COUCH ANALYSIS

ARCH 614 SPRING 2007







Tina Chanady Ann Frankovich Morgan Harrison **Courtney Kelly** Ellen Kiel Winnie Lam Leslie Leffke Abby Leonard **Brant Moore David Pearce David Seifert** Si-Hyun Sung Stefan Weissenstein

Why?

- The process and evaluation was documented to:
 - Model static structural behavior
 - Classify connections
 - Quantify capacity based on wood design practices
- This assignment is a practical application of taking structural formulas and concepts and applying them to a smaller, familiar object such as a couch that has similar behaving members.

- Upholstery removal
 - Fabric
 - Burlap
 - Padding
 - Staples





Why?

Process

Structure

Assembly

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• Upholstery Removal





Why?

Process

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Labeling Structural Members





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• Hardware Removal





Why?

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• Hardware Removal



Process

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• Hardware Removal



Process

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Measuring Components









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Recording Data Throughout Deconstruction







Why?

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• Final Deconstruction



Why?

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Structure

General Couch Construction

- Frame
 - Kiln-dried hardwood₁
- Springs
 - Eight-way hand-tied knot system₁
 - Metal clips 2
 - Coil placement₂
- Connection techniques
 - Corners are wood glued, high pressure stapled and reinforced with blocks.2

Why?

Process

Structure

Assembly

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- Structural Members
 - Vertical Components
 - Horizontal Components







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Structure

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Connection Types 3
Butt joints





- End lap joints





- Dowel joints





Why?

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Assembly

- Connection Types₄
 - Adhesive
 - Wood glue

- Dowels

Why?

- Screws, Bolts, Staples

Structure







- Bracing
 - Blocking for reinforcement









Structure

Assembly

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- Bracing
 - 8 way hand tied knot system
 - Burlap straps
 - Metal straps





Process

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Non-Structural Components

• Springs

Why?

 used to redistribute weight throughout the frame and as a cushioning device



Assembly

Structure

- Step 1: Back section of couch constructed
- Step 2: Arm rest sides are constructed

Why?



Assembly

Load

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 Step 3: The sides and back are attached to the back legs.



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Step 4: Webbing Bridge attached to C2









• Step 5: The Front Legs are attached to C4

Why?

• Step 6: C4, with the legs joined, is attached to the front of the couch frame.



Assembly

• Step 7: Bracing installed



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 Step 8: Attachment of burlap and metal strap webbing to hold up the coil springs



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• Step 9: Springs and heavy cord installed



Why?

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• Step 10: Cushioning and Upholstery added



Why?

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Loads

- Assumed Loads₆
 - 2 seated people
 - Vertical load (y-axis)
 - 150 lb x 2 people = total weight of 300 lb
 - point load of 20 lbs on 18 fabric straps
 - Lateral load (x-axis)
 - 55 lb/ person
 - Distributed load of 20 lbs/ft



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Loads

- Abnormal Loads
 - Arm rest load (z-axis load)
 - 175 lb/ft distributed
 - 175lb/ft x 1.25 ft = 219 lb total



Loads

• Loads on representative structural components



- Deflection



- Moment



Assembly

Loads

Description

MOMENT LOADS COMPARISON



- Shear
 - Along y-axis







• Tension



- Compression



• Support

Why?



- Deconstruction
 - Revealing of structure and frame geometries in addition to joint types.
- Measurement of Frame
 - Larger sections have greatest concentration of forces.
- Computer Models
 - Easy visualization from various loading conditions.
- The use of visual models to simulate numerical situations creates a great furniture design tool.

References

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