

Guide to the **Tompkins County Quilters Guild Collection**

The History Center in Tompkins County
110 North Tioga Street, Suite 204A
Tompkins Center for History and Culture
Ithaca, NY 14850
607-273-8284
www.thehistorycenter.net
archives@thehistorycenter.net

Collection Number V-64-1-2
Accession Number 2011.3, 2017.49.1

Compiled 2011, Updated 2017

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Quiltmaking in America began in Colonial times, when immigrants arrived with skills learned in Europe, and quilting since then has been through many periods of high popularity. Ithaca, N.Y., played a role in inspiring the 20th century revival of this folk art. In 1974, at a time when there were no local, state or national organizations to support quilting, Jeanne Greene, a board member of Ithaca's City Federation of Women's Organizations, suggested holding a weekend quilt show to measure local interest, and 500 people came to see quilts on display at the Women's Community Building. The result was formation of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, which promptly began planning a major show for August 21-27 in 1976. The Bicentennial Finger Lakes Quilt Exhibit displayed 600 quilts from 14 area counties, staged many lectures, workshops and demonstrations, attracted 8,200 visitors from 31 states and 10 foreign countries, and was hailed as the largest such show to date in the nation. After the huge effort that went into this ambitious event, the Guild focused its work mainly on monthly meetings and a long list of services to its members, along with participation in community programs to tell the public about this traditional and ever-changing art form. Starting in 1981, biennial quilt shows were held, featuring members' quilts. And in 2001, the 25th anniversary of the 1976 show, the Guild arranged a re-showing of the Finger Lakes counties' Bicentennial quilts, plus some of the key historical quilts in the History Center's collection.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1 General Records

Folder No.

History (1974-1995)	1
Constitution and Bylaws, Incorporation	2
Purposes, Customs, Committees	3
Members and Friends	4
Awards, Outreach	5
Program Topics (a sampling)	6
Lecturers, Workshops	7
Raffle Quilts, Project Advice	8
Guild Library and Supplies	9
Quilt Supply Sources	10
Quilt Frames: Location, Instructions	11
Clipping File of Events	12
Newsletter Fodder	13
Publicity Guides	14

Box 2 Newsletters

Folder No.

Newsletters 1975-1993	15
Newsletters 1994-1995	16
Newsletters 1996-1997	17
Newsletters 1998-2002	18
Newsletters 2003-2005	19
Newsletters 2006-2008	20
Newsletters 2009-2011	21
Newsletters 2012-2014	22

Box 3 Presidents' Notebooks I

Jeanne Greene (1974-75, 1975-76) & Barbara Dimock (1976-77, 1977-78)	23
Lisa Turner (1978-79, 1979-80)	24
Pat Valerio (1980-81, 1981-82)	25
Betty MacKenzie (1982-83, 1983-84)	26
Eleanor Abbott (1984-85)	27
Judi Heath (1985-96, 1986-87)	28

Box 4 Presidents' Notebooks II

Alanna Fontanella (1988-89, 1989-90)	29
Donna Hall (1990-91, 1991-92)	30
Enid Zollweg (1992-93, 1933-94)	31

Melissa Fowler (1994-95, 1995-96) & Brynne Sigg (1996-97)	32
June Silberman (1997-98, 1998-99), Folder 1 & Kristen Thompson (1999-2000, 2000-01) & Kathy Carman (2001-02, 2002-03)	33

Box 5 Presidents' Notebooks III

June Silberman (1997-98, 1998-99), Folder 2 & Kristen Thompson (1999-2000, 2000-01) & Kathy Carman (2001-02, 2002-03)	34
Enid Zollweg (2003-04, 2004-05), Folder 1 & Alanna Fontanella (2005-06)	35
Enid Zollweg (2003-04, 2004-05), Folder 2 & Alanna Fontanella (2005-06)	36
Maureen Jakubson (2006-07, 2007-08), Folder 1	37
Maureen Jakubson (2006-07, 2007-08), Folder 2	38
Aafke Steenhuis (2008-09), Folder 1	39
Aafke Steenhuis (2008-09), Folder 2	40

**Box 6 1976 Quilt Show: "Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit," August 21-27:
General Files**

Planning Process	41
Physical Layout	42
Attendance, Budget	43
Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt	44
Tompkins County Bicentennial Quilt & other county Bicentennial quilts	45
Lectures and Workshops	46
Judging, Standards, Reference Works	47
Special Quilts Displayed & Bonus Patterns	48
Follow-Up Correspondence	49
Publicity & Programs	50
Newspaper Clippings	51

1976 Quilt Show: County Folders

Broome County	52
Cayuga County	53
Chemung County	54
Cortland County	55
Livingston County	56

Box 7 1976 Quilt Show: County Folders (Cont'd.)

Monroe County	57
Onondaga County	58
Ontario County	59
Schuyler County	60
Seneca County	61
Steuben County	62
Tioga County	63
Tompkins County	64
Yates County	65

2001 Quilt Show, "Quilting a Sense of Place," July 27-November 3

Planning Process, 1998-2000	66
Publicity, News Clippings	67
Quilt Roundup, Forms & Data	68
Replies, 10 Participating Counties	69
Replies, 4 Counties Unable to Send Quilts	70
Related Events	71
Quilt Descriptions	72

Box 8 "Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit" Books, Articles

Articles on Patty Elwin Davis Quilt	73
Coordinator Jeanne Greene's notebook (red cover), and Scrapbook by Jeanne Greene and Thelma Huhta (green cover)	Loose in box