



# Smithsonian

*Anacostia Community Museum*

*Always there: the African American presence  
in American quilts exhibition records*

Carrie Gehrler

2011

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	
Administrative Information .....	1
Names and Subjects .....	
Container Listing .....	
Exhibit Records .....	3

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Anacostia Community Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	<i>Always there: the African American presence in American quilts</i> exhibition records
<b>Date:</b>	undated
<b>Identifier:</b>	ACMA.03-014
<b>Creator:</b>	Smithsonian Institution. Anacostia Community Museum
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Linear foot (1 box)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	An exhibition on the history of African American quilt-making. The show was organized by the Kentucky Quilt Project, Inc., Louisville, Kentucky and exhibited at the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum from July 1993 to October 1993. These records document the planning, organizing, execution, and promotion of the exhibition. Materials include correspondence, photographs, brochures, educational materials, and floor plans.
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): Always there: the African American presence in American quilts exhibition records</a>

---

## Administrative Information

### Other Finding Aids

Box list in accession file.

### Preferred Citation

Always There Exhibition records, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution

### Restrictions

Use of materials is restricted. Please contact the archivist to make an appointment: [ACMarchives@si.edu](mailto:ACMarchives@si.edu).

---

## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

African American quilts  
Museum exhibits  
Quilts

Types of Materials:

Brochures  
Contact sheets  
Exhibition catalogs  
Exhibition records -- 1990-2004  
Photographic prints

Names:

Benberry, Cuesta  
Kentucky Quilt Project

---

## Container Listing

### Exhibit Records

#### Box 30

Brochure Quilts Bits & Pieces

Newspaper clippings

Quilting questions

Meeting notes

Arts magazines

American Crafts magazines

Exhibition guide for Louisville celebrates the American quilt KQP

Exhibit catalog

Educational material

Magazines

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

ACMA AV002164: Always There: Docent Training, 1993  
2 Video recordings (VHS)  
020345 010947

Creator: Anacostia Museum  
Technical: 020345 010947  
Language: English.  
Notes: ACMA AV002165

Dr. Raymond Dobard, quilter and art historian, provided a historical overview of African American quilts and detailed explanations regarding the ways in which the quilts were constructed. After the lecture, Robert Hall led the docents on a tour through the exhibition 'Always There: The African American Presence in American Quilts.'

Lecture and exhibition tour. Related to exhibition 'Always There: The African American Presence in American Quilts.' Dated 19930717.

Always There: Docent Training, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

'Always There: The African American Presence in American Quilts' displayed 27 quilts with photographs and related objects, and surveyed 200 years of black quiltmaking. The quilts, images and artifacts in the exhibit were presented within a dual framework of black history and quilt history. Profiled quiltmakers included Mary Bell Berry, Jessie Telfair, Dorothy Nelle Sanders, parents of school children at P.S. 48 in New York City, Michael Cummings, Carolyn Mazloomi, Lillian Beattie, Jim Smoote, and Carole Harris. The exhibition was organized by the Kentucky Quilt Project, Inc. in Louisville, Kentucky, and on display at the Anacostia Museum from July 15 to October 17, 1993.

Exhibition organized by the Kentucky Quilt Project, Inc. in Louisville, Kentucky. Curator: Cuesta Benberry.

Names: Anacostia Community Museum  
 Anacostia Neighborhood Museum

Topic: African Americans  
 Quiltmakers  
 African American quiltmakers  
 Quilts  
 Black people -- History  
 Museum exhibits

Place: Anacostia (Washington, D.C.)  
 Washington (D.C.)  
 United States

Genre/Form: Video recordings

ACMA AV002223: News Coverage of the exhibition 'Always There.', 1993  
 1 Video recording (VHS)

001531

Creator: WTTG (Television station : Washington, D.C.)

Technical: 001531

Language: English.

Notes: During an interview for a news segment on FOX News 5, Anacostia Museum Director Steven Newsome talked about the exhibition 'Always There: The African American Presence in American Quilts' and African American quilt techniques; and a provided an explanation of story quilts. The news segment also included footage of the quilts which were on display throughout the exhibit.

News program. Related to exhibition 'Always There: The African American Presence in American Quilts.' Dated 1993.

News Coverage of the exhibition 'Always There,' Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

'Always There: The African American Presence in American Quilts' displayed 27 quilts with photographs and related objects, and surveyed 200 years of black quiltmaking. The quilts, images and artifacts in the exhibit were presented within a dual framework of black history and quilt history. Profiled quiltmakers included Mary Bell Berry, Jessie Telfair, Dorothy Nelle Sanders, parents of school children at P.S. 48 in New York City, Michael Cummings, Carolyn Mazloomi, Lillian Beattie, Jim Smoote, and Carole Harris. The exhibition was organized by the Kentucky Quilt Project, Inc. in Louisville, Kentucky,

and on display at the Anacostia Museum from July 15 to October 17, 1993.

Exhibition organized by the Kentucky Quilt Project, Inc. in Louisville, Kentucky. Curator: Cuesta Benberry. News program: Fox 5 DC - WTTG-TV.

Names:	Anacostia Community Museum Anacostia Neighborhood Museum
Topic:	African Americans Quiltmakers African American quiltmakers Quilts Museum exhibits
Place:	Anacostia (Washington, D.C.) Washington (D.C.) United States
Genre/Form:	Video recordings