



REVISED NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ATTENTION: This release corrects name of spread donor.

TSLAC DISPLAYS RARE HOUSTON QUILT DURING TALK BY EXPERT MARCIA KAYLAKIE

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AUSTIN –The Texas State Library and Archives Commission will display the summer coverlet made by Margaret Lea Houston, wife of Gen. Sam Houston, for the first time at the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building during a talk by quilt expert Marcia Kaylakie at 6:30 p.m. March 17. Certified appraiser Kaylakie, author of “Texas Quilts and Quilters: A Lone Star Legacy,” will discuss the historically significant summer spread as part of the fourth event in the TSLAC Speaker Series.

The evening will begin with a showing of the award-winning 30-minute documentary, “Quilts in Women’s Lives,” by filmmaker Pat Ferrero. The event, co-sponsored by the Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas, is free and open to the public, but reservations are necessary and may be made by calling (512) 463-5460 or e-mailing rsvp@tsl.state.tx.us.

“We’re especially pleased to showcase the creativity and art of these women during Women’s History Month,” says TSLAC Director and Librarian Peggy D. Rudd.

Crafted by Houston’s third wife, the spread is technically not a quilt, according to Kaylakie, because it contains no batting. It does, however, contain richly colored, heavy-gauge cotton appliqués, including some Masonic imagery and other design elements of still-undetermined origin. The fragile spread, which will be shown only for this event, was donated to TSLAC’s Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center by Elizabeth Houston Paulus Henderson, Margaret and Sam Houston’s great-granddaughter.

“The Margaret Lea Houston summer spread is a most unique piece of needlework and of great historical significance for the State of Texas,” says Kaylakie. “We know of no other piece of quilting or appliqué by Mrs. Houston that survives today.”

Ferrero examines the age-old tradition of quilting as a means of communication, documentation and self-expression via seven women who discuss their work and its relevance in their lives.

For more information or interviews: Contact Derick Hackett at (512) 463-5514, dhackett@tsl.state.tx.us or Lynne Margolis at (512) 463-5462, lmargolis@tsl.state.tx.us

Attached images: Marcia Kaylakie head shot by Rita Baughman.
Cross-section of Margaret Houston spread courtesy Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

ABOUT THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION

Formed in 1909, TSLAC is committed to giving Texans access to information and programs they can use to improve their lives and communities. We provide historical and genealogical search assistance, federal and state government documents, electronic research and library services to all Texans, including those who cannot read standard print materials. For more information, visit www.tsl.state.tx.us.



MARGARET LEA
HOUSTON

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission invites you to join quilting expert Marcia Kaylakie for a showing and discussion of the summer spread made by Margaret Lea Houston, wife of Gen. Sam Houston, following a screening of the award-winning documentary, *Quilts in Women's Lives*. The rare artifact, donated to TSLAC's Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center by Elizabeth Houston Paulus Henderson, Houston's great-granddaughter, is the only known surviving work of Mrs. Houston's. The event is free and open to the public.

Co-sponsored by the Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas

When: 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17

Where: Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building, 1201 Brazos St., Austin

RSVP: rsvp@tsl.state.tx.us / (512) 463-5460

TSLAC Speaker Series

Marcia Kaylakie

plus

quilting documentary

Cross-section of Margaret Houston spread courtesy Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

