them all.

Since it isn't going to take too long to see most of the blocks, plan to get a picnic lunch in Bakersville and take it to Roan Mountain where you will see 3 more blocks on the way and enjoy a picnic in Rhododendron paradise.

The best time to go to Roan Mountain is in June (Bakersville has a Rhododendron Festival in June every year) because that is when the entire mountain is in full bloom. It's a spectacular sight.

If you can't make it to Bakersville in the spring, there is an arts and crafts festival in September and of course leaf color is wonderful in October and November.

Summertime is also a good time to visit because it is always cooler so it is a great way to escape the heat for a while.

And winter is a photographer's paradise if you can get up the mountain to see the Roan covered in snow.

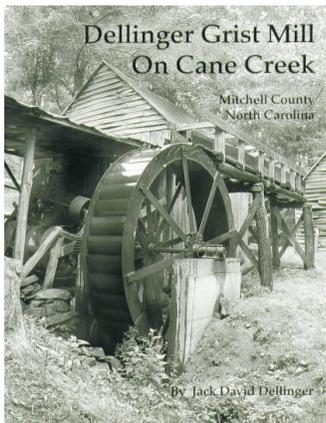
There are two easy ways to get to Bakersville - one is to take Hwy 197 from Burnsville to Red Hill where you encounter a T intersection. Turn right onto 226 and follow that to Bakersville. This will take you through Loafer's Glory.

The other way is to come from Spruce Pine on Highway 226.

We have put directions on some of the pages to help you find the blocks and plan your trip.

This trail can dovetail with Green Mountain and Arbuckle/Spruce Pine.

Make sure you start with a full tank of gas.



Quilt Trails

of Western North Carolina

- ▶ Shop at Crimson Laurel Gallery and Anita's Atelier
- ▶ Book a rafting trip at Loafer's Glory Rafting.
- ▶ Visit the Farmer's Market on Saturdays
- ▶ Visit the Rhododendron Festival in June
- ▶ Visit the Creek Walk Festival in September
- ▶ Visit the Dellinger Grist Mill on Cane Creek, located four miles east of Bakersville on State Road 1211. Times of operation are every third Saturday and the following week for the months May-September, every day except Sundays in October and November. They grind corn, conduct tours and haveh demonstrations 10am-4pm on open days, conditions permitting.

Six of these blocks are within walking distance of each other and walking is the best way to see them.

Buzzard's Roost
147 Pine Dr.
Bakersville

Spinning Color Wheel
156 Pizzle View

Dogwood Intersection
of 261 and 226

Small Business
Just before Intersection of 261 and 226

Antique Shop Tulip
Anita's Atelier
Corner of Crimson Laurel Way and N. Mitchell Ave.

Laurel Wreath
Crimson Laurel Gallery
Crimson Laurel Way

Lilac
Bakersville Library
N. Mitchell Ave.

Doctor on Call
Bakersville Medical Clinic
N. Mitchell Ave.

Awesome Education Puzzle
Gouge Elementary School

This trail connects with the Green Mountain Trail via Hwy 226.

It connects with the Celo Trail via Hwy 80. If you follow Hwy 80S it will connect with Hwy 19e. Turn right onto 19e and pick up Hwy 80S to begin the Celo Trail.

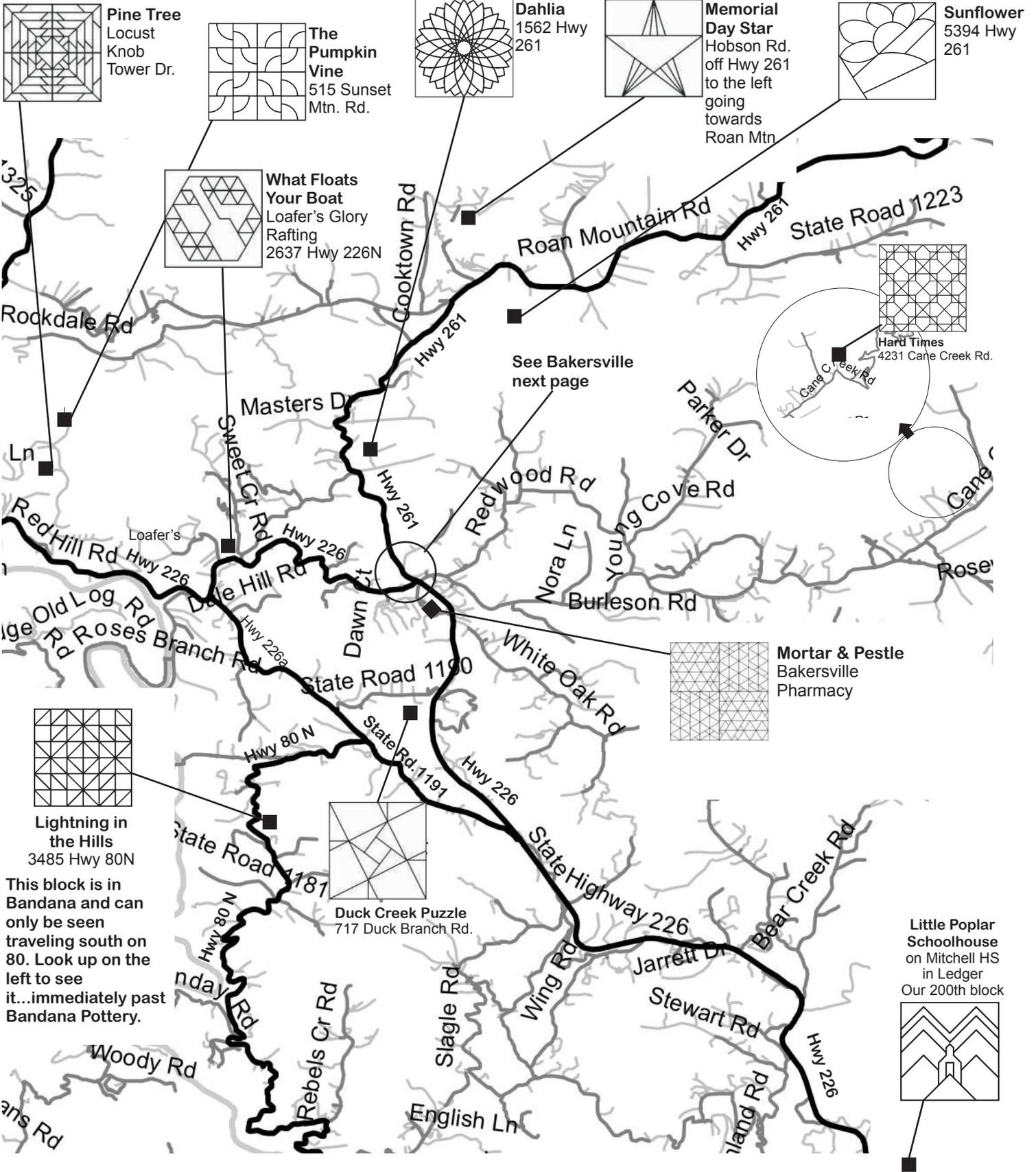
It connects to the Arbuckle Trail via Hwy 80N.

It connects with the Spruce Pine Trail via Hwy 226.

NOTE: While we try hard to keep the maps and Tour Guides updated, blocks are going up all the time and the maps and guides may not always be up-to-date. If you spot a block not on the map, take a picture if you can and email it to us so we can update the map and guide both for the next printing and for the internet. (In other words - become one of our volunteers!!)

BAKERSVILLE/ROAN MOUNTAIN TRAIL

Estimated driving time: 2 hours



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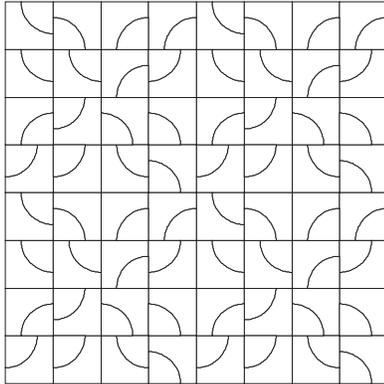
Pick this up from the Green Mountain Trail or start at Hwy 197 and Hwy 19 in Burnsville. Turn right at Red Hill at the T intersection onto 226.

