



Volume I

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# HOUGH'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF AMERICAN WOODS

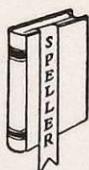
*by*

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ROBERT SPELLER & SONS

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1957

## PREFACE

One who has been privileged to examine, or better yet, to own a set of the now classical *American Woods*, by the late Romeyn Beck Hough, cannot but be deeply impressed with the durability and lasting beauty of the wood-sections contained in these volumes. *American Woods* began as an idea, but developed into a prodigious task. First a machine had to be procured with which to cut the sections. There being none, Mr. Hough carefully set about to design one, and then supervised its construction. The necessity of obtaining authentic material for sectioning was a no small undertaking in itself. Mr. Hough insisted that each species cut be accompanied by herbarium material, lest the authenticity of a specimen be questioned. He began cutting sections in the summer of 1883, and published his first volume in 1888. The 14th and final volume of the set was released in 1928, four years after his death. The text material which accompanied this volume was prepared by his daughter, Miss Marjorie G. Hough.

This new edition will contain fifteen volumes, plus supplements. Each volume contains a large number of original wood-sections cut by Mr. Hough.

The treatment of each species which appears in the accompanying text is divided into three principal sections. In the first section is a general state of the species under consideration including notes of historical interest and its relative importance in the timber economy of our nation. The second section deals with the tree itself and includes a description of its habit, diagnostic dendrological features, ornamental value, and geographical distribution. The final section is concerned with the wood of each species. Both the gross diagnostic features and



Volume II

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HOUGH'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF  
AMERICAN WOODS

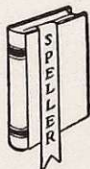
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## PREFACE

The publisher in announcing plans for the then forthcoming Hough's Encyclopaedia of American Woods, revealed that upon its completion the work will comprise fifteen volumes, fourteen of which will be devoted to the timbers and timber trees of North America. The final volume will be concerned with twenty-five of the more commonly used foreign woods of cabinet rank.

The initial volume of the Encyclopedia has made its appearance, and embraces twenty-five of the nearly one-hundred species of coniferous trees indigenous to the United States and Canada. Their selection for inclusion in this volume was dictated in part by available wood sections at the time the manuscript was being written, although every effort was made to include species from different forest regions and from as many generic groups as possible. Thus, while most of them are species of major importance in the timber economy of the nation, a few enjoy only limited local use.

This, the second volume of the series includes twenty-five hardwood species, each one of which is treated in a manner similar to the pattern established in Volume I. Numbered among this group are some of the nation's most valued trees. Others are of but secondary importance. Collectively they represent seventeen botanical families distributed in twenty-one genera.

Subsequent volumes of the Encyclopaedia will probably include both hardwoods and softwoods, the specific composition of each being largely dictated by the order in which material for each wood is procured and the thin sections sliced.

As in Volume I, the writer has drawn much of his information from many different sources as the list of selected references will reveal. Liberal use was again made of technical data obtained from numerous publications of the U. S. Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin.

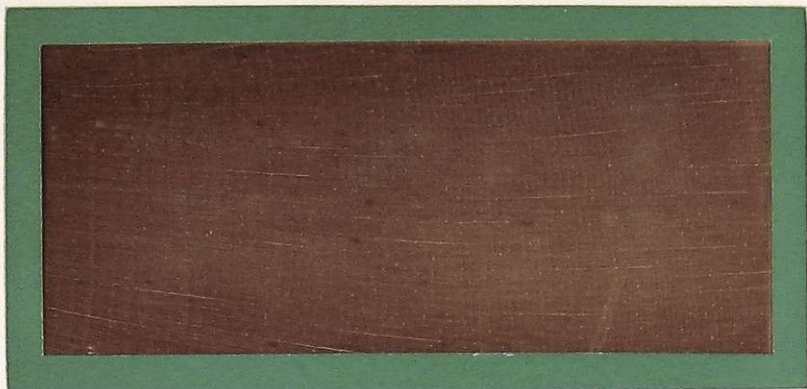
E. S. HARRAR  
Durham, N. C.  
February 1, 1958



1.

EASTERN WHITE PINE

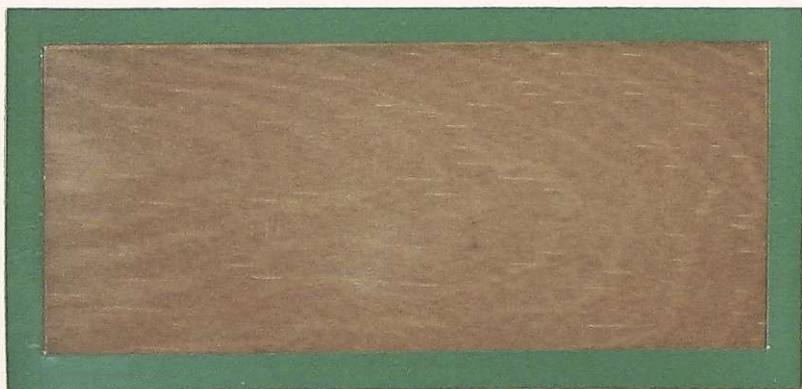
*Pinus strobus* L.



