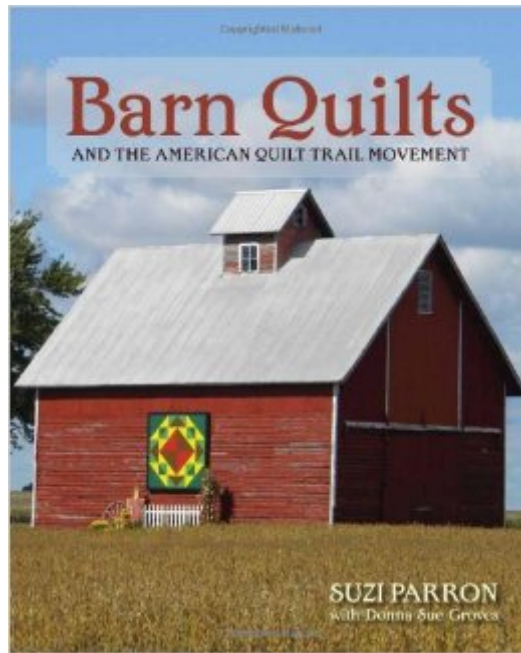


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# Barn Quilts And The American Quilt Trail Movement



## Synopsis

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 America's 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's 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.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (87 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Before I received one of Suzi's Barn Quilt calendars as a gift I had never even heard of barn quilts, let alone a barn quilt trail. I quickly became fascinated with the topic and was eagerly awaiting the publication of the book. I was thrilled when my signed copy arrived a couple of weeks ago, and have not been disappointed. The book is filled with beautiful color pictures, as I expected it would be. What was unexpected, however, was the warmth with which Suzi describes her encounters with the

people involved, from the painters to the barn owners to the school children, in short, everyone she met in this wonderful project. Keep up the good work, Suzi! When can we expect Volume II?

I have been waiting for a book like this for some time. I have been painting barn quilts for about 2 years and have been searching for a reference source devoted to the history of barn quilts and the personal stories of the barn quilt owners. This book does that! Suzi Parron, as a writer, has been able to mentally allow me to ride with her to each location in the course of her research. I have truly enjoyed the ride and have been energized to continue to create lasting memories for my patrons. Dave Snow, [barnquiltsbydave.com](http://barnquiltsbydave.com)

This 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.

Suzi Parron has done a fabulous job in her book Barn Quilts!! The history behind each quilt, the pictures and the overall flow of the book are wonderful!! I found it well organized, the index was quite helpful and her personal stories add "the icing to the cake"!!

Suzi Parron's new book clears up the mysteries about the wonderful, brightly-colored quilt squares that have appeared on rural buildings coast-to-coast. While bringing people into the country side on barn quilt tours, the brilliant decorations are a source of pride and identity for rural residents. We're just getting started painting them in mid-Missouri and it's great to have a record of what's gone before. This is a fun, well-written and researched book with lots of illustrations and will be a beloved addition to the libraries of quilters, barn lovers and art aficionados everywhere.

I wasn't sure what to expect but I've thoroughly enjoyed this book. It took me on a journey across America. The interesting stories and colorful photos made me feel as if I was right there. I'd heard about the barn quilts but had no idea there was so much behind them. I've ordered a copy for my sister the quilter. I'm certain she's going to love it.

Barn Quilts opens up a whole new aspect for anyone who is passionate about quilting. The quilts

are paintings replicating traditional patterns which pay homage to the women who also played their part in the pioneering movement of America. Reading about the founder of this creative movement is fascinating and moving and leads you into further study. The text would have benefitted from a few more illustrations but that is its only downside. A great book and definitely one for quilters to enjoy at their leisure.

Fascinating book ! As an art quilter, it was so interesting to me to see quilts that are made of wood that decorate barns and other exterior surfaces. Because of this book, my husband designed and made a beautiful "Barn Quilt" of his own design that we have at our home :-D

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