



# Barn Quilt Loop Trail

*A 30-minute to 2-hour drive around Upper Laurel, NC*

*A project of the Madison County Arts Council*

## UL-1

### **The Powell Barn**

*954 Puncheon Fork Road*

*GPS: N35° 55' 9" W82° 32' 21"*

This pattern is a very familiar one to most quilters: Grandma's Flower Garden. It is on an old barn that used to be on a dirt/gravel road before Puncheon Fork was paved. Making the quilt was an Upper Laurel Community project with members of the community helping to paint it and the Upper Laurel Fire Department Volunteers hanging it. One of the painters was a member of the English family who once owned most of the property in the area,



## UL-2

### **Antique Barn**

*1289 Puncheon Fork Road*

*GPS: N35° 51' 44" W82° 22' 38"*

The central portion of this barn quilt is known as the Drunkard's Path. It has several other names as well. The outer borders are a pattern known as Lovers Knots. This quilt and the combination of patterns is an honor to all persons who have struggled with alcoholism and conquered their disease. Some did so through the surrounding love of friends, family and their AA sponsors, as did the father of the person who painted this quilt. It is a special honor to his sponsor. This quilt also honors all who came out victorious. The red and white symbolize the strength of the blood running through the hearts of the afflicted, and the tears wept by the loved ones.



## UL-3

### **Laurel Commercial Building**

*3572 Puncheon Fork Road*

*GPS: N35° 56' 49" W82° 31' 32"*



## UL-4

### **Laurel Creek Cabin**

*14180 Laurel Creek Road*

*GPS: N35° 54' 32" W82° 44' 35"*

The pattern chosen for this barn quilt reflects the trout available in the Big Laurel Creek here along this road. This stretch of the Big Laurel is a stocked stream. The owner of this barn quilt changed the original design and painted the distinct marking of the rainbow trout alternately with those of the brown trout in the design. The rainbow trout is one of the most sought after and beautiful fish found in Western North Carolina. The brown trout are fairly reclusive fish choosing to stay close to underwater cover, undercut banks, and overhanging trees.



# UL-5

## Plyler-Sorensen Barn

12635 Big Laurel Road

GPS: N35° 54' 35" W82° 32' 55"

One of the owners of this property is a quilter and was intrigued by a pattern from the American Patchwork & Quilting Magazine in 2006. The pattern is called Twisted Log Cabin Block and was actually painted directly on a barn in Rhinebeck, Iowa. Paula was taken by the unique, three-dimensional aspect of the pattern and painted the design in Maryland and brought it here.



## The View from Lonesome Mountain Road

There are some breathtaking views throughout the county and the drive from the Laurel area back to Highway 25/70 has one of those from the top of Lonesome Mountain.



# SL-1

## Buffalo Ridge Farm

4775 Revere Road

GPS: N35° 57' 21" W82° 41' 0"

When Rob & Melanie Kraft began to research putting a windmill on their farm to complement their all-natural approach to farming, they discovered that it was not cost effective. So, they decided to use the "windmill" theme on their barn quilt.



The southwestern colors of turquoise, orange and black are reminders of how the buffalo roam on the plains of the southwest. The windmill pattern in the center is a pleasant reminder of our appreciation for old fashioned windmills of the southeast.

# SL-2

## Revere-Rice Cove Community Ctr

Revere Road

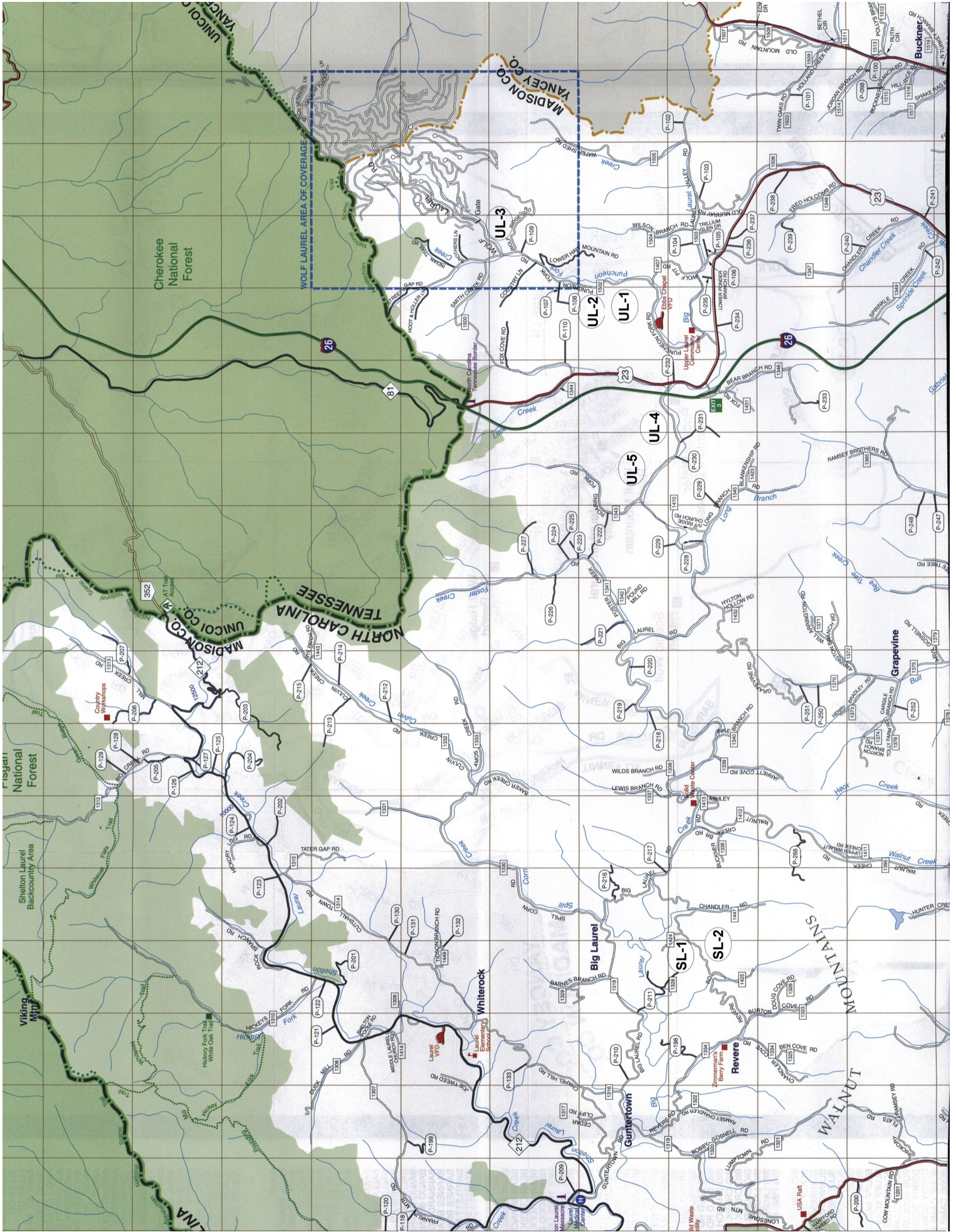
GPS: N35° 54' 27" W82° 41' 41"

