

Notes From Textile Preservation Lecture
6/25/22



Brown Sugar Stitches and Quilt Guild

Founded in 2000, Brown Sugar Stitches Quilt Guild (BSSQG) is a diverse group of 101 quilters from metro-Atlanta and eleven other states.

Mission:

To foster the art and history of quilting, focusing on African American traditions.

Quilters are active in the community, with regular donations of handmade quilts for children in foster care (Carrie Steele-Pitts Home) and those suffering from Sickle Cell Anemia (Children's Healthcare of Atlanta—Hughes Spalding Hospital). They have provided quilted purses to young people in Zambia for menstrual supplies and tribute quilts for families of local victims of violence. They offer educational outreach to all ages through programs and quilting lessons led by members. The Quilters aim to preserve the art, craft, and rich history of African American quilting.

Stress of Thread:

Cotton Threads make the least amount of stress on delicate fabrics.

Polyester Threads are very strong as well as a silk thread. Rayon threads are often used in decorative pieces.

CONSERVATION SHOULD BE REVERSIBLE

When attempting conservation

1. Tulle is often used to be placed over the very decaying portions of older quilts.
2. Do not knot the thread
3. Use Cotton thread

4. To apply you should back stitch then go forward.
5. Use large stitches
6. Use milliners' needles
7. Consider going through 2 layers only

Consider making patches using dyeable fabric and print the design onto the fabric to conserve the whole quilt.

Do not hang quilts for more than 6 months to not strain threads.