We recommend you take a picnic to Roan Mountain and allow an extra two hours for your trip.

The Pumpkin Vine

*Location: 515 Sunset Mountain Rd. off Hwy 226, Bakersville, NC.
Drafted by Barbara Webster; Painted by Robert Mann and Wayne Joyner.
Block is one of many settings of Drunkard's Path*

Story by Robert Mann and Wayne Joyner



You can see this block from Hwy 226 - the house at the top of the mountain.

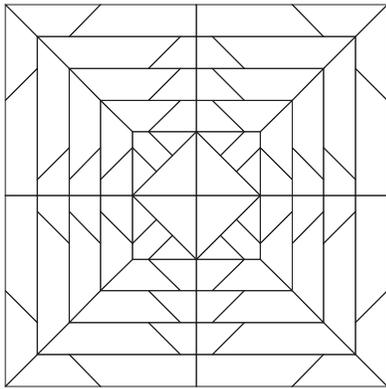
According to Toe River Valley Heritage-NC Vol. 2, Pgs. 217, 220-221, by George Bailey, Hodge Rayburn Garland (1810-1863) was the son of David and Sarah Garland and the grandson of Guttridge Garland. It was Guttridge who settled in what came to be called Garland Town in what was then Burke County but is now called Red Hill in Mitchell County. Hodge's first wife was Annie Byrd, daughter of the Rev. Samuel Byrd. His second wife was Nancy Baker, granddaughter of David Baker for whom Bakersville was named (David was a soldier in the Revolution).

Hodge served as a private in Company B, 58th NC Infantry (C.S.A.). He enlisted at Rock Creek, Mitchell County, May 17, 1862, and was mustered June 16, 1862 at Bakersville. He died January 30, 1863 at Jacksboro, Tennessee. Leaving no will, Hodge's heirs filed suit in 1875 regarding land at the top of Pumpkin Patch Mountain in Mitchell County.

One of those heirs was Nancy Garland Byrd, wife of George Byrd. George also fought in the Civil War, coming home after the war with nothing but a pistol and a horse. The property on which our house now sits (515 Sunset Mtn. Drive) is part of Pumpkin Patch Mountain and was in the Byrd family since the Civil War. Based on this narrative from our research, the property has ties to the Red Hill area (Garland Town), to Bakersville (Nancy Baker) and to the Civil War. We chose the Pumpkin Vine block to tell this story about Pumpkin Patch Mountain.

Quilt Trails

of Western
North Carolina



At the intersection of 197/226, go right towards Bakersville at Hair Affair Beauty Salon. From there it is one mile. After you come out of a deep curve at the end a straight-a-way you will see Locust Knob Tower Dr. on your left.

You will see a stone ranch style house on the hill and two driveways. Take the first DW, the gravel one, it will wind around behind this house and just continue on up the hill. This is the first and only house on the left before the cattle guard about 3/4 mile off the Hwy. You should then be able to recognize it from the pictures.

Pine Tree

Location: 493 Locust Knob Tower Road. Drafted by Deborah Palmer; Painted by Caitley Symons and Deborah Palmer; installed by James Gouge and James Gouge, Jr.

Story by Barbara Webster

Calla Gouge slept under a Dutch Doll quilt made by her maternal grandmother when visiting her as a child. Her vivid memory of that quilt is tied to her warm feelings for her grandmother, Mabel Tipton Jones. Calla says all her maternal great aunts were talented seamstresses and quilters who made quilts for everyone. Calla says, "I have a picture of one great aunt who lived in Hampstead, Maryland. She made quilts for her church community and friends and sent them as far as California. She quilted after she went blind in her late 80s, and continued to quilt into her nineties and died at 98. That was Aunt Grace Tipton Garland but everyone called her 'Kate' for some reason. They were all avid gardeners and loved flowers. Both my grandmothers were named Mabel. They used a quilting frame that hung from the ceiling. Tacking was more for everyday quilts, and hand quilting was for 'keeper' quilts. My maternal grandmother made my two sisters and me an 'heirloom' or a 'keeper' quilt before she died."

Calla credits both her grandmothers with giving her an appreciation of nature. As Calla recalls about her paternal grandmother, "She was of the earth. She took my cousins and me camping, and taught us about the outdoors."

She remembers her grandmother saying, "If something happens, you need to know how to survive." "She taught us how to build campfires and clean and cure cast iron skillets using the over-the-campfire, open-flame method." Calla feels very fortunate to have had her grandmother's guidance about nature and survival techniques... *'In case something should happen.'*

Both of Calla's grandfathers owned a store together in Red Hill when she was growing up. Her maternal Grandfather, Frank Jones, ran it and her paternal Grandfather, Rabe Byrd or RH Byrd, was a silent co-owner.

Calla says she remembers her grandmother walking across the hill twice a day to carry Grandfather Jones' lunch and supper to him at the store. "Sometimes he would not get out of the store until after 11pm after going in at 6am. It was not considered polite to say anything to the after-supper loafers who came there to sit around the pot bellied stove and talk and play checkers, so he stayed as long as they wanted to."

When Calla was about 7, new owners bought the store. Calla says she didn't know you had to pay for things as she was always used to helping herself. Calla said, "This was a culture shock!" Calla says her mom had to have all her teeth fixed from eating all the candy and sweet drinks. She says they lived across from the store in what is now modern day Red Hill but both that house and the store are now gone, lost in a fire several years ago.

"My maternal Grandmother Mabel Tipton was born right

down here below the house. You can tell where the old homestead was by the yard trees and wild rose bushes. There's several places like that on the mountain if you look closely. My Granddaddy Frank Jones used to walk to Red Hill from Tipton Hill to court her. Then they lived in Tipton Hill after marrying and then back to Red Hill when my Mom was about 16 yrs old. They lived under the store that was located where Hair Affair Beauty Shop now sits, and then moved on out the road into a house not far from where she was born and lived there until they died. He was a Justice of the Peace and married a lot of people in Tipton Hill and surrounding area. After he went to business school in Knoxville he came back and taught typing at Tipton Hill School for a couple years.

“After my mother was born he was Mitchell County Finance Officer. He was appointed to fill out the vacated office. But he would not stand for office and run a campaign after the term expired because he said when you did that you lost too many friends, and he would rather keep his friends.

“When people around here in the 50-65 age group talk about him, they always mention the candy he gave out when they went to his store.

“His Granddaddy, Sanford Hughes, was a chimney builder in the Yancey, Mitchell, Avery area. He had a distinct style that is recognizable by those who know what to look for.

“Granddaddy Byrd was a self-made man with a limited education. He mostly farmed. He worked out of Virginia mostly, but had lots of land everywhere, lots of cattle and 300 head of sheep on the mountain above the house in the early 60s, but was not successful with them as wild dogs and possibly panthers, killed them. He worked his way up from custodian at Tipton Hill School, walking there to build fires for heating the school in winter, getting up as early as 2am to do so.

“ He was an only child and he inherited some of this land thru his mother and added to it by trading. A lot of people moved out of the area during the Depression Era to go up North to look for jobs and he would buy their land and just kept piecing it together until he had acquired a lot of the mountain. Everyone in this community has always used the mountain freely for living on it and farming, hunting, recreation etc., Indians used it for a hunting grounds. We always find arrowheads every year when the garden is plowed.

