

**Hooked rug of maple sugar camp**

MCC-00438

Total boxes: 1  
Cubic feet: 0.8ft

Prepared by  
Anne Chamberland  
Acadian Archives / Archives acadiennes  
University of Maine at Fort Kent  
Fort Kent, Maine  
January 2018

## Hooked rug of maple sugar camp (MCC-00438)

Shelf List Number: AX-438

### Collection Overview

#### Creator

Sabine (unknown)

#### Dates

1970s

#### Provenance

Material was acquired in St-Jean Port Jolie, Quebec by the Archives;' director for the Acadian Archives permanent collection.

#### Language

Not applicable

#### Conservation Notes

None

### Conditions Governing Access and Use

#### Restrictions

Access: No restrictions

Physical: No restrictions

Technical: No restrictions

#### Rights Statement

Copyright has not been assigned to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes.

#### Recommended Citation

Hooked rug of maple sugar camp, (MCC-00438). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

### Collection Description

#### Historical and Biographical Information

Rug hooking is both an art and a craft where rugs are made by pulling loops of yarn or fabric through a stiff woven base such as burlap, linen, or rug warp. The loops are pulled through the backing material by using a crochet-type hook mounted in a handle for leverage.

Rug hooking as we know it today, may have developed in North America, specifically along the Eastern Seaboard in New England in the United States, the Canadian Maritimes, and Newfoundland and Labrador. In its earliest years, rug hooking was a craft of poverty. The vogue

for floor coverings in the United States came about after 1830 when factories produced machine-made carpets for the rich. Poor women began looking through their scrap bags for materials to employ in creating their own homemade floor coverings. Women employed whatever materials they had available.

Since hooking was a craft of poverty, rug makers put to use whatever materials were available. Antique hooked rugs were created on burlap after 1850 because burlap was free as long as one used old grain and feed bags. Every scrap of fiber that was no longer usable as clothing was put into rugs. In the United States, yarn was not a fiber of choice if one did not have access to thrums. Yarn was too precious and had to be saved for knitting and weaving. Instead, the tradition of using scraps of fabric evolved. Yarns and other creatively used materials have always been used for hooked rugs in the Canadian Maritimes. The well-known Cheticamp hooked rugs used finely spun yarns and the highly collectible Grenfell mats were meticulously hooked with recycled jerseys. Everything from cotton T-shirts to nylon stockings were cut and used.

#### Scope and Content

This collection consists of one hooked rug depicting a maple sugar camp scene in winter surrounded by trees on which grayish buckets were hung to collect sap. The border of the rug is brown and black, the cabin is green, the window frames are orange, and the roof is grayish brown. A shed is pictured full of firewood and a barrel for collecting sap sits on a red sled in the foreground. The base of the rug is of burlap and the fabric used for the scene is mostly polyester, rayon, and nylon of different colors. The rug measures 33 ½ in. x 20 in.

#### Arrangement

Not applicable

#### Separated Materials (If Applicable)

Not applicable

#### Subject Headings

Arts--Quebec

Maple sugar

Maple sugar--Pictorial works

Rugs, Hooked--Atlantic provinces

Rugs, Hooked--Canada--History

Rugs, Hooked--Maritime Province

Rugs, Hooked

#### Related Materials

Not applicable

### **Collection Inventory**

---

1 hooked rug measuring 33.5 x 20 inches.