Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Inventor

Charles B. Chatfield

By

Harold W. Beck

Attorney
This invention relates to decorative molding and the like; and the objects and nature of the invention will be understood by those skilled in the art in the light of the following explanations of the accompanying drawings that illustrate the preferred mechanical expression or embodiment of my invention from among other forms, constructions and arrangements thereof within the spirit and scope of my invention.

An object of the invention is to economically enhance the attractiveness, decorative values or the artistic effectiveness of finished surfaces of wood bodies or other surfaces simulating finished wood, by providing such finished surfaces with exposed approximate intaglio molding effects or relatively narrow strip-like surfaces that in their final finished condition are artistically sympathetic with said relative broad finished surfaces, and that faithfully simulate and give the appearance of hand carving in and integral with such broad surfaces and their bodies.

With the foregoing, and other objects, in view that will become apparent as the following description proceeds, my invention consists in certain novel advantageous features, combinations and/or arrangements more fully hereinafter explained and specified.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a portion of a wood body having a flat, relatively broad top finished surface embellished by a molding-like design or carving as an example of an application of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a cross section on the line 2—2, Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a cross section on the line 3—3, Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of a wood body or a body of material having a finished end or edge surface embellished by a molding-like, relatively narrow design simulating carving in said body.

Fig. 5 is a cross section on the line 5—5, Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a detail top plan of a portion of the body of Fig. 1 showing the groove therein before the application thereto of the decorative molding strip.

Fig. 7 is a detail top plan of a length of the molding strip adapted to the groove of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is bottom plan of the molding strip length of Fig. 7.

The body 1, to be embellished can be the top of an article of furniture, or a panel, door, drawer end, or other portion of an article of furniture, or of any other article to be embellished, having a finished, perfectly flat surface of wood or simulating wood, and this body, whether a molding or cornice, or any of the above mentioned bodies, or any other decorative bodies to be embellished, is preferably composed of wood.

In the flat finished ornamental or decorative exposed surface of any suitable body, I sink an elongated, relatively narrow, shallow groove 2, along the lines where the molding-like effect is to be applied in the flat surface for the embellishment thereof. This groove is usually parallel with and spaced from side and end edges of the body and is often in rectangular or otherwise annular form, often marginal or frame-like in form or otherwise.

This elongated groove is preferably routed in the wood body, and an essential characteristic thereof is the upwardly diverging, outwardly beveled or flaring similar or duplicate longitudinal side or edge walls 2a, of the groove, that at their top or outer longitudinal edges meet the flat top surface 1a, of the body 1, to avoid the formation of a sharp acute angle likely to result in wood splintering or separation, but on the contrary, to provide smooth, yet clearly defined, meeting edges between the plane top surface and the beveled or diverging groove edge walls 2a.

The exposed surfaces of these diverging edge walls 2a are preferably finished, smoothed or otherwise prepared for finishing.

The shallow groove with said smooth, flat, diverging edge walls is preferably formed with a central flat floor 2b, in width less than the width of the groove at its top. This shallow, narrow groove, open through the body surface to be embellished, can be variously shaped in cross section provided it includes duplicate, outwardly beveled or diverging edge walls to function as hereinafter explained.

For instance, the groove can be concaved or arcuate in cross section, see groove 2d, Fig. 5, forming the longitudinal edge walls, 2e, that flare or diverge outwardly on curved lines of like radius.

The said groove, whatever its cross section form, opens through the body surface to be embellished and is designed to receive and center a complementary, elongated molding strip or fillet 4, that in cross section will substantially fill the groove.