The quilt block 's flag theme is entitled "United We Stand." The members of the community center decided on this pattern because "our group is like our block." It symbolizes



their community efforts to bring everyone together to work for a common goal to improve the lives of the members of the community. Members of all ages, in fact, came together to paint the quilt in that "united" show of strength of commitment.







## UPPER LAUREL BARN QUILT LOOP DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Take Exit 3 from Interstate 26.

THIS IS AN APPROXIMATELY ½ HOUR LOOP DRIVE FROM HERE WITHOUT THE OPTIONAL SIDE TRIP

Turn right at the end of the ramp (which is Bear Branch Drive) and then turn right on Hwy 23 A.

Drive for 0.6 of a mile and make the first left onto Laurel Valley Road

Go 0.2 of a mile and make the first left onto Puncheon Fork Road.

Drive for 1 mile to 954 Puncheon Fork Road. The quilt will be on a gray barn on the left side of the road. **QUILT UL-1**

Drive another 1.8 miles to 1289 Puncheon Fork Road. The quilt will be on a gray barn which is an Antique Store on the left side of the road. **QUILT UL-2**

Continue on Puncheon Fork for 0.7 miles to the right hand turn to Wolf Laurel Road. The quilt is on the end of the building on the corner of a commercial building. The address is 3572 Puncheon Fork Road. **QUILT UL-3**

Turn around in the parking lot and trace your steps back the way you came by driving back on Puncheon Fork Road for 3.5 miles where it comes to a “T” at Laurel Valley Road and turn right. Laurel Valley Road comes to a “T” at Highway 23A. Turn right.

OPTIONAL: at this point you may decide to complete your tour and just go to Mars Hill or Asheville. If that is the case and you DO NOT want to extend your Barn Quilt tour, turn left at Bear Branch Road (0.7 miles) at the sign for Interstate 26.

If you DO want to extend your Barn Quilt tour, continue on Highway 23A for 0.2 miles past the intersection with Bear Branch Road (to I-26) and turn left on Big Laurel Road. THIS IS AN APPROXIMATELY 1 ½ HOUR DRIVE FROM HERE WHICH WILL COME OUT AT HIGHWAY 25/70 SOUTH OF HOT SPRINGS INSTEAD OF LOOPING BACK TO INTERSTATE 26

Drive for 1.7 miles to Laurel Creek Cabin at 14180 Big Laurel Road. The quilt is on a mini-barn on the left side of the road on the other side of Big Laurel Creek. It may be obscured by foliage and so watch for an orange side on the left “SHADY LANE” and go into the driveway for a closer look. You have to drive almost 0.2 miles to the mini-barn. And the quilt is a 4x4 version instead of the bigger size. **QUILT UL-4**

Continue for 1.4 miles to 12635 Big Laurel Road. The quilt is on a red barn on the right side of the road. **QUILT UL-5**

OPTIONAL: You can make a U-turn to go back to I-26 or continue for another hour drive in the countryside. This side trip will take you from Upper Laurel into what used to be called Sodom Laurel—now it is named Revere.

Continue on Big Laurel road for 4.3 miles. Turn right to continue on Big Laurel Rd for 1.2 miles and take the left road of a “Y” intersection onto Revere Road. Continue another 2.4 miles to 4775 Revere Road on the right side. You will have to travel down the driveway (it’s okay with Rob & Melanie Kraft who operate Buffalo Ridge—a beef farm.) You might want to phone ahead to have a farm tour experience (828 656-2161). The quilt is on their barn. **QUILT SL-1**

When you come out the driveway, turn right on Revere Road for 0.7 of a mile to the Revere Rice Cove Community Center driveway on the left side of the road. Go up the driveway and the quilt is on the building. You may encounter a locked gate. If so, you can park at the end of the driveway and walk up. **QUILT SL-2**

When you come out the driveway, turn left and continue for 3.5 miles to the left turn onto Lonesome Mountain Road for a wonderful scenic drive through the mountains.

Travel 3.7 miles to Highway 25/70 and turn left and continue on Highway 25/70 to return to I 26 at Exit 19 near Weaverville.