

## RUG-HOOKING

The origins of rug-hooking are uncertain; some say that the Vikings used rug-hooking, whereas others say that it developed in the towns where there were woolen mills in Yorkshire, England. Within North American, it appears to have developed in the New England states and the Atlantic provinces of Canada.

Hooking was an art and craft used in the home to make floor-coverings of those who could afford expensive carpets. Woolen or cloth strips were pulled through a backing using a hook. The backing used was usually burlap, because this was the material used to make sacks and so readily available. Today many hookers have machines to cut the strips that are used and dye their own materials.

Photos of work in progress shown below were taken at a meeting of the Limestone Loopers in Kingston.



## RUG-HOOKING: A FINISHED PRODUCT



## **ONTARIO HOOKING CRAFT GUILD (OHCG)**

**Like many crafts, hooking is organized into guilds, normally by province or region. The OHGC into thirteen groups, eleven are regional, one is for independents and one for teachers. There are four branches in this region in Burlington, Cayuga, Georgetown, Paris and St Catherines. The OHGC has an annual conference, which will be held in London in 2024, and arranges teaching, training of teachers and regional events.**

**The Burlington Rug Hooking Guild meets at the Burlington Library on the first Tuesday of each month. Members of the guild must also be members of the Burlington Art Gallery. The objectives of the guild are:**

- To promote and develop Traditional Rug Hooking.**
- To provide opportunities to exchange ideas and information.**
- To encourage excellence of craftsmanship.**
- To experiment with various techniques and materials.**
- To promote traditional rug hooking within the community.**
- To make connections with other rug hooking artists.**
- To have fun!**

**If you want to learn about rug-hooking, the Burlington Rug Hooking Guild is your local source of information and training.**