

Acadian Festival Quilt

MCC-00566

Total boxes: 0

Prepared by
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Acadian Archives / Archives acadiennes
University of Maine at Fort Kent
Fort Kent, Maine
July 2024

Acadian Festival Quilt (MCC-00566)

Shelf List Number: Reading Room

Collection Overview

Creators

Paula Bouchard, Sue Corriveau, and Donald Raymond.

Dates

2023

Extent

1 hand-made quilt measuring 83x53in

Provenance

Loaned to the Acadian Archives on a permanent basis by Don Raymond with the stipulation that it can be shared with other institutions upon request or brought to the Madawaska Acadian Festival.

Language

English

Conservation Notes

The quilt should be stored with care and wrapped around a foam noodle to lessen damage from wrinkles and folds.

Conditions Governing Access and Use

Restrictions

Access: No restrictions

Physical: No restrictions

Technical: No restrictions

Rights Statement

Copyright has not been assigned to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes.

Recommended Citation

Acadian Festival Quilt (MCC-00566). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Collection Description

Historical and Biographical Information

Starting in 1978, the Madawaska Acadian Festival is held annually to celebrate the Acadian Culture and history of the Saint John Valley in Northern Maine. The festival runs for a week with family friendly activities held each day including a tintamarre parade held on Acadian Day (August 15th).

Since its first year, the festival has served as a reason for many of the Acadian and French-Canadian families from the region to gather for a family reunion and celebration. From 1980 through the mid 2010s, the planning committee for the festival would choose a different family each year to honor and their family genealogy would be researched and compiled into books which were then given to the family. Part of this celebration would include researching or choosing a family crest to display (it was often found that different lines of a family would have different crests over the years so the family would decide on a version that best represented them.) Around 2015, the tradition of choosing a family to research stopped, but the festival is still a popular event for residents of the Valley and is well attended each year.

It should be noted that the festival wasn't always held in August around the week of Acadian Day, but for a few years in the early days of the festival, held in June around Maine Acadian Day.

In 2022-2023, Don Raymond, who grew up on the Saint John Valley and has recorded local events, reached out to quilters Sue Corriveau and Paula Bouchard about creating this quilt. Wanting their work of art to be available to the people of the Saint John Valley, Don loaned it to the Acadian Archives on a permanent basis with the stipulation that it can be loaned to other institutions in the Valley and/or brought to the Acadian Festival upon request. The Archives was happy to accept this loan and proudly displays the quilt in their research room for all to enjoy.

Scope and Content

The quilt depicts the family crests of the families honored at the Madawaska Acadian Festival from the years 1980-2014 along with the Acadian Landing cross. Images of each crest and the cross were printed onto the quilt and the fleur-de-lis pattern was stitched into the quilt numerous times.

Arrangement

1 quilt hung from a rod on the back wall of the Acadian Archives research room.

Separated Materials (If Applicable)

Not applicable

Subject Headings

Acadians
Families--History
Genealogy
Quilts

Related Materials

First Acadian Day certificate (MCC-00281). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Gagnon Family Music Collection (MCC-00506). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Lisa Ornstein collection of family coats-of-arms and Acadian Bicentennial Festival pins, (MCC-0258). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

World Acadian Congress 2014 = Congrès mondial Acadien 2014 (MCC-00480). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Collection Inventory

1 handmade quilt celebrating families honored at the Madawaska Acadian Festival.