“In the early 1920's and before my Dad was born, his father, (Grandfather Rabe Byrd, who we always referred to as, Pop) was working for Granville Taylor Lumber Co. out of Asheville, NC. Granville Taylor was a millionaire and those were not that common in that day and time. To be a millionaire was really considered to be something! At this time my grandfather was grading and inspecting lumber for the GT Lumber Co. at what was then Forbes, NC, located on the North Toe River below Red Hill on 197N on the border of Yancey and Mitchell Counties but on the Mitchell County side. The railroad was in place then. The timber was being cut at sawmills in the Buladean area of Mitchell County and hauled to Forbes/Red Hill on sleds and wagons to be shipped out on the train. Mr Taylor would come to the area occasionally to check on the operations of his mills. He had to get to Marion, NC from Asheville by train, probably via the Southern Railroad or maybe a horse and buggy and from there take the C.C. & O. to Forbes. It was on one of these trips that he became stranded at Forbes as it was getting dark with no place to stay for the night. My Grandfather Byrd noticed him standing by himself looking lost. He went over to him and asked him ‘Mr. Granville, what are you doing here so late?’ Mr. Granville told my grandfather, ‘Mr. Byrd, I have no place to go or stay for the night and I'm wondering what I should do.’ My grandfather stepped up to the plate and said ‘Well, Mr. Granville, you are certainly welcome to come home with me if you can stand the fare.’ Mr. Granville accepted and they then proceeded to walk home, my grandparents living near Loafer's Glory at that time. My grandmother who we always referred to as *Birdie* said she knew the minute she saw them walking up in the yard who it was. I asked my Dad what they had for supper and he said they had to go out and kill a couple of frying size chickens, (that's chickens who are only allowed to get so big before killing them to eat, as the older ones get too tough), and quickly rustle up some more grub. He said Mr. Granville was reported to have said ‘Lord, Mrs. Byrd, where did you learn to cook like that!?’ to which she reportedly replied, ‘Well, I've been cooking since I was ten year's old, I oughta know a little something.’ My Dad said my grandmother never got over the fact and never let anyone forget that a millionaire had stayed at their house and she had cooked for

him. It was one of the highlights of her life!

“Later my grandfather Byrd worked for Marshall Lumber Co. which started out in North Carolina but branched out into VA, KY and probably TN. My grandfather worked as a promoter for them going around advertising the company and helping to start up new mills in different locations. After that he pretty much came home and stuck to farming, trading and trying out new agricultural/business type ventures such as the sheep experiment in the early sixties.”

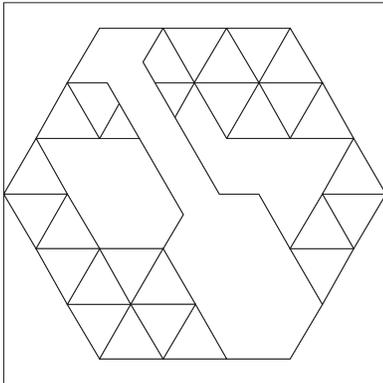
The mountain where Calla and her husband live is called Punkin Patch or Pumpkin Patch by everyone around the area, so named for all the rocks. The whole mountain range runs from about Fork Mountain towards the Roan up 261 out of Bakersville. Fork Mountain, Cub Creek, Loafer’s Glory and Red Hill are the main communities surrounding it. Calla says they live on the south side of it facing the North Toe and Brush Creek area across the river in Yancey County. Fork Mountain is on the direct North Side. A fire tower was built at the top of it in the seventies but wasn’t manned long. It is still there but abandoned, and UNC TV’s antenna and Cellular One are up there now and a new 250 ft. cell tower was built in 2008. 911 maps refer to it as Locust Knob. If you’re coming up the river from Green Mountain or into Bakersville from Spruce Pine on 226 at night and see red flashing lights, that’s the top of Pumpkin Patch. Elevation of the mountain is about 4,000 feet.

Calla’s husband, James Arthur Gouge, was raised “under the Roan” in Glen Ayre which is covered in pine trees and that is the reason he likes the Pine Tree quilt block. Calla’s uncle planted the huge stand of pines above their house because it was too steep and rocky to farm and planting trees would help prevent erosion.

And so the Pine Tree block shelters the story of Calla’s grandfathers, her aunts and grandmothers, and her husband and his relatives...a symbol of generations of people contributing to their community and caring for the land.

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You can book a rafting trip as part of your quilt trails experience. Just call ahead to make arrangements. 828-688-9290. Or email info@ncrafting.com.

What Floats Your Boat

Location: Loafer's Glory Rafting, 2637 Hwy 226N, Bakersville. Designed by Martin Webster; Drafted by Barbara Wester; painted by Deborah Palmer; installed by Anthony Wilson.

Story by Holly Walker

The name Loafers Glory was reputedly coined by the women of the community who took a dim view of the men's habit of "lollygagging" on the porch of the community store rather than working, thus making the community a real "loafer's glory."

Our outfitter store is the old Loafers Glory general store described above. The white building next to the store still has what we believe to be the original sign for Loafers Glory, NC. We did repaint the green letters on the sign. That building currently serves as storage for our rafting equipment.

The Commemorative Edition of "North Carolina Is My Home" by Charles Kuralt and Loomis McGlohon includes a picture of the white building and the Loafers Glory, NC sign. We believe the people in the picture to be the Garlands, the original owners. Anthony did meet Mrs. Garland briefly. She has promised to return with stories, memories and perhaps old photos. In the book are the following lines of the song "Backroads & Byways", with the lyrics written and spoken by Charles Kuralt:

*"I know a crossroads named Loafers Glory
Oh how I'd love to know that story!
To have met the loafers, to have known their faces,
To know all the stories of the Tar Heel places..."*

Not a day goes by that someone does not stop at the Loafers Glory sign and take pictures. They simply cannot believe that such a place still exists. We feel truly honored to live and work in an area so rich in history. It is only fitting that a quilt square be placed on this property to celebrate art, community, and the history shared between them.

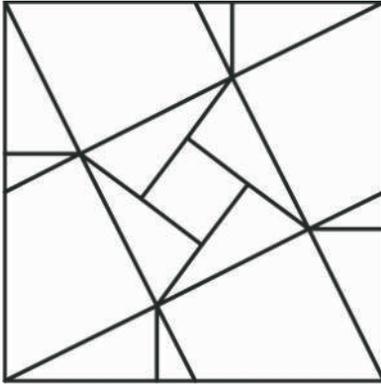
Holly Walker and Anthony Wilson moved to Loafers Glory in May of 2006. It was a journey that took them three years. After many years working in the tourism industry—Holly in hospitality management and Anthony as a seasoned river guide—they decided they should start their own rafting company. They were running their business out of their home in Blowing Rock and driving over to Bakersville everyday to raft the Toe River. They were looking for a storefront and the Loafers Glory property came up for sale. They knew that this was the ideal location for their business, both for the close proximity to the river and because of the unique history of the building and the community. Anthony and Holly feel fortunate to have found a home in Loafers Glory. They hope many people come by to see their quilt square and to loaf for a little while.

Loafers Glory Rafting & Tubing is open May – September and offers rafting trips on the Toe, Watauga, and French Broad rivers and Tubing trips on the Toe.

DUCK CREEK PUZZLE

Location: 717 Duck Branch Rd., Bakersville. Painted by Fayma Childs, Margot Parker, Carole Pearson, Barbara Webster, Rosita Farrell, Cheryl Hughes, Dot Dantzer, installed by Keith Beam.

Story by Teaky Tollison



The Duck Creek Puzzle square has special significance for the Bill McKinney family. The beautiful design, which sits on their old barn, is a tribute to the history of the home and the families who have built their lives there. Rubin Davis constructed the farmhouse in 1907, and it is still occupied today by one of his grandchildren. When he built the home on Duck Branch Road, his wife Nancy had a flock of ducks, which were her pride and joy. Doing all those chores that women did by hand at the turn of the twentieth century and raising five children could occasionally make a woman forget a routine task. One evening Nancy forgot to feed her ducks. Later, a noise awoke Rubin, and his wife was missing. After a frantic search, he found her sleepwalking, feeding her precious ducks.

