

MAHOGANY ASSOCIATION INC. 666 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago 11, Illinois



"The World's Finest Cabinet Wood"

in new fashion finishes



This booklet has been prepared because of the heavy demand for color samples of the contemporary "New Look" Mahogany finishes, which it has become impractical to supply in actual wood samples.

Sixteen shades of color and texture on sixteen different and typical Mahogany figure types are illustrated, though it should be understood that virtually any finish ever put on fine furniture is today practical on Mahogany.

These are the truest reproductions that can be made with the engraving and printing arts, and are presented as a helpful guide.

Executive Director

Mahogany Association, Inc.



Mottle with Fiddle Back

Two hundred years before Chippendale, between 1509 and 1514, history records that a house was made of Mahogany in Santo Domingo, West Indies. Beams salvaged from that early structure were brought to the United States and chairs made



Flat Cut Fiddle Back

from them, one of which is now in the headquarters of the Mahogany Association. Today it is a remarkable proof of the ageless qualities of "the world's finest cabinet wood."



Wide Broken Stripe

Most noteworthy in this fine example of cabinetry is its color. Untouched with other than a protective covering of colorless bee's wax, the Mahogany in this chair has mellowed over the centuries to a soft, natural, light sherry brown.



Plain Flat Cut

Today this lovely color or shade of brown is perhaps fashion's highest note in the most accepted furniture creations. But, Mahogany almost lost identity with its own natural color when, in the 18th Century, Thomas Chippendale intro-



Plum Pudding

duced and popularized the familiar red finishes on Mahogany which dominated the 18th Century master creations of Sheraton, Hepplewhite, the Brothers Adam, Duncan Physe and literally the majority of all furniture for more than 200 years.



Blister Figure

Red became synonymous for the wood Mahogany. Mahogany was not known for its own natural browns, and became identified with the delicate, though beautiful and elegant, heavy bodied, highly polished, scratchable red surfaces developed



Swirly Flat Cut

from the earliest primitive pigments, dyes, berry stains, varnishes, or other finishing substances available.

In this modest booklet, with photography and the high skills of the engravers and printing arts, reproductions have been



Crotch Swirl

faithfully made, of the beautiful, natural colors and textures which modern materials and finishes have developed to place Mahogany in the forefront of furniture fashion.



Rope Figured

Just as this giant "King" of the jungles of Africa and the tropical Americas has no peer today as a cabinet wood among the diminishing second growth domestic hardwoods, so has its great versatility been proved in virtually all colors



Quartered Fiddle Back

and textures developed in finishes for fine furniture. In the finishes here illustrated, the depth, clarity, and texture, ranging from soft open pore and flat, oil-like types, to the higher sheens, should be noted. Whatever the design; traditional,



Faux Swirl

transitional, contemporary or extreme modern, the proper and appropriate color and texture can be produced on Mahogany with today's materials, equipment and techniques. With more than 500,000 square miles of still untouched virgin



Small or Bees Wing Mottle

jungle sources, Mahogany is today, and will be increasingly so in the foreseeable future, the most available medium for the creative genius of the furniture designer, and for the finest quality products of the furniture industry.



Crotch

Illustrations shown are of distinctive and typical Mahogany figure types and finishes. The colors were chosen in each case for their particular suitability to the grain patterns. Each is a practical "system" or production finish and while



Burning Bush Crotch

the formulas are recorded, it should be realized that every lot of wood differs and it may be necessary to vary or change the formulas to attain the same results.



Cathedral or Leaf Figure

Twenty-four of the greatest wood finishing firms collaborated in the development of these finishes. Any one of them is equipped to furnish the furniture designer and manufacturer with the necessary formulas, or production "systems".



Large Block Mottle

These illustrations of the new Mahogany finishes are still only reproductions, on paper, and may vary slightly from the actual colors on wood.

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