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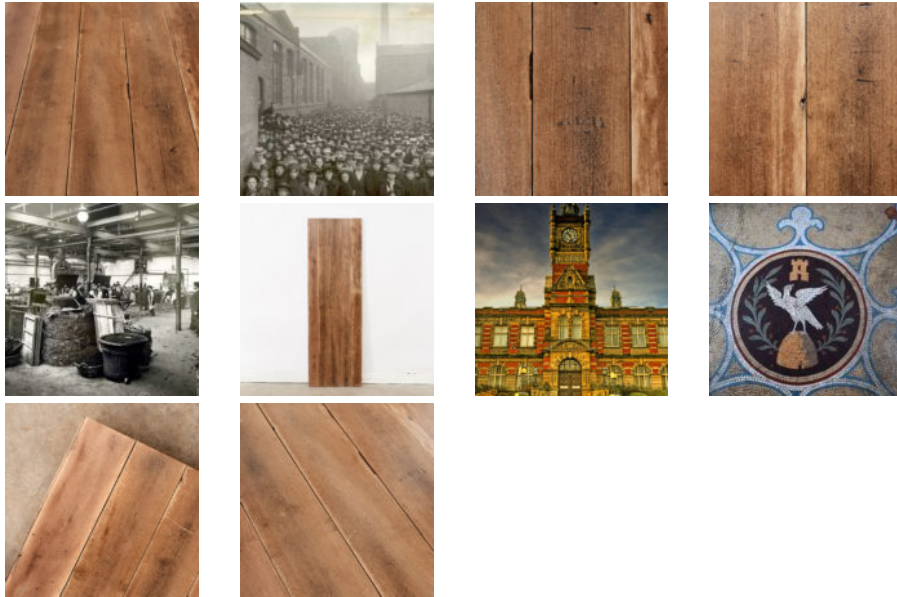
OGDENS TOBACCO FACTORY MAPLE STRIP

Salvaged from Ogdens Liverpool tobacco factory, 1899 A.D. Supplied 'as-is' (END OF RUN, now in short lengths only)

Reclaimed solid Canadian maple, salvaged from the Ogdens tobacco factory in Liverpool.

DIMENSIONS: 10.16cm (4") Wide

STOCK CODE: RS002



HISTORY

Ogden's Imperial tobacco factory was constructed in Liverpool on its Boundary Lane site in 1899 by the Architect Henry Hartley in a heterogeneous and pleasingly indiscriminate 'Queen Anne style'. It was a statement of proper pride and confidence by a firm that would see its fortunes shadow the growth and eventual decline of the British Empire.

The factory and offices were set around a dignified central clock tower with pressed red-brick side wings topped by elegantly practical hipped roofs dressed all over in contrasted sandstone and heavy moulded cornices. The main frontage presented an elaborate large entrance doorway, incorporating pairs of carved consoles beneath keyed arched head beneath a segmental pediment with carved cherub figures, foliage designs and coat of arms displaying

the Ogden family crest.



Throughout the works only the finest, most elegant and reliable materials were used. Not only in the finely articulated mahogany panelled board rooms but extending even to the handsomely robust maple flooring of the factory floor itself. The firm had grown from something of a back-room family affair in its early days when in 1859 Thomas Ogden started a tobacconist business from his premises on 54 Park Lane where he was also a leather dealer.

The growth of Liverpool as one of the great Imperial entrepôts and the timely innovations of the Ogden dynasty ensured the burgeoning prosperity of the firm. Ogden's, for instance, was

the first company in the world to introduce the idea of collectible illustrated cigarette cards. Inevitably changes in production costs and public attitudes to smoking itself initiated the slow decline and eventual closure of the once thriving tobacco factory.

LASSCO is pleased to offer this solid Maple strip flooring that once did good service in the Ogden works, extracted as it was from the vast forests of the Dominion of Canada and carried into the heart of one of the great cities of Empire.