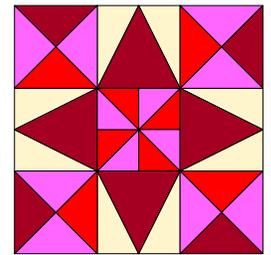


Block 91 Maud Watt

	From:	Sub-cut:	
	B 3" strip OR 3"x14" rectangle	1 - 3"x14" rectangle	
	R 4"x8" rectangle	1 - 3½" square, cut twice diagonally in half 2 - 2" squares, cut once diagonally in half	
	L 4"x12" rectangle	2 - 3½" squares, cut twice diagonally in half 2 - 2" squares, cut once diagonally in half	
	M 4"x13" rectangle	1 - 3½" square, cut twice diagonally in half 1 - 3"x9" rectangle	



Maud Watt (Gaspé QC 1894-1987)

"Maud, the tenth child of fourteen, grew up in a hectic but happy household. Maud baked bread as well as hunted hares and ptarmigan and used Morse code. She went to school at the nearby convent in Mingan QC. She was fluent in French and English, learned Latin and picked up some Montagnais. At age twenty-one she married James Watt who worked for the Hudson's Bay Company. Shortly after they traveled Fort Chimo on Ungava Bay when James was offered a job as sub-district manager. During the trip Maud scampered over rocky shores, picking Arctic flowers, meeting the Inuit and playing poker on the ship where she 'lost and won cars, pianos and enough jewels to cover the Queen of Sheba.'

In Fort Chimo, Maud welcomed the Natives into their home, treated them respectfully and were genuinely concerned about the welfare of those who traded with them. When the supply ship did not appear for three years they made the gruelling 800 mile journey to the St Lawrence for help.

In 1919, James was reassigned to Rupert House on James Bay the most productive beaver trapping area in the world. The number of beaver skins plummeted each year causing the Cree to suffer as it was one their food sources and the furs were needed to trade to survive. In 1928-29 James suggested the creation of a beaver farm to provide steady production because only 4 beaver skins were received and many Cree were starving. HBC said no, but when two men found two occupied beaver lodges James purchased the live beaver so they could live in the wilderness and convinced the local Cree that leaving the beaver to reproduce would result in a sustainable resource. He paid the Natives to guard the beavers. With his credit running out by the third year they asked the Quebec government to set aside some territory as a preserve. Because he couldn't leave his post nor speak French, Maud travelled to Quebec City to plead on behalf of the Natives. Maud, her two children and two skilled men left in sixty below zero on dogsled arriving a month later by train to successfully negotiate and offer a token \$10 payment.

Maud returned with a lease for 7200 square miles of territory to be used as a beaver reserve. Maud served as proprietor but they couldn't finance it indefinitely so the HBC took over the lease. By 1940 there were 4000 beavers and a licensed hunter could trap on the preserve according to a quota system. James died in 1944, Maud left Rupert House and went south but later returned and opened a bakery. Maud was the first female game warden in Quebec."

Merna Forster, "Maud Watt—The Angel of Hudson Bay", 100 More Canadian Heroines Famous and Forgotten Faces," The Dundurn Group Toronto, 2011, 347-350.

Block 91 Maud Watt finished: 6" unfinished: 6½"

Procedure:

Option: Tri-recs ruler to make the 2" finished blocks.

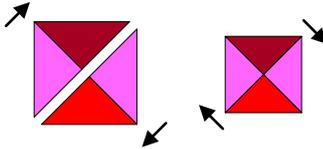
1. Layout and sew together [1] 2" **L** and **R** triangle. Press to **R**. Trim to 1½" square. Make 4.



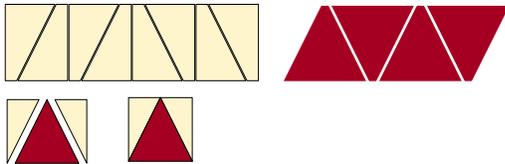
2. Layout and sew together [4] Step 1 units. Open center, spin and press. Should be 2½" square.



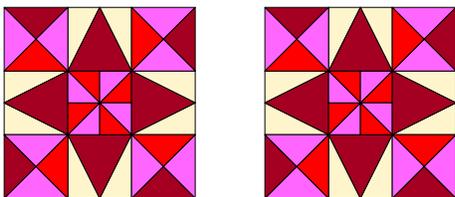
3. Layout and sew together [1] 3½" **M** and **R** triangle and [2] 3½" **L** triangles. Press in arrow direction. Trim to 2½" square. Make 4.



4. Trim **B** and **M** rectangles from 3" wide to 2½" wide. Using the templates at right or 2" finished Tri-recs ruler cut out [4] sets of **C** triangles from 2½" wide **B** rectangle and [4] **A** triangles from 2½" wide **M** rectangle. Layout, match intersection points and sew together [1] set of **B-C** triangles and [1] **M-A** triangle. Press to **B**. Should be 2½" square. Make 4.



5. Layout all Step 2, 3, and 4 units. Sew together in rows. Press. Sew rows together. Press. Should be 6½" square.



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

