

MAYAN-AZTEC Pattern

AVAILABLE ONLY IN: Desert Gold, Prairie Green, White Sand and Woodland Moss.

71S—45 PC. SERVICE SET, BOXED—\$56.00

- 8—Cups
- 8—Saucers
- 8—14 Oz. Bowls
- 8—7" B & B Plates
- 8—10" Plates
- 1—13" Platter
- 1—Creamer
- 1—Sugar
- 1—Sugar Lid
- 1—Serving Bowl



7TS—20 PC. STARTER SET, BOXED—\$25.00

- 4—Cups
- 4—Saucers
- 4—7" B & B Plates
- 4—10" Plates
- 4—14 Oz. Chili-Soup Bowls

1,000 YEARS before Columbus "discovered" America, there flourished a civilization in this country whose artistic, social, and religious standards far surpassed any European peoples up to that time. Many archeologists not only compare the art and architecture of the Mayans and Aztecs favorably with that of ancient Egypt, but in many respects prefer their achievements in art importance. THESE were the FIRST Americans.

It is well established that the nucleus of American Indian tribes spread from the Great Southwest region. Our particular interest is in those who went South—the Mayans and Aztecs. They have given to the world some of its richest art treasures. The "golden age" of Mayan Art, in which they developed their pantheon, built their temples, perfected their Arts, social structure and government, occupied the first few centuries after Christ.

The Great Temple in Copan, Yucatan, built to the War Diety, was completed just before the Spanish invasion. The temple compound covered almost a quarter square mile, comprising seventy-eight buildings — a most stupendous achievement and a monument to architectural beauty.

The most widely known of the Mayan and Aztec arts are the numerous hieroglyphs. They were used profusely on buildings, altars, monuments, and other such places, not only for embellishments, but for the recording of information. The decorations on the stairway of Copan alone were composed of over 2,500 different glyphs. Freehand methods prevailed entirely, for their art was their only written language.

Pottery has always evidenced every strata of culture. Fragments of pottery have been found where all other records have been destroyed, even in prehistoric times. Throughout the long history of all Indian tribes, pottery has been the universal art. The pottery of the ancient Southwestern Indians challenges comparison in color, form, and mastery of line with that of the Greek and Orientals.

It is through the inspiration of this wealth of beauty that FRANKOMA has created its Mayan-Aztec tableware.