

KIT8160

QUILT SIZE: 80" x 80"



# Arnold's a.t.t.i.c

Barbara Brackman

Fabrics from 1880 - 1920



## Arnold's Story

*Arnold's Attic* celebrates everybody who saves things and especially my pen pal, Arnold Hegy Savage. Over the years he has sent me many gifts of fabric swatches with a note. "I found this in the attic." Arnold lives in an 1840 Ohio house that's been in his family for several generations. His mother, his aunt and his grandmothers were quilters and confirmed collectors.

The prints reproduce the latest trends from 1880 to 1920 when his Aunt Alice was buying for her quilts and clothing. The cottons in those years looked to tradition in subject matter but explored modern shapes and abstractions. Colors echoed the new aniline dyes - olive, bronze and brick - earth tones with a little punch.

Aunt Alice Hegy (1870-1955) taught Arnold to sew in the early 1930s when he was confined to his bed with rheumatic fever. She started him out with nine-patches and he figures he must have made a thousand. His mother often found him asleep with a needle and a nine-patch in his hand. He tried hexagons with the same dedication and then took up applique.

After a career as a professional cellist he returned to his family home and to quilting. Arnold won numerous prizes for his quilts, which often reflect his family memories.

The patterns and colors are named for family members and local landmarks. Thanks to all the collectors - women all named Mary. There's Mary Barbara Fisher Hegy, Arnold's great-grandmother, Mary Alice Hegy, his aunt, and Mary Madonna Hegy Savage, his mother. And thanks to Arnold for keeping everything, sorting it and sending some to me.



Family's circa 1840 Home in Ohio

Arnold Hegy Savage



Alice Hegy

Barbara Brackman  
Fall, 2009

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