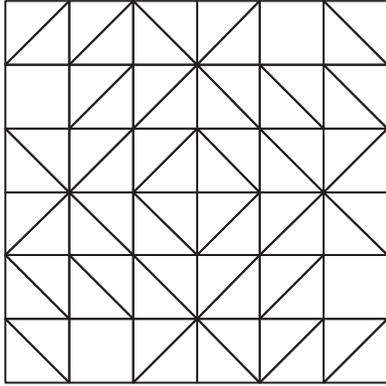
Ethel, one of Rubin and Nancy Davis' children, married Robert Greene but wanted to remain on the farm. They eventually had three children: Robert, David, and Joyce, who was born in 1932. As a little girl, Joyce helped with the barn animals. Her chores included feeding the ducks and chickens and milking the cows. The family sold the milk at her daddy's store on Mine Creek. Joyce's favorite memory of childhood is sitting on her front porch with her mother Ethel, crocheting a white Victorian tablecloth. Joyce and her husband Homer Harding, USN retired, still live in the original farmhouse.

When she was a young woman, Joyce ran the teletype machine at Day's Drug Store in Spruce Pine. A young, good-looking sailor home on leave ran into Day's to buy a billfold. Homer Harding, that sailor, met Joyce there, and they soon wed. After setting up housekeeping on the family farm, they had two children, David and Sherri.

As an adult, Sherri also wanted to stay on the farm. When she married Bill McKinney, they built their own house on the property and raised five children, Amanda, Shonda, Erica, Ryan, and Cara. Bill's passion was his family. He loved his children and considered his grandchildren a special blessing. Sherri has been a driver for Mitchell County Transportation since 1993, but she has other goals. She has always loved children, so much so that she is earning a degree in Early Childhood.

Life is ever changing on the farm, yet the roots of the family run deep into the land. Currently, Ryan lives with Sherri in the house she and Bill built on the Duck Branch Farm. He is preparing to graduate from the University of North Carolina, Asheville in December, 2010 and begin his adult life. Sherri and her mother Joyce have lovingly kept the history of the family to pass along to the next generation. Part of that history is the Duck Creek Puzzle, in honor of Nancy Davis, Sherri's great grandmother.

Quilt
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of Western
North Carolina



Follow Highway 80 (state road 1191) off 226 to Bandana to find this block. Backtrack to return to Bakersville to see the rest of the blocks.

Lightning in the Hills

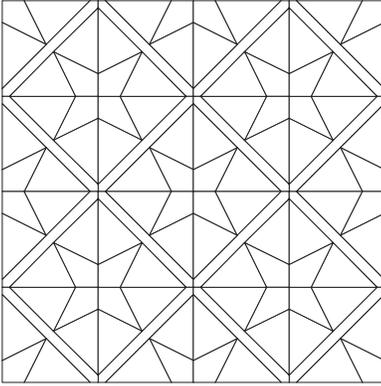
Location: 3485 Hwy 80 North. Drafted and painted by Deborah Palmer, Installed by Billie Shade and Edward Silver.

Carri St. Germain thought this was the perfect block for her family. Her ancestors are Scotch-Irish and she and her husband enjoy the hobby of blacksmithing. What better block to represent the family than Lightning in the Hills?

Only 2 other families have lived on this land. The family has had a home in the area for 24 years. Carrie's father lives down the road on Rebels Creek (past the Honeybees in the Garden block).

Immediately past Carri's house is Bandana pottery with a large beehive-shaped kiln right by the road.

Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina



You'll see this block as you are entering the town of Bakersville on 226.

Small Business

Location: 57 N Hwy 226, Bakersville, NC

Drafted by Barbara Webster; Painted by Carolyn Bareford, Cheryl Hughes, Miriam Savard, Deborah Palmer and Barbara Webster; Installed by Jeff Phillips with the help of Whitson Electric's bucket truck.

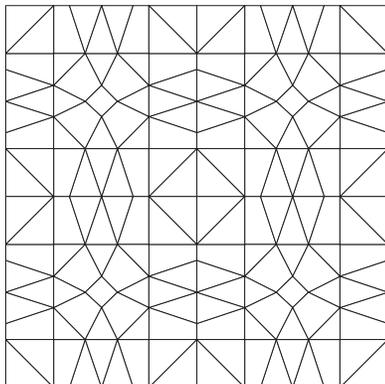
Circa 1952, Clarence Johnson and his wife built the Johnson building, where they operated a Cash Store and shoe repair and lived in the apartment upstairs. From 1973 - 1976 it functioned as the Bakersville Town Hall. Since then, it has housed a variety of other businesses, including an insurance company, hair salon and photographer's studio and gallery.

Joe and Carol Corriveau bought the building in 2006. The community needed more business space, and Joe, a contractor, was ready for his next project. The building was desperate for thoughtful attention. Joe did most of the work himself, starting with a new roof. Next, he added two large decks where occupants and visitors can enjoy the great mountain air and a view of the Cane River. Major interior renovations followed. They custom built a commercial creamery on the ground floor where Cynthia Sharp, owner of Oak Moon Farm, makes award winning goat cheeses. An Italian restaurant, Melanie's Candle Light Cafe, is located on the street level, and the third floor is a beautiful apartment.

The Corriveaus feel a strong need to help rebuild community. They chose to do this by providing local entrepreneurs a place to do business, and local citizens the opportunity to do business locally. The quilt block they selected called Small Business, a traditional design, seemed especially appropriate for their building.

Joe and Carol give special thanks to John Lara and David Trophia, owners of Crimson Laurel Gallery, who inspired them to become involved. Crimson Laurel Gallery, downtown Bakersville, hosts the Laurel Wreath quilt block, the second block installed in Bakersville.

Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina



Dogwood

Location: Mitchell County Historic Museum in Bakersville, intersection of Hwy 226 and 261. Drafted by Barbara Webster, installed by Dan Barron and David Trophia.

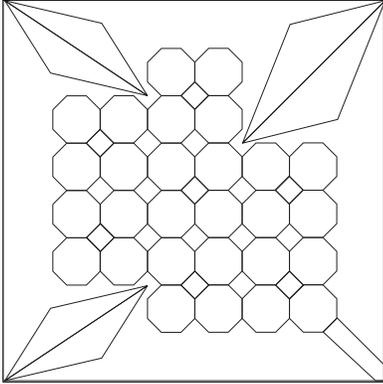
Story by Dr. Daniel Barron

The quilt block that graces the Mitchell County Historic Museum in Bakersville is dedicated to Helen McBee. Helen was born January 9, 1909, in Glendale, Ca. in the home of her grandparents, Ellen and Clark Thomas. Her parents were John C. McBee, Sr. a lawyer, state senator, and a founding father of Bakersville. Her mother was Margaret Chambers Thomas McBee, a native of Glendale, Ca. and an educator and "one amazing woman." Helen literally was brought across the country on a train, in a picnic basket when she was a little baby.

She was educated at home by her mother, and entered Women's College in Greensboro at age 15. She graduated at age 19 and began teaching at Bowman High School in Bakersville in that same year. Here she taught until 1968. She truly devoted her life and destiny to her students. As one graduate said: "And she loved us all...all of us students at BHS. She hoped for our futures. And she TRULY did hope for us to grow up and make something of ourselves. It was not just talk. It was really true."

Helen McBee was not only a caring and inspiring teacher; she was a dedicated community member, devoted to her church, the library, and the Historical Society, which have all benefitted from her philanthropy. She remembered also her alma mater as the University of North Carolina at Greensboro has a perpetual scholarship as a part of her legacy to Mitchell County and the University.

Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina



*Quilt block was designed by
Deeann Bapayte of Forest City,
niece of Rachel Huges.*

Lilac

Location: Mitchell County Public Library in Bakersville on N. Mitchell Ave. Designed by Deeann Bapayte, drafted by Barbara Webster, painted by Carolyn Bareford, Fayma Childs, Calla Gouge, Deborah Palmer, Carole Pearson and Betty Wells. Installed by Jeff Phillips and Wade Whitson.

