



# Antique Quilts & Coverlets

A Scrapbook  
from our  
special exhibit

2018

The Historic Indian Agency House

# Antique Quilts & Coverlets

During our 2018 season, the Historic Indian Agency House's special exhibit featured historic quilts and coverlets. Summer programming also included a variety of fiber arts events and activities. The first of two barn quilts was created and installed on our property in 2018, as well. Enjoy this scrapbook showcasing some of the highlights from our season.



The Historic Indian Agency House collection includes nearly two dozen quilts and coverlets from the time of the house's first inhabitants. Quilts in the display originated from places as diverse as Ohio, New York, and the Carolinas. This display is a tribute to the Wisconsin Colonial Dames who were committed to acquiring a representative sample of one of the most diverse and loved crafts in American folk art.

# Barn Quilts

As the beauty and breadth of the Agency House's quilt collection became apparent, the site permanently commemorated them with their incorporation into our site's welcome sign. In 2018, Associated Bank of Portage sponsored a barn quilt for our property which is based on the honeycomb pattern.



In 2019, we installed our second barn quilt sponsored by the Columbia County UW Extension HCE. The design is unusual in that it is patterned off of a Ho-Chunk beaded bandolier in our collection.



# Honeycomb / Grandmother's Garden

Quilt appraiser Carol Butzke of the Wisconsin Quilt and Fiber Art Museum points to one of the many different types of fabric which were brought together to produce this beautiful quilt. The piece, made around 1825, is a common honeycomb pattern, also referred to as "grandmother's garden."



# Album Quilt

This quilt is an eye-catcher with a story. Each block features a different motif cut from imported fabric. The designs were sewn onto a less expensive background to allow for a large, yet fine, quilt. This particular quilt is known as an album quilt because it is signed by a different person on each block. Such quilts were generally made to commemorate an event or were given to a person as a gift from the community. Research is in the works to determine what community produced this piece and the story behind it.





# Feathered Star Missionary Quilt

This 1825 feathered star pattern quilt made by an Ohio sewing society was given as a gift to a traveling missionary who was an ancestor of the donor. Embroidered in such a way so as not to distract from the quilt's pattern are the faint words, "Missionary Quilt, Ohio Beauty 1825." Read more in-depth about missionary quilts on our December 1, 2019, Artifact Ambassador post on our website at

<https://www.agencyhouse.org/artifact-ambassadors-2019-1>