TRANSVERSE SECTION



RADIAL SECTION



TANGENTIAL SECTION

25.

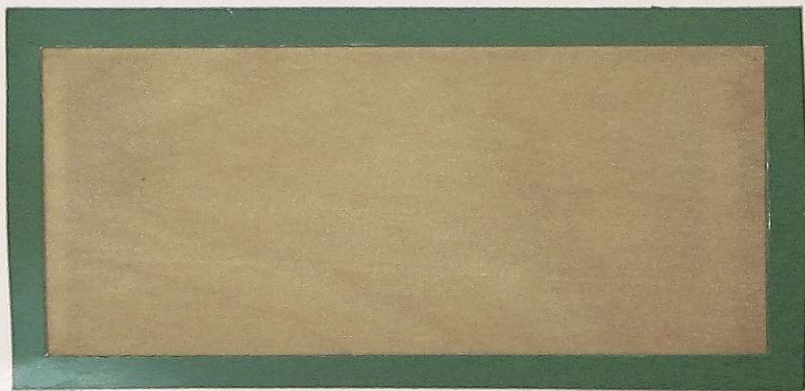
**CALIFORNIA TORREYA**  
*Torreya californica* Torr.



TRANSVERSE SECTION



RADIAL SECTION

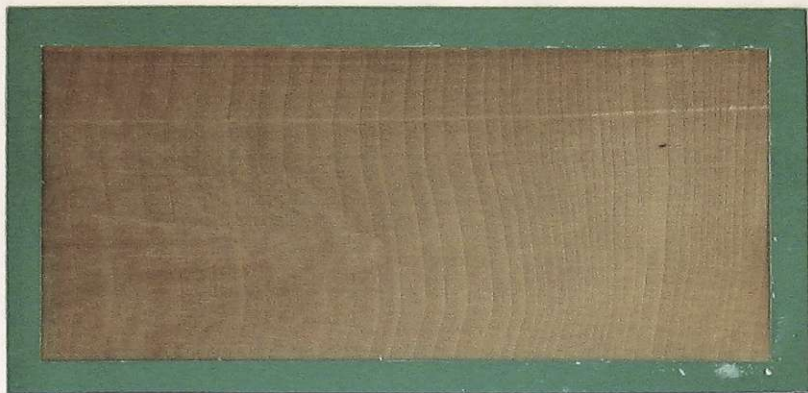


TANGENTIAL SECTION

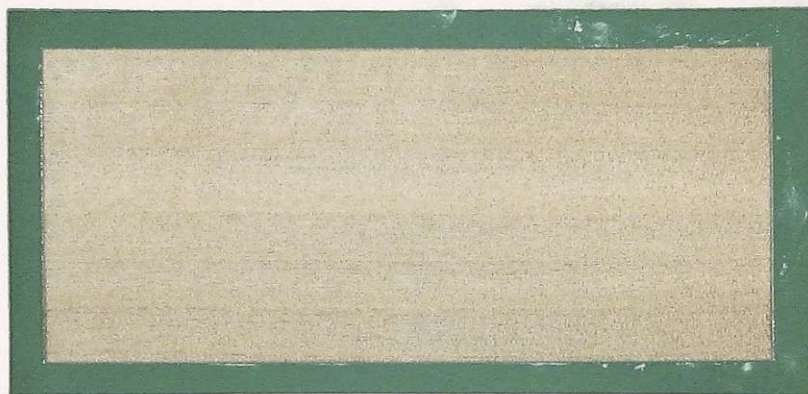


26.

**BLACK COTTONWOOD**  
*Populus trichocarpa* Torr. & Gray



TRANSVERSE SECTION



RADIAL SECTION



TANGENTIAL SECTION

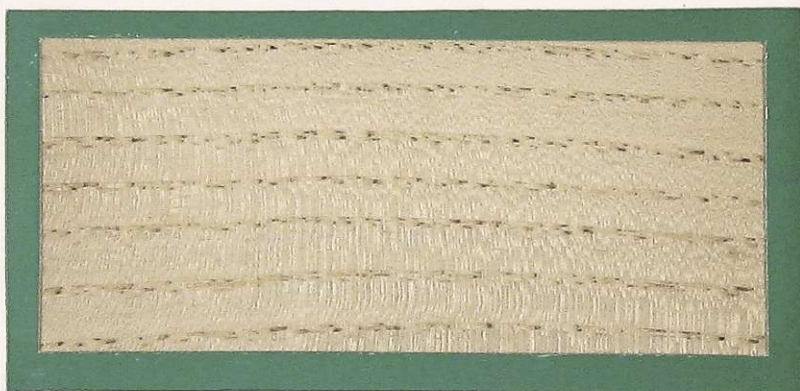


50.

WHITE ASH  
*Fraxinus americana* L.



TRANSVERSE SECTION



RADIAL SECTION



TANGENTIAL SECTION