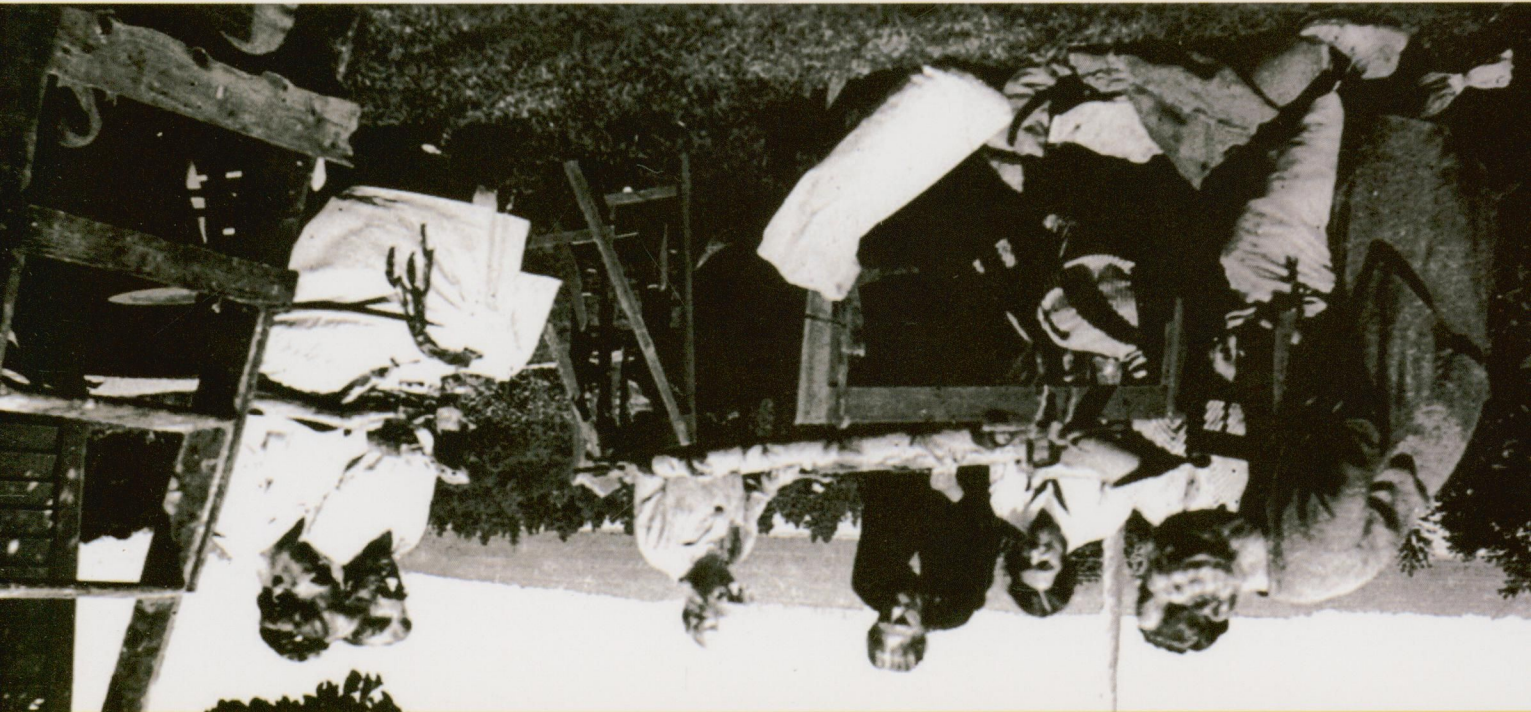


# COURAGE AND A WILLINGNESS TO WORK

JULY 22-SEPTEMBER 27, 2013  
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM TO 4PM

*Hooked Rugs of the Maine Sea Coast Mission and Grenfell Mission 1923-1940*



## WELCOME TO THE MAINE SEA COAST MISSION WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS UNIQUE EXHIBITION

In the early part of the 20th century, the Maine Sea Coast Mission and the Grenfell Mission in Newfoundland, Canada were focused on improving the lives of fishing communities on the coast and surrounding islands. Of special interest was the role that women could play in this effort. In these hardscrabble, male-dominated communities women had limited roles and were almost exclusively homemakers. Programs were developed at each Mission to teach these women how to create rugs and mats that could be sold to summer visitors. The programs took different approaches to this work and they yielded considerably different results—but today both are considered wonderful examples of hand-crafted folk art that tell a story about our coastal and island history.

LET YOUR CELL PHONE BE YOUR EXHIBIT GUIDE:  
SEE REVERSE FOR MORE INFORMATION.



Born in Rockland, Maine in 1880, Alice M. Peasley (above with rug hookers, and below) was the founder of the Maine Sea Coast Mission Hooked Rug Program. She taught many women to hook rugs. In doing so, she encouraged them to see the beauty that surrounded them, explore their creativity, and find their own individual style in rug hooking.

# LET YOUR CELL PHONE BE YOUR EXHIBIT GUIDE

Service is FREE, with no cost except your minutes.  
To begin your guide, call 207-420-2051.

Enter any of the numbers listed below, or posted  
with individual rugs, followed by the # key.  
For detailed instructions press 1#.  
Your feedback on this exhibition is welcomed.  
Please press 0# at any time to leave a comment.

## Audio Guide Talks

- MAIN HALLWAY – PRESS 1
- GRAND PARLOR – PRESS 9
- YELLOW MORNING ROOM – PRESS 17
- BOARD MEETING ROOM – PRESS 23

FOR EACH RUG, PRESS THE NUMBER  
ATTACHED TO THE PIECE.

Unless noted otherwise in the audio guide, all rugs are courtesy of the  
Maine Sea Coast Mission and all mats are courtesy of Bill and Paula Lavery.



## Each rug has a story to tell

The Grenfell Mission produced "silk stocking mats" with distinctly northern themes such as the polar bear mat pictured above. Grenfell mats, noted for their uniform color, harmony, and size, were carefully scrutinized before being sold. The Maine Sea Coast Mission's program was less centralized and produced varied results. Inspiration came from many sources such as the chromolithograph pictured here. While less refined, the approach instilled pride in workmanship as seen below; pictured is Sabra Rice with one of her rugs. This "Chickens and Coop" rug varies significantly from another in the Mission's collection.

MAINE SEA COAST MISSION  
127 WEST STREET  
BAR HARBOR, MAINE 04609  
207-288-5097  
WWW.SEACOASTMISSION.ORG

Technology provided by Guide by Cell®



Polar Bear on Crowler (detail), maker unknown  
Design in production c. 1928  
Silk and rayon; dyed; 18.5" x 30.25"  
Collection of Bill and Paula Lavery  
Polar bears were one of the most popular  
images and hundreds, perhaps thousands,  
of mats depicting them were hooked.  
Despite strict standardization,  
no two were ever identical.

