

Queen Mary

38" x 72",

#3-cut hand-dyed wool
on burlap.

Designed by Jane McGown
Flynn. Taught by Nancy Blood
and hooked by Peggy Hannum,
Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 1999

Peggy wanted to hook a large crewel rug for her bedroom. All new wools were used throughout—8-value swatches for the motifs and spot dyes for the background. Her biggest challenge was what color to use for the rope border. She tried browns and then greens and neither satisfied her. One of the teachers at Northern Workshop, Annie Spring, suggested using all the colors, which was the answer, and it added a special sparkle to the finish. The edges were bound with tapestry wool over cording.

It was a mark of the times that the education of royal and noble women included extensive lessons in the needle arts, along with reading, writing, music, singing, and housewifery; if they were considered at all intelligent, languages and drawing (to enhance the needlework) were added. Such skills were considered essential to a woman's desirability and value on the marriage market.