Story by Dr. Daniel Barron

This block was one of six installed by the Amy Regional Library system to honor the 6 women who were the original founders of the libraries in our counties. The Lilac block is to honor Rachel Hughes.

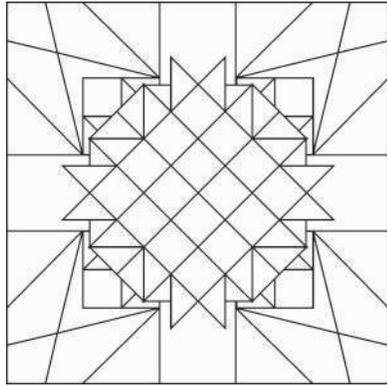
Rachel Q. Hughes was born February 7, 1915 to Thomas Kelly Quinn and Iris Hall Quinn at Grassy Creek community. One of 10 children, she graduated from Harris High School in 1933. She married Robert B. Hughes of Bakersville, in April 1936. They had 3 children, Richard, Thomas and Isobel. She was a stay-at-home mother until Robert was elected Mitchell County Tax Collector around 1946, when she began working as assistant to him in the tax office.

While working there, she was approached by Mrs. Ruby Gouge inquiring if she might be interested in becoming Mitchell County's first librarian. Since she was such an avid reader and lover of books, she jumped at the opportunity and accepted the position as soon as the opportunity became a reality. The first library opened sometime in the late forties, in a tiny office to the left of the judge's bench in the upstairs courtroom of the Mitchell County Courthouse.

The library was an instant success and soon outgrew the space and was moved to the upstairs of the coal shed adjacent to the courthouse. Very shortly after the move, the library purchased a bookmobile and Rachel began touring the county visiting various citizen's homes and local stores in each of the communities loaning and picking up books in each community. She was much loved in the communities and the people were hungry to have free books to read and enjoy.

Of course, all of this was interspersed with stories of snow storms, and bad roads as most of the county roads were unpaved at that time, including the ones across Iron Mountain and Roan Mountain. After establishing book stops in all of the communities and getting them up and running, she accepted a job with the County Accountant's office working with Mr. J. Dont Street. Rachel was active in the White Oak Baptist Church and the Bakersville Order of the Eastern Star. She passed away on July 9, 1953 at the age of 38.

Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina



The quilt block for the building was designed by Barbara Webster. This unique block has a story to tell. The subdued business colors in the block were chosen to indicate competence and professionalism. The red and purple hint at the heart and physical nature behind what the doctors do. The dark and light colors in the neutral background are to hint at day and night because a doctor must always be ready, no matter what time of day.

The complexity of the block hints at how difficult the doctor's job is and how much they have to train for it. The two crosses in the block hint at the spiritual aspects of the doctor's job and how life and death are always hanging in the balance.

There are nurse figures in the four corners with their arms raised, hinting at the guardian angels that seem to travel with doctors and also referencing the many contributions that nurses make to the profession. The hour glass figures speak to the critical nature of decisions sometimes required by doctors, and remind us that doctors are always on call.

Doctor on Call

Location: Bakersville Community Medical Clinic, 86 N. Mitchell Ave., Bakersville. Designed and Drafted by Barbara Webster; Painted by Barbara Webster, Carolyn Bareford, Cheryl Hughes, Christine Strom and Deborah Palmer. Installed by Willow Johnson and Wade Whitson of Whitson Electric.

After the last of a number of solo primary care physicians had succumbed to the rigors of private rural practice and left the area, in 1974 a group of community residents formed an organization to establish an ongoing primary medical care facility for the Bakersville area. With the assistance of the North Carolina Office of Rural Health Services and a door-to-door fund drive to raise local matching funds, the Bakersville Community Medical Clinic formed as a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) community-owned corporation, opening its doors in November, 1974. The Clinic was staffed by Olive Wise, a Family Nurse Practitioner, a Licensed Practical Nurse, and a Receptionist/Secretary/Bookkeeper. Physician backup, by telephone and by an abbreviated schedule at the Clinic, was provided by Fergus Pope, a physician who practiced in Burnsville.

Within six months after its opening, Jerry Cade, a physician who had visited and performed volunteer work in the area during summers (with the Student American Medical Association Appalachian Summer Project) decided to move permanently to the area, and to take up practice as an employee of the Clinic.

Dr. Cade and Ms. Wise worked full-time (Dr. Pope continued to work on a part-time basis) and a staff of two Licensed Practical Nurses and a clerical staff of two, operated the Clinic, providing traditional ambulatory medical care, seeing between 40 and 50 patients a day in three small and overcrowded spaces that included three examining rooms, laboratory and office space of about 1400 square feet in a building which had been renovated for the purpose when the Clinic first opened.

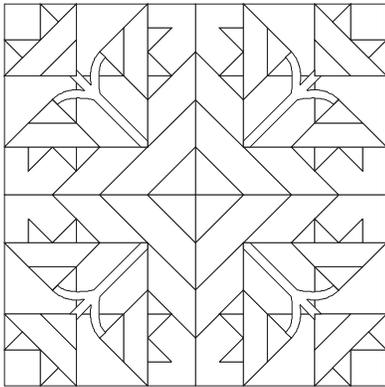
An Appalachian Health Grant, awarded July 8, 1976, provided the needed funds to approximately double the clinical, office and public waiting area of the Clinic into an adjoining building.

In the fall of 1977 an additional physician, Dr. Arch Woodard, joined the staff. Also in late 1977 the Clinic became affiliated with the Rural Practice Project of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and thus became one of a dozen similar clinics throughout the country joined in a project to develop a model which can serve for the delivery of primary rural health care. The Rural Practice Project assists the Clinic with operating funds to cover its projected deficit for three years.

Currently the Clinic is open from 8:30am to 5:00pm on weekdays. Clinic staff average just under 40 patient encounters per day. A relatively full range of primary medical care with a family orientation is provided at the Clinic. The Physicians are on the staff of, and inpatient care is provided at the Blue Ridge Regional Hospital in Spruce Pine, NC.

Quilt Trails

of Western
North Carolina



This block is a variation of the Carolina Lily block.

Antique Shop Tulip

*Location: Anita's Atelier, Crimson Laurel Way, Bakersville
Drafted by Barbara Webster, Painted by Anita Connelly.*

The Quilt Trails project was officially launched in Mitchell County on Friday, May 11 with the hanging of the first quilt block at Anita's Atelier in Bakersville. An exuberant gathering helped celebrate the hanging of the block.

The building on which the block hangs began its life as a drug store and many in the community still talk fondly of the soda fountain where people would gather to hear the community news. Local Colors weavers occupied the building before Anita bought it and moved in with her paintings and antiques. Anita, along with David Trophia and John Lara who own Crimson Laurel Gallery next door, helped establish the Bakersville Creek Walk, an art celebration held every September in Bakersville.

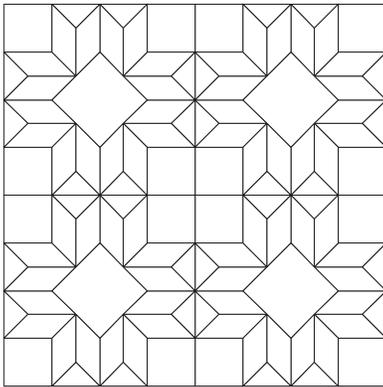
There are thousands of quilt blocks and they all have interesting names. We are trying to select each block that goes up to be a history trigger. The names of the blocks serve as the connecting link to the history of the building, the land or the family. This great project is giving a voice to our communities in a way that has never been available before. By the time the project is complete, you will be able to learn the history of Yancey and Mitchell counties by simply viewing the quilt blocks. Pins are also available of each block and the cards to which the pins are attached contain the story about the block, including information about who drafted, painted and installed the block.

The quilt has long been a symbol of comfort and community and now we are using that symbol to further enhance and connect our communities so their stories can be told.

We hope you will stop by Anita's Atelier and take a look at Anita's beautiful paintings and hear more of the interesting history of Bakersville.

