

LANGHORNE CARPET COMPANY

“The Foundation of Fine Interiors”

NEWS RELEASE

LANGHORNE CARPET HELPS RESTORE THE SPLENDOR OF THE 200-YEAR-OLD HISTORIC HIBERNIA ESTATE



Coatesville, PA (September 5, 2012) – Langhorne Carpet is responsible for reproducing the captivating all-wool Jacquard Wilton carpet that once graced the grand hallway and staircase of the sprawling Hibernia Mansion and estate, the 18th Century landmark that was once a vital part of the region’s iron industry and long the residence of Colonel Franklin Swayne. Since 1963 the home and grounds, within Hibernia County Park and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, has been owned and maintained by the Chester County Parks Department.

Funded by the Friends of Hibernia Park, a non-profit volunteer group, the new carpet is reminiscent of traditional Aztec design and features five custom colors - camel (background), burgundy, apple green, cream, and orange. Langhorne’s artisans produced approximately 110 square yards of the eye-catching museum-quality carpet on the mill’s historic looms.



Danielle Archambault "Head Burler" prepares the newly woven carpet.

Bill Morrow, Langhorne’s President, was surprised and honored to learn that the first owner of the Hibernia property was George Harrison, a weaver who lived there in the 1740’s. “It’s always exciting to encounter links to our craft back through several generations in America. After four generations of continuously weaving Wiltons, our family is proud to be part of this project and Pennsylvania’s rich textile-making tradition.”



Original carpet from c. 1890's currently in Hibernia Mansion.

Hibernia's rich ownership history includes various distinguished iron masters, in addition to the weaver Harrison. In 1894 it was sold to Col. Swayne, the renowned Philadelphia real estate attorney. Swayne's imaginative and flamboyant imprint dominate the appearance of the mansion and grounds today, including the creation of the east wing as a ballroom that was added c.1903 after his marriage to Dolly Clifford, an English actress more than 40 years his junior.

Rob Lewis, Regional Park Superintendent at Hibernia, stated, "The Friends of Hibernia Park worked very hard to raise funds for this important carpet replication. It was a longtime member, Bobbi Wills, who researched and found Langhorne Carpet and we are pleased to use a local Pennsylvania carpet manufacturer."

Hibernia County Park is located four miles north of Coatesville, PA, off Route 82 and the U.S. Route 30 bypass. For more information, contact Hibernia County Park, Wagontown, at 610-383-3812.

Langhorne Carpet Company: *The Foundation of Fine Interiors*

Langhorne Carpet Company artisans meticulously weave America's most luxurious and cherished Wilton carpet from the finest wools. Established in 1930, every Langhorne carpet - gracing grand rooms in renowned residences and landmarks worldwide - is a labor of love deftly defined by unequalled quality and superior craftsmanship.

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