Highlights continued

Powerful vision at Anacostia

Now in its new home, the Smithsonian's neighborhood museum celebrates with an exhibit of four Afro-American artists.

For 20 years since its founding, the Smithsonian's Anacostia Neighborhood Museum has served its local residents with exhibitions and programs about the history, culture and contributions of Afro-Americans. Now the museum has moved from its old quarters—a former movie house—to a new building in Fort Stanton Park. It will celebrate the reopening at its new location on May 17 with an exhibition curated by David C. Driskell, professor of art at the University of Maryland. "Contemporary Visual Expressions" will present works by artists Sam Gilliam, Martha Jackson-Jarvis, Keith Morrison and William T. Williams.

In spite of the obvious differences in medium and style, all four artists are exploring, in the words of Jackson-Jarvis, the "height and breadth of the human spirit as it struggles to continue." Jackson-Jarvis, for example, had in mind the rites of passage—birth, death and rebirth—with her ceramic wall installation, while Jamaican-born Morrison deals in his figurative art with such questions as "Why I have never been able to shed the foibles, fears and passions of my childhood." The show runs through July 31.

Constance Bond


*Spirituals* (1986) by Keith Morrison is a watercolor; he finds themes in the folklore, myths of his native Jamaica.

*A Note to Marcel Proust* by Williams; he thinks that art derives power from a culturally-defined belief system.