Quilt Trails

of Western
North Carolina



Laurel Wreath

Location: Crimson Laurel Gallery, Crimson Laurel Way, Bakersville. Drafted by Barbara Webster; Painted by Catherine Boone and Deborah Palmer. Installed by David Trophia and John Lara.

The Crimson Laurel Gallery is owned by David Trophia and John Lara, and the Laurel Wreath block seemed like the obvious choice. The gallery has recently moved to a building built by the Blevins Family back in the teens. David, John, and Anita Connelly are the force behind the Bakersville Art Walk which happens every September along the newly created park by the river. In 1998 the river flooded the entire town of Bakersville, raging out of its banks for miles. This disaster afforded Bakersville the opportunity to begin anew and they seized the opportunity. Bakersville has long been home to the Rhododendron Festival because of its proximity to Roan Mountain, one of the oldest festivals in North Carolina, and the town is now building on their fame with tourists.

The Blevins Building

Taylor and Ed Blevins originally built the Blevins Building during the 1920's. Initially, it was used as a warehouse for grain sold at a feed store nearby. Over time, it was converted into a movie theater, where silent movies were shown, occasionally accompanied by live music. After the theater closed, the Blevins Building served as a billiard hall for a short period of time.

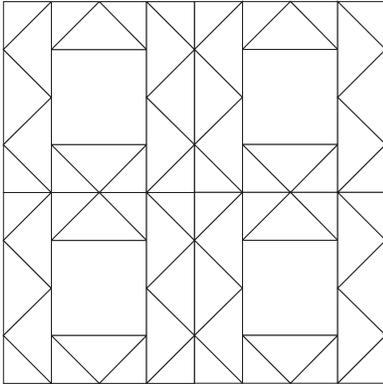
By 1933, the building's uses significantly expanded to include tobacco sales, a bowling alley, sandwich shop, and general store. Licenses for all four of these endeavors were granted on February 21st, 1933 and particular residents of Mitchell County can even recall two days when it became legal to sell alcohol at the store.

During 15 months of renovations in 2006-07, all efforts were made to retain the historic imperfections of the building. Some of the original recordkeeping for the general store can still be found etched into the walls ascending the stairs. Lane markers, bowling scores, and IOU's are visible as well. A playbill from an old movie is framed in the front entrance just above one of the original art deco theater seats. Also framed are several tailor's catalogue pages that had been used to insulate the building.

All doors throughout the gallery have either been reclaimed from the Bakersville area or rebuilt. The original heart pine floors, tongue and groove ceiling, and walls are still in tact and wormy chestnut was salvaged from the building's exterior for use throughout the renovations. The square front on the face of the building is close to the original design and the original entrance and porch ceiling have been preserved.

Improvements include new wiring and electric, central heat and air, 29 additional windows, 17 exterior lights, a new foundation, jewelry studio, exhibit hall, office space, and loft furniture gallery.

**Quilt
Trails**
of Western
North Carolina



Buzzard's Roost

Location: Home of Dan and Brette Barron, Hillside Dr., Bakersville; drafted and painted by Brette Barron, installed by Daniel Barron

Story by Dr. Daniel Barron

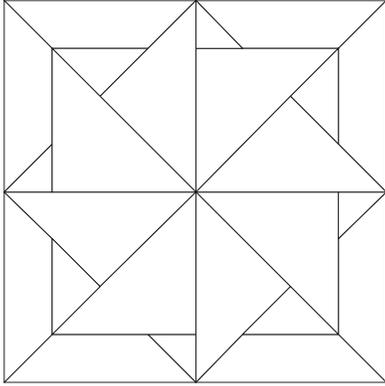
The street in Bakersville that is now known as Hillside Drive was, for several generations, called "Buzzard Roost." It was a derogatory term because the houses there were inhabited by African American servant families. In the Historic Bakersville Cemetery located on the hilltop above the lane are over 150 graves marked only with stones. Tradition has it that many of these contain the remains of African Americans who could not afford to purchase a lettered memorial.

The 1870 Federal Census indicates that there were 13 households and 60 individuals living in the Township of Bakersville that listed themselves as Black or Mulatto. In the 1880 Federal Census, 9 black households with 68 individuals and 3 individuals listed as black servants in white households are listed as residents in the Town of Bakersville. In that census report, the Township of Bakersville includes an additional 25 black households with 159 individuals and 2 black individuals listed as servants in white households.

Brette and Daniel Barron now live on this property and they selected the "Buzzard's Roost" quilt pattern for their house, using Mardi Gras inspired colors, as a tribute to and celebration of those African American families and individuals who once lived, worked, and died in Bakersville. The 4' x 4' square was drafted and painted by Brette and hung by both Brette and Dan. The pattern was repeated four times to emphasize the large number of African American residents and to symbolize the cemetery plot of unmarked stones.

Daniel Barron is the Director of the Avery-Mitchell-Yancey Library System and was born and raised in Bakersville. He is a member of a number of committees and boards focused on the preservation of our community's history, and he is the President of the Quilt Trails of Western NC board. Brette Barclay Barron is a local painter, printmaker, and fiber artist. She is also the owner of Hedgerow Arts, a Bakersville graphics and web design business. Brette is the webmaster for our website.

The square is visible upon entering Bakersville from Highway 226 North / Crimson Laurel Way.



Spinning Color Wheel

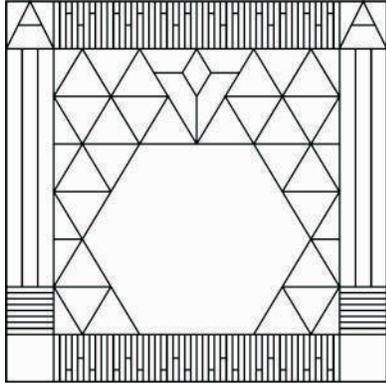
Location: Home of John and Clara Ahlquist, 156 Pizzle View Rd., Bakersville. Drafted and painted by Cheryl Hughes. Installed by John Ahlquist.

Story by Clara Ahlquist

I wanted to honor the women in my family. My grandmother and aunts had quilting parties and I have good memories of that.

I have used a color wheel from my hairdressing profession which is an international tool of the profession. I was delighted to learn that there was a traditional quilt block called Spinning Color wheel - the perfect choice for me.

Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina



Destiny Bello submitted a design for the quilt block which we modified only slightly to have it conform to the rules. The school colors are in the background triangles. The pencils at either side and the rulers at top and bottom along with the apple in the middle all clearly say SCHOOL! Her clever use of a hexagon to make the apple was very quilty. We congratulate Destiny on her thoughtful design and the terrific name she gave her block and are pleased to add it to the Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina.

Awesome Education Puzzle

*Location: Gouge Elementary School, 134 Laurel St., Bakersville.
Designed by Destiny Bello, 4th grader at Gouge Elementary, Painted by Kathy Rose, Barbara Webster, Carole Pearson, Cynthia Blood, Matthew Mims, Carole Doswell Moore, and Sylvia Everett, installed by Keith Beam.*

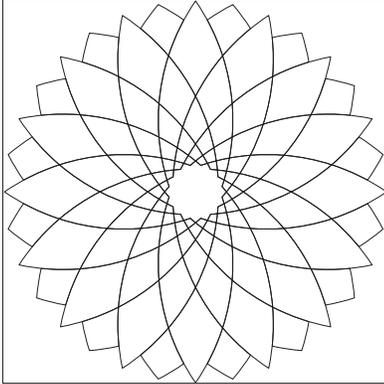
In the fourth grade at Gouge Elementary school we study the state of North Carolina. We are very fortunate to be able to work with Penland School to create an ABC book all about North Carolina. While creating our books we needed to find something to learn about that would go with the letter Q. While researching, we discovered the Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina. We learned that it was the second largest quilt trail in the nation. We studied quilts and their history. The whole school became excited about the quilt squares seen throughout our community. That is when we decided that Gouge Elementary needed a quilt square too.

