



## Reproductions



Before the development (circa 1870) of commercially successful colors, homeowners relied upon their own mixing skills or those of the local painter. The colors chosen by a household varied according to personal taste, regional preferences, and the cost or availability of certain pigments. Microscopic examination of surviving surfaces provides the clues to what was used in a particular home. This process works for wallpaper as well as paint, glaze, or pottery samples.

### Your Needs

There are many questions to ask when considering reproduction items to furnish a house. Here are a few for your consideration:

How important is 'accuracy' to the current homeowner? What clues are available and how thorough was the search for past clues? What products were available when

the house was built? Could the original owners afford them? What products and styles did the nineteenth-century writers recommend for various rooms in the house? How much use will the house and/or reproductions items receive? And finally, which products at what cost are available today?

### Sources used for the Lemon House

#### Wallpaper and Textiles

Brunschwig & Fils, Inc.  
75 Virginia Road  
North White Plains, NY 10603  
(914) 684-5800

F. Schumacher & Co.  
1325 Old Cooches Bridge Road  
Post Office Box 6002  
Newark, DE 19714  
(800) 523-1200

Scalamandre'  
350 Wireless Blvd.  
Hauppauge, NY 11788  
Tel: 631-467-8800 / 800-932-4361

#### Wallpaper

Carter and Company  
Mount Diablo Handprints  
1509 Belleville St.  
Richmond, Virginia 23230  
(804) 254-4777

#### Plates and Cups- Mochaware

Don Carpentier  
Eastfield Village  
Box 465  
Nassau NY 12123  
(518) 766-2422

#### Wooden Chairs and Bar

Steve Cherry  
225 East Grant Street  
Lancaster, PA 17602  
(717) 392-0646

#### Wooden Tables and Cupboards

Lawrence Crouse Workshop  
155 Chance Lane, PO Box 606  
Kearneyville, WV 25430  
(304) 876-6325

### Caveat Emptor

This warning from a book published in 1919 still holds today: "The beautiful qualities of the old woods and the patina of time are not to be found in reproductions, but otherwise they may thoroughly be commended—when they are faithful. Just why so much "Near Period" furniture persists is rather puzzling. . . . Manufacturers should remember that distortions of original forms cause positive pain to those who "know," and as the number of such persons is largely increasing, the reputations of such manufacturers are bound to suffer in the end." [www.oldandsold.com](http://www.oldandsold.com)