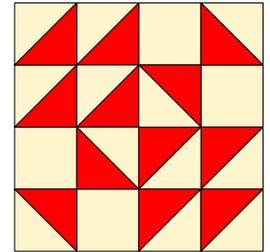


Block 114 Elizabeth Catherine Bagshaw

	From:	Sub-cut:	
	B 2" strip 2½" strip OR 3"x24" rectangle	4 - 2" squares 6 - 2½" squares, cut once diagonally in half	
	R 3"x16" rectangle	6 - 2½" squares, cut once diagonally in half	



Elizabeth Catherine Bagshaw (Cannington ON 1881-1982)

"The spunky Elizabeth was born and raised on a farm in Victoria County ON. Because Elizabeth was saucy she was frequently strapped at school. She was a tomboy that relished riding cows, standing up on horses as she'd seen in the circus, an independent thinker and at sixteen decided to be a doctor.

With her father's support and her mother's disapproval, Elizabeth attended Toronto's Women's Medical College. Before graduating, her father fell and broke his neck and died the next day as Elizabeth watched. Now managing the farm she faced more sexism from the hired men than at medical school and eventually fired them, sold the farm and went back to school. After graduating in 1905 she still had to get practical experience to obtain her licence. Elizabeth had planned to go to Detroit but her mother pleaded not to be left alone so she completed a one year unpaid preceptorship with a female physician who focused on maternity patients.

Elizabeth began her lengthy career primarily caring for women, mainly in obstetrics in Hamilton after filling in for a woman doctor. In 1920s she signed more birth certificates than any other physician in Hamilton. Most babies were delivered at home. From 1932 to 1966 Elizabeth served as the unpaid medical director of Canada's first—illegal until 1969—birth control clinic to help women plan their families. Despite strong objections to the facility from some members of the medical community and through the opposition preaching from religious leaders about birth control, the word spread by word of mouth about the facility causing more women to go to the facility. They avoided the law because her team of nurses and volunteers kept quiet about the clinic. They provided advice and distributed condoms, jellies and pessaries to married women and inserted diaphragms while providing necessary information about their use. In the early years most women had children and for financial or medical reasons were worried about expanding families. In later years with advances in contraception unmarried women sought advice. The facility was not an abortion clinic but for medical reasons she did perform an abortion.

By age forty, two suitors had died so she thought her dream of motherhood had died as well. But when a distant relative died suddenly, Elizabeth quietly hired a good lawyer, adopted the baby and became a single parent. Her son, John, became a doctor. In 1954 both practised in the same building. She helped change the public opinion of planned parenthood. Elizabeth retired at ninety-five with fifty patients making her Canada's oldest practising physician."

Merna Forster, "Elizabeth Bagshaw", 100 More Canadian Heroines Famous and Forgotten Faces," The Dundurn Group Toronto, 2011, 44-46.

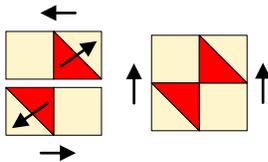
Block 114 Elizabeth Catherine Bagshaw finished: 6" unfinished: 6½"

Procedure:

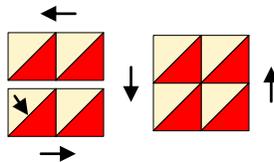
1. Sew [1] 2½" **R** and **B** triangle together. Press to **B**. Trim to 2" square. Press [10] to **B** and [2] to **R**. Make 12.



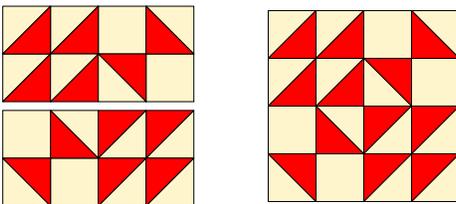
2. Layout and sew together [2] Step 1 units and [2] 2" squares. Should be 3½" square. Make 2.



3. Layout and sew together [1] Step 2 unit and [3] Step 2 units. Note Step 1 unit pressed to **R**. Press in arrow direction. Should be 3½" square. Make 2.



4. Layout and sew together [2] Step 2 and 3 units. Sew units together in rows. Press to Step 2. Sew rows together. Open center spin and press. Should be 6½" square.



5. Option: Sew a 1½"x6½" background sash strip to the right side of block. ∞

