



Start now to plan your community experience

Now scheduling 2013 to June 2016 Exhibits

UGRR Quilt Code Art of Language * Science & Math of the UGRR * Messages in the Music
Social Networking Crime Prevention * Stop Bullying * Family Reunions * Ethics * Diversity
*Researching Your Ancestors * Teambuilding * Military History Revolution to WWI

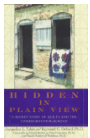
Experience:

- The Abolitionist & Methods of Escape including the Quilt Codes
- Over 100 Abolitionists, documents, artifacts and photos
- Hear and see how the UGRR Secret Quilt Code works
- Legislation that impacted slavery in America
- Video Presentation and hands on Activities

Gallery Activities for All Ages* We Will Travel to Your Location
Grade appropriate* State requirements* Customized Workshops



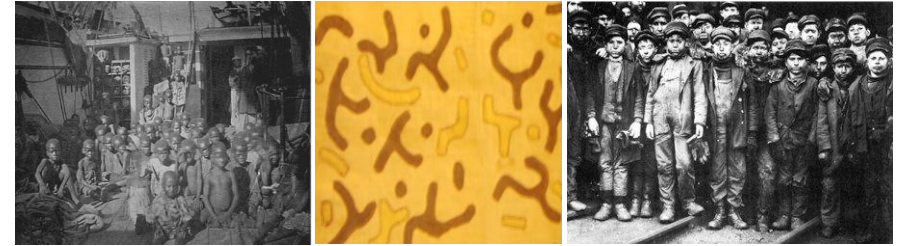
For more information E-mail: trkemp@PlantationQuilts.com
Call Mrs. Teresa Kemp 404.468.7050



For Research Info, Kids Place, News & Events Visit
www.PlantationQuilts.com



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THE UGRR ABOLITIONIST & "METHODS OF ESCAPE"



PRESENTATION * ACTIVITY * VIDEO * DISCUSSION



"AN EXHIBIT THAT WILL CHANGE THE COURSE OF HUMAN RELATIONS IN YOUR COMMUNITY"



THE UGRR “SECRETS OF THE QUILTS”



THE “NEW WORLD” NEEDED EVERYTHING. Targeted cultures

had proven they could tame a wild environment and thrive in harsh climates. People were often taken and enslaved in Africa and throughout the world for their size or strength. Diverse African cultures had unique industries of textiles, agricultural, carpentry, metal smithing, fishing, carving, hunting, animal domestication and building skills. Peter Farrow was an Igbo blacksmith from Awka, Nigeria.

Textiles languages are still in use today and you speak one. With no conversation or signs you can identify a soldier, nurse, policeman, a football player, ballet dancer or clergy. Even today, every society has one; sometimes the fabrics speak to gender, occupation, religion, wealth or class.

Due to publicized resistance, often violent rebellions and fear, laws were put in place that didn’t permit Non-English communication or gatherings. The usual methods of communication - village meetings, scarification, body painting, adornments, signs, painted or carved marks in dirt, on rocks and trees, music whether drumming, songs or verbal communications in their native languages were often not allowed. If suspected, accused or caught the result could be harsh punishments, inhumane dismemberment or death.

Why did the enslaved put messages in and on the quilts and songs to communicate? It was a pre-existing method of communication continued when the tribes were in America. On plantations each situation was different. Many of the coastal Southern American plantations had absentee owners due to deadly malaria (spread by mosquitoes bite) and yellow fever outbreaks. There were often African or African-American overseers, the people were self governed which is why many costal groups (Gullah) retained much of their former cultures in tack. Many African tribes sent fabric messages by runners that carried information distinguished by the patterns, symbols and colors they simply continued the use of the method available to them at the time.

Many places the enslaved people were not allowed to learn to read and write English. Other forms of communication mentioned above were not allowed. Signs in dirt, on trees, in quilts and songs could be used to communicate. Some taught themselves to read while others attended schools. For bedding, to keep warm, quilts were constructed from fabrics provided, discarded feed sacks and recycled clothes. Nothing was wasted everything was recycled.

What was the significance of “Knots or Ties” on the quilts?

In Africa tree bark fibers, woven cotton and vines were used daily to measure, carry, bind, make household impliments, fishing items and tools. Knots tied in thoses items were used to measure distance, record days, prayers and money.

on plantations in the colonies, raw material for string was free and available if you knew how to or someone who could make string. Often string was made from wool, cotten, hemp and vines. My ancestors used these materials for basket weaving, fishing line, weaving nets, tying bundles of harvested crops, etc.

Did routes only go North to Canada. No, enslaved people escaped hiding in swamps or mountainous areas and some went south into Florida. West from AL, MS, LA into Texas and South in to Mexico. **Historically, slavery co-existed along with a free society in urban and rural areas the same way it does today.** Atlanta is the #1 Human Trafficking Hub in the US today!

There have been over 38 different methods of escape and resistance documented and we will continue to discover more as artifacts are discovered and collections digitized.

Though I have seen laws that did not allow slaves to read and learn to write the English language, the captives, upon arrival, already spoke often four or more dialects or languages. There were plantation owners who educated their slaves and one in had built a school and a church for his slaves.

Peter and Eliza (mid-wife & seamstress) are named in the two GA plantation wills 1844 & 1858 that are on display in this exhibit. It also features tree bark fabric, a gourd shakera (a West African musical Instrument) with the star of David burned on it, hand stitched African artifacts, textiles featuring quilt patterns, plantation artifacts, abolitionist, safe houses and the Farrow-McDaniel-Strother quilts.

We hope you will be encouraged and document history that is meaningful to you.

