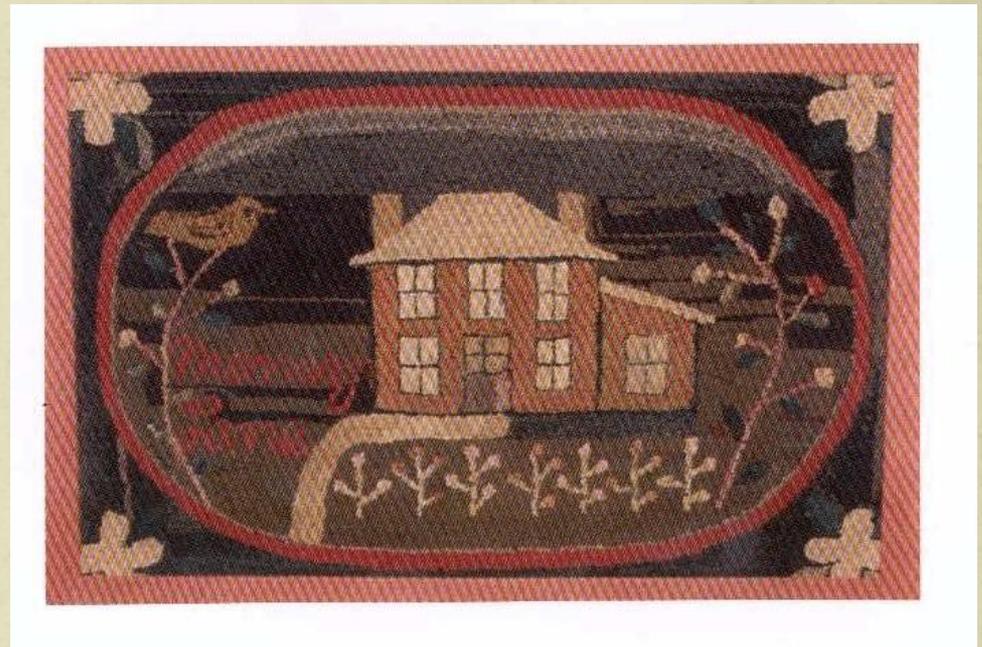


# Newfoundland Rug Hooking



# What is Rug Hooking?

- The Fabric Art of using material (or wool) and pulling it through a burlap backing to make a loop using a special hook to pull the wool through.
- As you work, you create a design and when completed, a mat or wall hanging.



# Materials Needed?

- **Backing material** – usually burlap
- **Design material** – typically scrap material, wool or nylon
- **A hook** – similar to a crochet hook, with a handle
- **A loom** – a frame to hold larger pieces in place as you work.



# There are 2 types of Newfoundland Rug Hooking:

## Traditional Style

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## Grenfell Style

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Penguin



# What was it's Purpose?

## Traditional Style

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- Created in most Newfoundland homes as a **FUNCTIONAL** way to keep the floors warm, especially during the colder months



## Grenfell Style

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- Created in Northern Newfoundland and Labrador by Sir Wilfred Grenfell as a way for women to earn money. Although creating it was functional, the mats themselves were **DECORATIVE**.



# Materials Used?

## Traditional Style

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- Often the backing was from old potato or flour sacks
- Material was often cut from old clothing that could no longer be passed down or worn.
- Sometimes left over bits of wool that was too small to be used elsewhere.
- Almost anything could be used.

## Grenfell Style

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- Fine-woven burlap was provided by the Grenfell cottage industry
- Old nylons were donated from all over Canada and England.
- Only materials provided by the cottage industry could be used.
- They were often of a very high quality.

# Colours Used?

## Traditional Style

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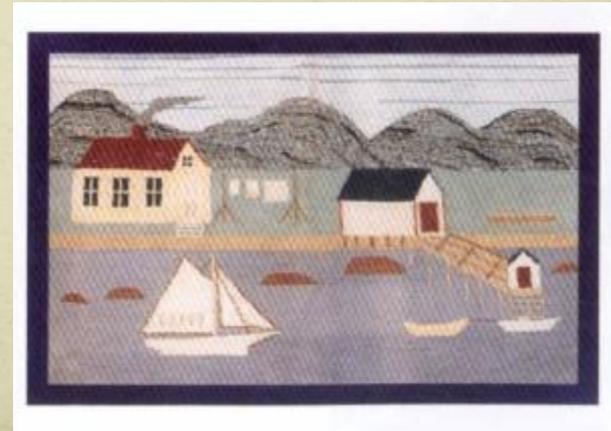
- Colours were often worn out due to the clothing being so well worn and washed out.
- Bright, bold colours were preferred.
- Bright pieces, especially reds, were highly prized and often saved for “special” pieces or parts of a mat.



## Grenfell Style

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- Only subtle, mild colours were allowed to be used.
- The nylons were dyed very specific colours to be used in exact parts of the piece.
- Crafters were not allowed to use bright colours.