This groove that is in the body and opens through the body surface to be embellished, whatever may be the cross sectional form of the groove, is designed to receive, center and hold a complementary ornamental fillet or molding...
strip 4, with the exposed top or outer surface 4a of said strip presenting an ornamental, carved-design appearance that preferably does not project outwardly beyond the face to be embellished, i.e., is substantially flush with said body surface. In other words, the cross sectional form of this fillet 4, excepting the wide, outer ornamental side 4a, thereof, closely conforms to the cross sectional form and dimensions of and is complemental to the ornamental strip, and snugly fits therein. The fillet is intended to be permanently secured in the groove by gluing, by the use of brads, or other fastenings, or otherwise. The opposite longitudinal edge portions of the fillet back are beveled or diverge outwardly to conform with and closely fit the smoothed or finished outwardly diverging edge walls of the groove. The fillets can be composed of strips of wood or other material suitable for the purpose, and this fillet, whatever the material composing the same, although wood is preferred, should preferably be capable of finishing to shade or shades and visual characteristics that are artistically sympathetic with the finish and visual characteristics of the body surface in which the fillet is included for purposes of embellishment and simulation in indicating to the vision of the observer that the ornamental surface of the fillet is a part of and carved in the wood body carrying the relatively broad surface in which the fillet surface is included.

The ornamental outer surface 4a, of the fillet is carved by hand or machinery or is otherwise produced to simulate carving and to produce depth as well as more surface design. This outer or exposed surface of the fillet provides a carved design or a design that simulates a carved design, by rounding and/or bevelled design elements showing depth and by bevelled edge cuts, in such manner that the design depth at intervals extends through the longitudinal edge portions of the fillet, whereby the opposite edge portions of the fillet present a notched or irregular appearance, see 4c, Figs. 7 and 8, as distinguished from unbroken straight lines.

Thus, when the fillet is fitted and permanently secured in its complementary groove in the body surface to be embellished with the carved surfaces of the fillet of maximum elevation flush with the body surface, the beveled or diverging longitudinal smooth edge walls of the groove will form the floors closing such edge notches or irregularities of the fillet from below, and the surfaces of such floors will be visible through said notches and irregularities, giving the design depth, and the appearance of having been carved directly in the body that provides the plane flat surface in which the strip carving or ornamentation appears.

The front or top side of the fillet forms and provides the ornamentation or carving that is inset in said plane flat body surface as a part thereof generally in the level thereof or flush therewith, being the only portion of the fillet or molding strip that is revealed or visible from the front of said body surface, but said strip ornamentation is given depth and the true carving effect and appearance, by beveled and/or downwardly curved or rounded surfaces and by openings or breaks extending completely through the fillet to expose, from the front of the body surface, relatively depressed surfaces of marginal portions of the floor of the seat or groove in the body and completely or fully occupied by the fillet up to the level of the plane surface of the body, except for the design depth producing depressions, and passages through the fillet along the diverging or beveled side or marginal walls of the plane of the body surface.

The back of the fillet behind the ornamental front or upper side of the fillet from one longitudinal marginal edge of said front side to the opposite longitudinal top edge is complementary to the groove or seat in the body, and hence, from the front of the body longer or expanseingly to its top longitudinal edges, and hence, notches or breaks extending transversely inwardly of said edges through the fillet expose from the front of the fillet the upwardly flaring marginal floor portions of the groove, as though produced by beveling cuts of carving tools in working out in the body itself somewhat depressed rounded or beveled design elements.

From the specific standpoint, I prefer to employ pinnate forms of elongated designs for the exposed top or front side ornamentation of the strip moldings or fillets, as more clearly and satisfactorily bringing out the embellishing or artistic effect desired in association with the other design forms, expressing both the marginal portions of the grooves in the body.

Thus, the longitudinal axis of the pinnate design is the central longitudinal elevated rib 6, in one pinnate design shown, whereas, in the other design form shown, the marginal portion of the groove 6a, forms the longitudinal axis; and in both pinnate designs, the opposite side design elements, such as leaves, kernels, etc., flow outwardly from the stem or longitudinal axis, sometimes rounding or beveling off with outlining and/or separating cuts and bevelled portions and separating and outlining notches 4c, extending inwardly through the edges of the fillet, with the longitudinal edges of the fillet between the notches longitudinally curved or otherwise formed to outline the outer longitudinal edges of successive design elements, contrasting with the straight parallel top longitudinal edges 1b, of the routed groove where meeting the plane 1a, of the body.

Hand carving of this general type is very expensive, in fact, prohibitive in cost for general use on commercial products.