Plans were made and fund raisers organized. Our school is a big part of our town and we are very proud of it. Our mascot is the eagle. We needed to design a square that would represent our school. The art teacher had the third, fourth and fifth grade students all design a square, and the hallways of the school were lined with the results. The teachers judged them and chose Destiny Bello's square as the one that represented our school best.

Gouge school was built in 1955 starting with just seven rooms that housed grades first through third. In 1959, five more rooms were added. The school at the time was named Little Bowman. The school is named after Dr. and Mrs. A.E. Gouge. They are the family the property was purchased from on which to build the school.

By 1967 Gouge had grown to a 17 room school that included a cafeteria. In 1980 they added on once more when a gymnasium was built. At this time the school housed grades kindergarten through fourth. In 2002 the new multi-media center was completed. The latest construction on the school was completed in December 2009 when the new Exceptional Children wing was open which serves many of the EC students in Mitchell County. We now house grades kindergarten through fifth grade. We are very proud of our school and our very talented students.

Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina



Look to the right to see this block. It is truly spectacular. It took an army of us to paint it.

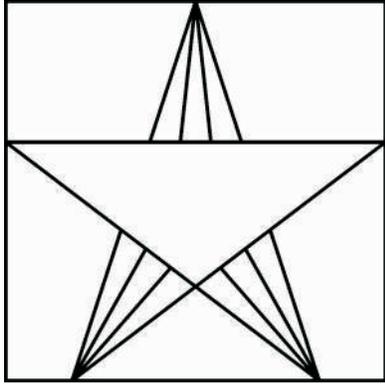
Dahlia

Location: 1562 Hwy 261, Bakersville. Drafted by Linda Sharpless, painted by Bridget Van Remortel, Anita Langan, Deborah Palmer, Estela Shakelford, Hazel Yahn, Barbara Webster, Fayma Childs, and Cora Meares, installed by Jeff Phillips.

This beautiful traditional quilt block was chosen by Bridget Van Remortel for her barn because “I liked the way it looks.” Good enough reason - especially when you see this spectacular block which has no straight lines. The drafting of it was done with a huge compass which Linda Sharpless fashioned just for the job, which was not easy considering the block is made up of four 4-foot squares which all had to meet at the edges. Linda and Bridget are both members of the Mountain Piecemaker’s Quilt Guild, as are Estela Shakelford, Cora Meares and Barbara Webster. This block was a labor of love by all who worked on it and worth the drive to see. It is on the way to Roan Mountain.

Bridget is a baker, and you can sample her goodies at the Farmer’s Market in Bakersville, held on Saturdays during the season.

**Quilt
Trails**
of Western
North Carolina



*Hobson Rd. is off Hwy 261
going towards Roan
Mountain. The road will be on
your left.*

Memorial Day Star

*Location: 905 Hobson Rd., Bakersville, NC. Drafted by
Barbara Webster; painted by Lora Warnell, installed by
David Froehlich. Photo by Suzi Plati.*

Story by June Ledford Phillips and David and Linda Froehlich

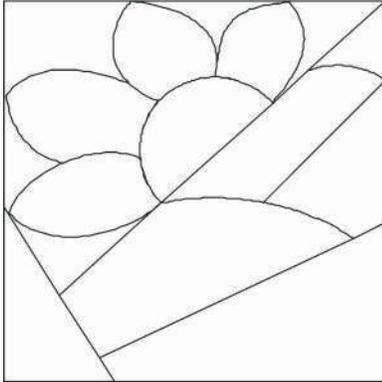
The property was originally owned by Joe and Pansy Young. In the early 1900s, the two hundred acres were purchased by Green and Seenia Ledford and the first homestead was built. After Seenia's death, Green married Peggy and they raised five children. Green lived off the land, working pulpwood and farming. One of their granddaughters, June Ledford Phillips, recalls fondly many family gatherings and lively music parties held on the property. The land was divided among the three remaining children and when June married Glenn Phillips, they built their home on land just below the original homestead.

Glenn and June had six children. Their oldest daughter died a few years ago, but the remaining children still live in Mitchell County.

The original home burned down in 1999 and the present home was built by Danny Phillips, one of June and Glenn's sons.

June recalls that the star pattern was frequently used in family quilts. Linda and David Froehlich selected this pattern to honor the Ledford/Phillips family, especially a remarkable and resilient lady, June Ledford Phillips, to honor the Froehlich family who served honorably in various branches of the military, and also to honor all soldiers who have and continue to sacrifice so much for our freedom. David and Linda say "May God continue to bless our troops and our country!"

Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina



Sunflower

*Location: Highway 260, Glen Ayre, near Bakersville and Roan Mountain, NC
Drafted by Barbara Webster; painted by Carolyn Bareford, Cheryl Hughes and Deborah Palmer; installed by Ken Burns.*

Story by Marsha Burns and Karen Berry

The *Upper Bottom*, located just five miles north of the heart of Bakersville, North Carolina, is the residence of Ken and Marsha Burns.

Ken was born in Charlotte, North Carolina. At the age of ten years, his family relocated to Florence, South Carolina where he grew up. Following the end of his first marriage and with both of his children grown, Ken realized he wanted a place where he could enjoy a more relaxed lifestyle. Originally from North Carolina, he was fond of the mountains and thought a small place there would be ideal.

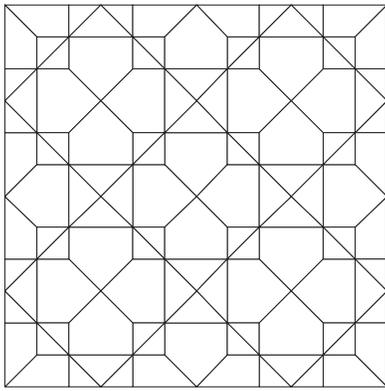
Ken met his current wife, Marsha, in 1999. Although born in Florence, Marsha had been living for many years in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. Following the death of her son, she returned to Florence to care for her mother and she and Ken met again through mutual friends. They quickly realized they shared a love of the outdoors and both longed for a more peaceful lifestyle away from the heat of eastern South Carolina.

In the search for property, Ken stopped at a well-known local store known as Thomas' Grocery, where he was given the name of Ivan Greene who owned property in the area. Mr. Greene showed Ken several pieces of land he owned and Ken fell in love with a parcel along Highway 261 in the area known as Glen Ayre. Because of its suitability for growing a garden and its location adjacent to Little Rock Creek, Ken realized this was the land best suited for what he wanted.

Located on the property is an old corn crib. A simple shed roof structure typical of the area and the period in which it was built, the corn crib was once used to store corn on acreage later used as pasture land. Marsha's love for sunflowers began when her children were young and she encouraged them to "turn your faces toward the sun and let the clouds fall behind" as sunflowers do when they grow. She feels that being a part of the quilt trail affords her the opportunity to honor her daughter and pay tribute to the memory of her son by placing her sunflower "quilt" on the corn crib located on their little place of heaven they now call home.

This is an extremely colorful and unusual block, though traditional. It is easiest to see on the way down the mountain from Roan Mountain.

Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina



Hard Times

Location: 4231 Cane Creek Rd., Bakersville. Painted by Carolyn Bareford. Installed by Jeff Phillips and Wade Whitson.

Story by Janis Holder

In February 2008, Lake Norman resident David Goodnight acquired a cabin with a history of hard times. David had always loved the mountains of North Carolina, but he was particularly attracted to the beautiful and remote area surrounding Bakersville. He wanted a place he could call his second home. Finding himself in need of a good weekend project, David purchased a building that had been used for storage on property originally belonging to James and Beatrice Dellinger. For two years, he lived in a camper on the property while he completely remodeled the cabin, adding a kitchen, bath, and loft. David named his second home and rental property "Hawk's Perch;" the completed cabin wears its quilt block like a badge of honor.

