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Shaker Furniture Makers



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Synopsis

Shaker Furniture Makers ASIN: 0874514886

Book Information

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: UPNE; Published in association with Hancock Shaker Village, Inc. edition (October 1, 1989)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0874514886

ISBN-13: 978-0874514889

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 10.8 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #2,677,860 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #73 inÃ Â Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Protestantism > Shaker #686 inÃ Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Houseware & Dining > Furniture #5499 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Decorative Arts

Customer Reviews

In this thoroughly researched, generously illustrated study, Grant--assistant director at the Shaker Museum in Old Chatham, N.Y.--and writer Allen offer portraits of the 19th-century Shaker craftsmen who designed and constructed the simple yet sophisticated wooden beds, benches, chests and desks so admired today. Craftsmen are presented in a case-by-case format: we learn when one began making bedsteads, when another invented a taboo musical instrument. Viewed as a whole, the case studies do much to reveal the sociology of daily Shaker life--the tightly enforced communal order, the rejection of individual ego, and the relentless focus on keeping "hands continually at work." Through this dense web of detail, a group portrait of a sect in decline emerges, with many case studies ending in the craftsman’s ultimate disillusionment and final abandonment of Shaker precepts. Though the volume succeeds in lifting the mantle of anonymity from Shaker craftsmen, it will ultimately appeal mainly to a small, specialized audience. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Another must have and read for the serious appraiser or dealer. I enjoyed this book very much. The photos are detailed as are the descriptions. Done with the hand of a scholar and researcher. I wish

that there was more on the KY shakers. Excellent work.Silversmiths, jewelers, clock and watch makers of Kentucky, 1785-1900Tiffany SilverTennessee SilversmithsTreen and other wooden bygones an encyclopaedia and social history [by] Edward H. Pinto

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