ORNAMENTAL BORDERS, SCROLLS AND CARTOUCHES
in Historic Decorative Styles
by the Syracuse Ornamental Company
Over 1,950 Illustrations
ORNAMENTAL BORDERS, SCROLLS AND CARTOUCHES in Historic Decorative Styles

by the Syracuse Ornamental Company

In 1923 the Syracuse Ornamental Company in New York State advertised its fiber wood carvings, moldings and furniture trimmings to the trade in an elegantly illustrated sales catalog. The catalog contained thousands of beautiful line drawings of delicately carved floral wreaths and sprays for furniture panels, as well as finely worked trophies, bases, posts, corners and legs.

Now hundreds of these attractive and skillfully drawn illustrations have been reproduced here in sharp black and white—available copyright-free to artists, illustrators and craftspeople. Comprising 124 of the very best plates from the now rare original catalog, the present collection consists of an elaborate selection of styles ranging from Louis XIV, Renaissance and Georgian to Louis XVI, Chippendale and chinoiserie. Included are intricately rendered borders, scrolls, cartouches and latticework; lavish floral garlands, moldings and many other ornamentals—important graphics in any commercial artist's resource file.

Artists, designers, woodworkers and other craftspeople will find here a rich variety of much-needed borders, garlands, cartouches and other motifs—all ideal for immediate, practical use.


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Ornamental Borders, Scrolls and Cartouches in Historic Decorative Styles

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Publisher's Note

In 1923 the Syracuse Ornamental Company of Syracuse, New York advertised its fiber-wood carvings, moldings and furniture trimmings in an elegantly illustrated 432-plate catalog. It contained thousands of beautifully rendered pen-and-ink drawings, the bulk of which depicted an extensive and varied array of period furniture ornamentation. The period styles represented ranged chronologically from antiquity to the late nineteenth century, and included Grecian, Byzantine, Gothic, Renaissance, Louis XIV, William and Mary, Queen Anne, Georgian, Louis XV, Chippendale, Colonial, Louis XVI, Adam, Hepplewhite, Sheraton, Duncan Phyfe, Chinese and Modern motifs. The present edition, a new compilation of those plates from the now-rare original catalog that offer the most outstanding selection of border, scroll and cartouche elements, contains examples of each of these styles. Even though the designs were originally created strictly for the purpose of complementing pieces of furniture, contemporary artists, designers and craftspeople will find these reproductions of them ideal for any number of graphic uses. There are over 1,950 ornaments in all.

Borders are the dominant element on Plates 1–15, scrolls (including decorative "spots" and other compact elements) on Plates 16–84, and cartouches on Plates 85–126. In many cases, you'll find more than one kind of ornament on a particular page, often including a diverse assortment of vignettelike decorative devices. Within each elemental division, the plates are arranged roughly in chronological order by period style. Captions identify the dominant element and the style for each plate, when possible. The plates on which the style is not identified (either because the various styles of the designs on that plate are too numerous to enumerate or because the designs on that plate are essentially "styleless" simplified or generic variations) follow those plates of like elements on which the style is identified.

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Ornamental Borders, Scrolls and Cartouches in Historic Decorative Styles is a new selection of 126 plates from the work originally published as "Catalogue 'K'" by the Syracuse Ornamental Company, Syracuse, New York, in 1923 under the title Period Carvings: A Catalogue Containing One-half Size Reproductions of Original Designs Done in Pen and Ink and Representing an Elaborate Selection of Carvings and Mouldings of Rare Execution and True to the Periods. The selected plates have been reordered in the present edition. The textual and pictorial matter that appeared in the margins of the original plates has been deleted, as have the catalog numbers and cross-sections of moldings within the plate areas. The Publisher's Note and the captions have been prepared specially for this edition. The specific style identifications are taken verbatim from the original plates.

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