The Dellingers had four children: Charlie, Jerry, David, and Sue. James Dellinger farmed the land for food for his family, and also worked in the mica mines. Canned goods, potatoes and other root vegetables were stored in the downstairs of the unheated building, while the upstairs boasted a bedroom shared by the boys of the family (their sister Sue was allowed to sleep in the heated house). Sue is now married to George Morgan, owner of Morgan Oil in Bakersville. Her elder brother Charlie and his wife Betsy own a creek-side second home cabin across the road from Hawk's Perch. The little storage building, which stood behind the original Dellinger house, survived a fire that destroyed the main house several years ago. Though the cabin had at least two other owners before 2008, it didn't become a proper home until David Goodnight decided to remodel it.

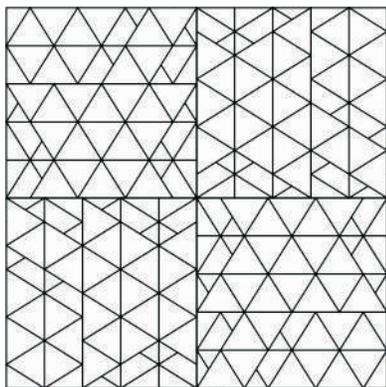
David was born and raised on a sixty acre farm in southern Rowan County, near the small town of China Grove, North Carolina. His father, Henry Lamont Goodnight, was a farmer; his mother, Whitaker Belk Goodnight, taught school for forty-two years. Though David was expected to work on the farm, his idyllic childhood also included plenty of time for fishing, hunting, playing sports and (in his words) "chasing girls." Heeding the siren call of the mountains of his home state, David attended Appalachian State University, graduating in 1973 with a BS in Industrial Arts. A carpenter by trade, David worked most of his adult life in the welding supply business. Six years ago, he left that business to manage the ABC store in Lincoln County.

David's family includes his two sons, Neal, 28, and Glenn, 25. Both sons live close by in Huntersville, and in their spare time play in a jam band at locations around Charlotte and Lake Norman. Cecil, David's older brother, lives with his wife in Wake Forest, North Carolina. Now that David's work on Hawk's Perch is complete, he and his family hope to spend more time just enjoying the area and its many wonderful activities, including hiking, fishing, golfing, and perhaps just sitting on the porch enjoying the beautiful mountain views.

"What helps luck is a habit of watching for opportunities, of having a patient, but restless mind, of sacrificing one's ease or vanity, of uniting a love of detail to foresight, and of passing through hard times bravely and cheerfully." – Charles Victor Cherbuliez

Quilt Trails

of Western
North Carolina



This clever block shows a mortar and pestle, one of the “tools of the trade” for a pharmacist. It took us quite a while to paint this one because of all the little “pieces” in it.

Mortar and Pestle

Location: Bakersville Pharmacy, 580 S. Hwy 226, Bakersville. Designed by Martin Webster, painted by Carole Pearson, Jane Greene, Kathy Rose, Margot Parker, Ken Hoke, and Laura Brennan and installed by Keith Beam.

Story by Teleia Tollison

John Sides dreamed of a good pharmacy for the western end of Mitchell County. He started Bakersville Pharmacy in 1980 so that the community would have a convenient place to fill prescriptions, but he also wanted to create a business with a heart. At John's tragic death, his widow needed to sell the pharmacy and looked for a company with the same philosophy. When Mari Sides discovered Long's Drugs, she knew she had found the right buyer. Dr. Gene Long founded the company in 1951 as a “family-oriented” pharmacy. Today, Long's Drugs has expanded to 20 stores in South Carolina, Georgia, and North Carolina, but it is still in the care of the Longs. The current president, Ken Long, feels the company's “tradition of providing excellent customer service and value” is of paramount importance. The Longs discovered Jordan Baker, who came to Bakersville from the Shelby area for a job, but he has stayed to work with the Longs to continue John Sides' dream.

Baker is a young man with an old soul. He, along with his assistant Sharon Bradford, has made sure that the pharmacy has maintained a hometown feeling. They know their clients and the clients' families. In addition to medicines, people visit Bakersville Pharmacy for vitamins, food products, and household items. They also carry a fairly extensive line of rehabilitation equipment and pride themselves on keeping up with all the needs of their patrons, including special orders. He calls his work “bringing the community pharmacy to the next level.”

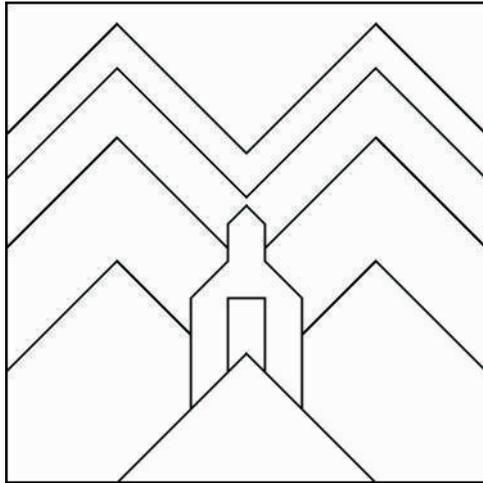
Sharon Bradford's work at the pharmacy is a second career. Her first was a licensed professional with the FAA dealing with aeronautic instruments. After her husband began having health problems, they started looking for a place away from the Chicago area. Their daughter had traveled the Blue Ridge Parkway and suggested they look in this area. Both Bradford and her husband grew up in small towns, and when they found Bakersville, they felt like they were home. They loved the fact that people were not only friendly but took pride in their homes and lawns.

When asked if Baker or Bradford were interested in the arts, Bradford said that she really liked to quilt—but just for herself and her family. She didn't want to please anyone else but herself with her hobby. Baker is still settling into an artistic avocation. He paints, tinkers, and loves photography. He is even making a movie about the annual Creek Walk. He was actively involved in the creation of his quilt square design including choosing just the right colors for the block now standing proudly on pharmacy wall for all to see. He became involved in the Quilt Square Project because he appreciated the beauty of the various squares in the area counties.

Jordan Baker has become a real community man. He is very active in the Bakersville Improvement Group and in Hospice. But most importantly, he has perpetuated John Sides' vision of a pharmacy with compassion to serve the Bakersville community.

Quilt Trails

of Western
North Carolina



Little Poplar Schoolhouse

Location: Mitchell High School, Ledger. Designed by Mitchell HS students David Martinez and Daniel Patrella, painted by Carole Pearson, Jane Greene, Barbara Webster, and Kathy Rose. Installed by Jeff Phillips with the help of Whitson Electric.

Story by Tracy Deyton

Mitchell High's excitement in creating the 200th quilt squares for the Quilt Trails of Western North Carolina project was evident. Over a dozen students submitted squares for consideration, incorporating school pride and heritage in their designs.

Bowman High and Harris High consolidated in 1978 forming Mitchell High School. Many of the student designs used color to signify the "blending" of our communities into one high school. Mitchell County has always valued education. In the early 80's the Little Poplar Schoolhouse was moved to our campus to celebrate the earliest evidence of instruction in our small communities. The building is a constant reminder of the importance of education and how vital it is to preserve history in our rural area.

Ultimately, two student designs were merged to form the square that represents our school. David Martinez designed a square as a tribute to the little one room school house that sits on Mitchell's campus. Daniel Patrella offered up a logo design using the letter "M" with colors to signify the merging of Harris, whose color was dark blue, and Bowman, whose color was maroon into a stunning shade of purple. Looking at the design, you can see how the mountains in the background help form the letter "m" around the old Poplar school house. The square greets students and visitors as they enter the building, its vibrant color reflecting in the sun, inspiring all to value their past and prepare for their futures.

Additionally, students from Terry Lewis' furniture and cabinet making classes built not only this block, but many other quilt squares seen on display in Western North Carolina. Our students at MHS are quite invested in this project and understand the significance of it.

On April 15, 2011, students, faculty, staff, and community members gathered as the square was hung. Seeing the square come together was indeed a momentous occasion enjoyed by all.