In carving the body of wood by hand tools, to produce an integral molding effect showing in or through the wood body surface, the hand carver produces the straight longitudinal marginal lines in the wood by downwardly converging bevelling cuts to bring the hand carving intervening between the beveling cuts, into slight relief. I gain this same visual effect by forming the routed groove through the surface of the wood body with the upwardly diverging or beveled marginal surfaces, and fitting in such groove a molding strip that thins or bevels upwardly and outwardly at its margins to thus lap onto said diverging marginal surfaces of the groove.

What I claim is:—

1. An article of manufacture, a fillet molding for the purposes substantially as described, said molding having a relatively wide substantially flat front and a back at its longitudinal marginal portions diverging forwardly to meet the longitudinal edges of the front, said molding adapted to be seated in a groove in a body with flat portion of the back of the said body, said groove being complementary in form to said back; said front provided with an ornamental depth design effect carried through
1,988,286

the opposite longitudinal marginal edges of the molding.

2. An as article of manufacture, strip molding for seating in a marginally flaring groove in a body with the front of said molding substantially flush with and embellishing the surface of the body, the front of said molding being ornamental to present a carved pinnate depth design effect with the longitudinal edges of the molding irregular in outline to conform to and outline the outer longitudinal marginal portions of the pinnate design, and visually expose marginal portions of the flaring groove wall in association with said molding marginal irregularities, in simulation of carving in said body.

3. An as article of manufacture, a fillet strip molding for seating in a groove in a body the surface of which is to be embellished by said molding, the generally flat front of said molding being ornamental to present a carved-design effect having depth carried through the longitudinal marginal edges of the molding for association with the straight line top edges of the groove formed by the meeting lines of said surface and the groove floor.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a marginally beveled insert for seating in a substantially complementary marginally beveled socket in a body, the front of said insert presenting an ornamental carved depth design extending through its margin, whereby said insert when seated down in said socket will visually present association of bevelled surfaces of the socket wall with the marginal portion of the insert design, in simulation of carving in the body itself.

5. As an article of manufacture, a fillet strip molding having an ornamental longitudinal front face of the full width of the strip, said front face presenting a carved-design appearance having depth, the longitudinal margins of said molding forming the longitudinal opposite side margins of said design, for contrasting association with the straight longitudinal top edges and the marginal floor portions of a groove in a body in which said molding is seated with its front face substantially flush with the substantially plane surface of said body.

6. A body having an elongated groove through a surface thereof to be embellished, in combination with strip molding having its back substantially complementary to said groove and seated therein with the longitudinal front of the molding substantially flush with said surface, said front face extending across the full width of the molding and presenting a carved design appearance having depth and extending through the marginal edges of the molding for visual association with the marginal floor portions of the groove and the longitudinal top edges of the groove, in simulating cutting in and integral with said body.

7. A body having an elongated shallow groove through a surface thereof, the top longitudinal edges of said groove meeting said surface to form straight lines, the floor of said groove forming substantially flat marginal faces diverging upwardly to said straight lines, in combination with a strip molding seated in said groove with its front substantially flush with said surface and at its back substantially complementary to said groove, said front provided with a longitudinal design having depth with the longitudinal margins of the molding forming the marginal outlines of the design for visual association with said straight lines and marginal faces of the groove.

8. A body having a groove flaring outwardly at its margins, in combination with a molding seated and centered in said groove with the longitudinal front of the molding extending across the full molding width and substantially flush with said surface, said front provided with a longitudinal design of carved depth effect across the full width of said front with the longitudinal edges of the molding outlining both longitudinal margins of the carved depth design effect visually backed by bevelled surfaces of said groove and in visual association therewith in simulation of a design carved in the body itself.

9. A body having a socket sunk in its front and marginally bevelled outwardly in simulation of cutting, in combination with an insert fitted down in said socket with its exposed front face and marginal edge provided with a carved depth design effect outlined by said edge and visually backed by the bevel of said socket, in simulation of carving in the body itself.

CHARLES B. CHATFIELD.