# Are you “Border” yet?

## Traditional Style

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- There was no set style.
- Some had a border
- Some didn't.



## Grenfell Style

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- All Grenfell mats had to have a border around its outside edge.
- Usually black, brown, or white in colour.



# Pattern and Design?

## Traditional Style

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- Often had personal meaning to the hooker. (Birth dates, weddings etc..)
- Sometimes used the pattern on the actual sack (Robin Hood flour)
- Sometimes used bought patterns like flowers and stamped it onto the burlap.
- Most often, just straight lines or a very free-hand design.

## Grenfell Style

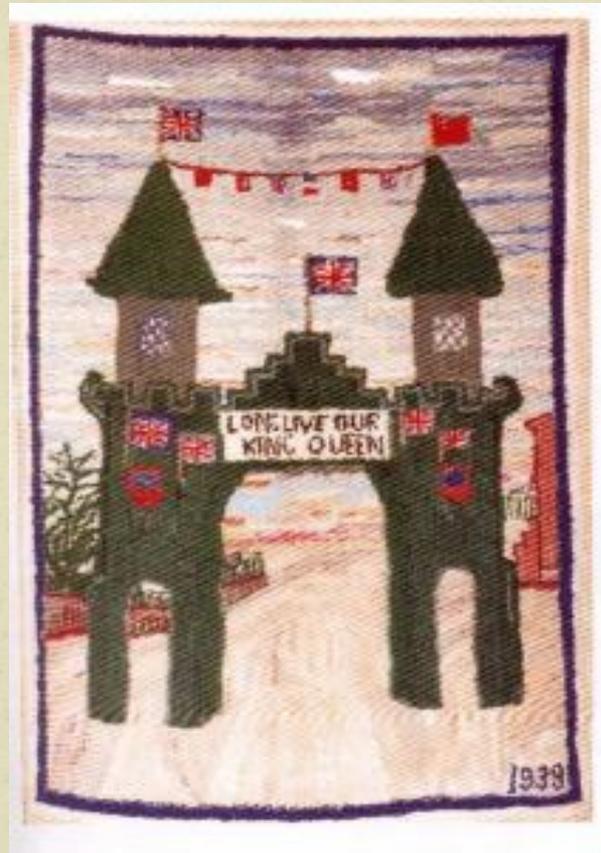
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- Patterns were created by artists and stamped onto the burlap.
- Scenes always had a border and depicted a “Northern” scene such as icebergs, polar bears, sled dogs etc..
- Patterns had to be strictly followed. (Almost like a paint-by-number, but with material instead)

# Traditional or Grenfell?



# Traditional or Grenfell?



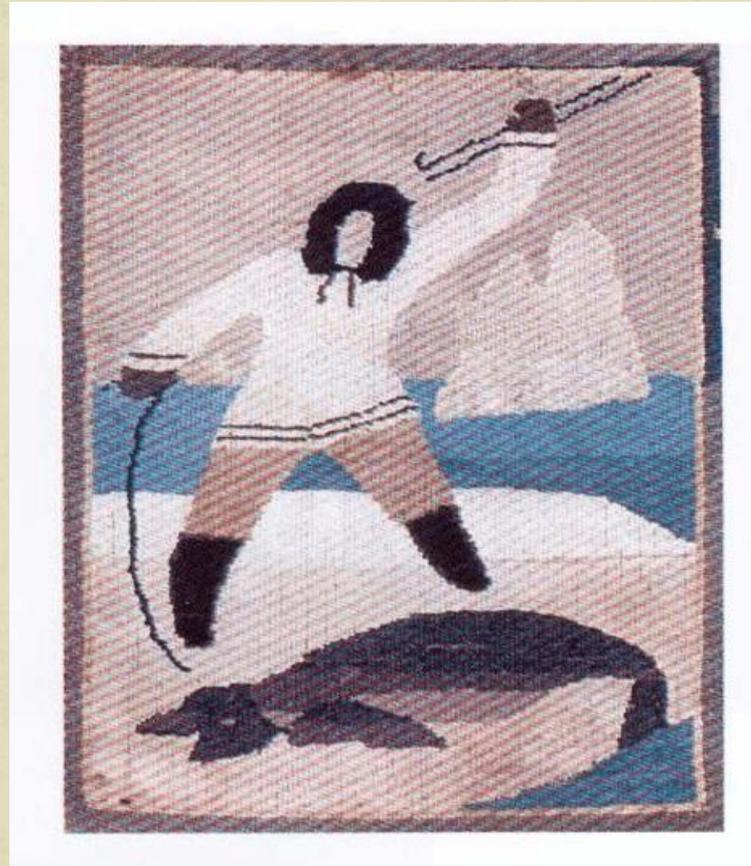
# Traditional or Grenfell?



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