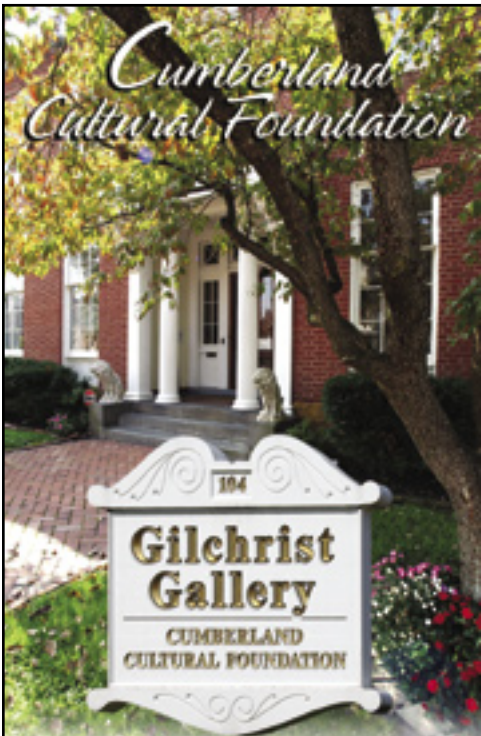


*Cumberland
Cultural Foundation*



104 Washington St., Cumberland, MD
Thurs.–Sun. 1–4 pm • 301-724-5800 • 301-724-4339
Tours and Receptions Welcome

**Allegheny County
Museum**

81 Baltimore St., Downtown Cumberland



*Tours and
Receptions
Welcome*

May thru Dec.
Tuesday – Sunday
10 am - 4 pm
301-777-7200

Coverlet Exhibition to be held in Cumberland, Maryland



The Gilchrist Gallery in Cumberland is the site for an exhibit of nineteenth-century handwoven coverlets.

Officials of the Cumberland Cultural Foundation and the Arts Council are pleased that nationally-known coverlet specialists Melinda & Laszlo Zongor are bringing approximately 30 beautiful and rare examples for a six-week exhibition, beginning in June of 2005.

Early bedcovers such as these have been gaining attention in the antiques world, following exhibitions at Colonial Williamsburg (VA), the American Textile History Museum (MA) and others. Coverlets are being appreciated for their artistry as well as their craftsmanship.

Coverlets were handwoven from the late eighteenth and into the nineteenth centuries, reaching their peak from 1830 through 1860. Some coverlets have geometric patterns based on circles and squares.

Others have realistic patterns of animals, buildings, flowers and slogans. Many were made with handspun materials, usually cotton and wool.

It is often possible to determine the state of origin of a coverlet based on structure, pattern and color. In some cases, coverlets have corner blocks displaying the date, the origin, the maker's names and/or that of the clients for whom the coverlets were made. Others have political slogans. The history of some weavers is well documented and research is ongoing. On hand will be the earliest known coverlet to be dated in the weave, and an "overshot" coverlet dated 1771.

The C. William Gilchrist Gallery is located at 104 Washington Street, Cumberland, MD. Hours are 1–4 pm Thurs. thru Sunday. For further information, contact the Cumberland Cultural Foundation at 301-724-4339 or the Zongors at 814-356-3777 or coverlets@pennswoods.net. 