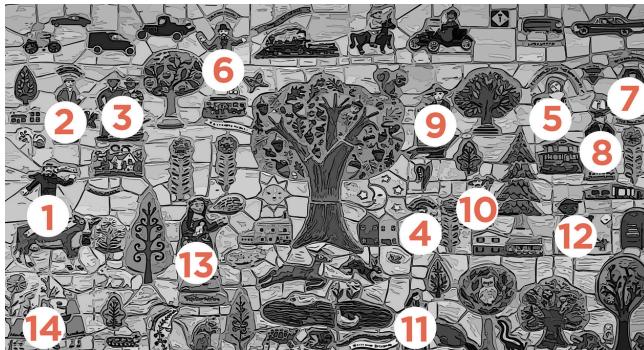


# KEY



**1. Orson Starr** arrived in 1831 and began one of the first manufacturing businesses, producing cowbells and drawing a national following among westward-bound pioneers. For 40 years, the company produced eight sizes of bells made of iron, copper, and zinc. The Orson Starr House Museum is located at 3123 N. Main Street.

**2. John Almon Starr**, eldest son of Orson Starr, started his brick and tile company in 1866 after working in the bell business. He built his house at 3123 N. Crooks Rd. in 1868 and it still exists today.

**3. Gilbert and Elizabeth Hamer**, slaves in Covington, KY fled for their freedom using the Underground Railroad. They arrived in Canada but eventually came here and were employed by the Starr family. They purchased seven acres of land. One acre was given to each of their six children. Descendants of the Hamer family still reside in Royal Oak today.

**4. William Hilzinger**, a multi faceted entrepreneur came to the US at age 16, becoming a cobbler. In Royal Oak he established a wholesale butter and milk business supplying retail dealers in Detroit with these products. He had a keen interest in civic affairs. He created an electric light plant and also made Tuttlinger mineral water from area wells.

**5. Elisabeth Briggs** was our first paid librarian.

**6. Sherman Stevens** brought the railroad to Royal Oak, purchasing land from 11 mile to Lincoln and West Street to Troy Street. He sold the lots knowing a commercial center would develop there.

**7. William Sullivan** created the first funeral home in Royal Oak, which is still operated by the family, making it the oldest business in town.

**8. Harley Wheeler** had a business building 30-foot schooners on the southeast corner Main St. He chose Royal Oak to be close to the Tamarack tree knees that came from marshes in the area. These boats were hauled all the way to Detroit.

**9. Frederick D. Madison** was an architect who designed the still existing Washington Square building and Baldwin Theatre among others.

**10. Logger** (man with axe) illustrates the logging industry that capitalized on Michigan's abundant white pines.

**11. Fur Trader** illustrates the early settlers who created income by trapping and trading animal pelts.

**12. Little Boy**, walking his dog with letter for the Royal Oak Post Office.

**13. Mother Nature** -- The artists chose the idea of Mother Nature to acknowledge climate change and the importance of preserving nature.

**14. The artists Laurie Eisenhardt and Marcia Hovland** creators of the mosaic stand in appreciation of the Native American "Three Sisters" planting technique (corn, beans and squash).



# Royal Oak

# Royal Oak ROOTS



Artists Marcia Hovland & Laurie Eisenhardt



Royal Oak  
**COMMISSION  
FOR THE ARTS**



**Royal Oak Roots** is a 8-by-5-foot ceramic mosaic mural created by hometown artists Laurie Eisenhardt and Marcia Hovland. The pair received a stipend from the Royal Oak Commission for the Arts' inaugural artist laureate program to create the design. The mural features more than 400 pieces and includes figures and elements from the city's 100-year history -- all chosen by Eisenhardt and Hovland.

