

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS
PER COPY



HOW TO CHOOSE
The Right
Colonial Chair

NICHOLS & STONE CO.

Since 1857

Gardner, Massachusetts



You will see in this booklet many Nichols & Stone chairs that you will want for your own home. The illustrations are purposely planned to help you visualize how they might be used correctly and with the best possible effect . . . for the one you would choose for a fireplace setting, for instance, quite possibly would not be so appropriate for desk or for bedside use.

You will also find this booklet a valuable decorator's notebook of Early American chair design. These lovely pieces are authentic in every practical detail. Even the decorative stencil on the Boston Rocker, illustrated on the cover, is an exact copy of a pattern designed in the 1700's.

To the dignity and charm of these Early American reproductions has been added the greater sturdiness and comfort made possible by modern craftsmanship. You will be proud of the durability of chairs by Nichols & Stone, as well as their heirloom beauty.



Look For This Tag—The shield shape, trademark history-tag is your guarantee of authenticity of design, sturdiness of structure, and the fine finish that has characterized Nichols & Stone chairs for nearly 100 years. Most chairs, in addition, are identified by a branded trademark on the underside.

NICHOLS & STONE CHAIR INDEX

FINISHES AVAILABLE—Decorative Finishes: Black and Gold; Mahogany and Gold; Barn Red and Gold; Green and Gold; Old Pine and Bronze; Maple and Bronze. "D" following chair number indicates decorated; "C" indicates decorated in gold and a color. **Regular Finishes:** Mahogany, Walnut, Red Maple, Light Maple, Old Pine.

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Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

69-6DC

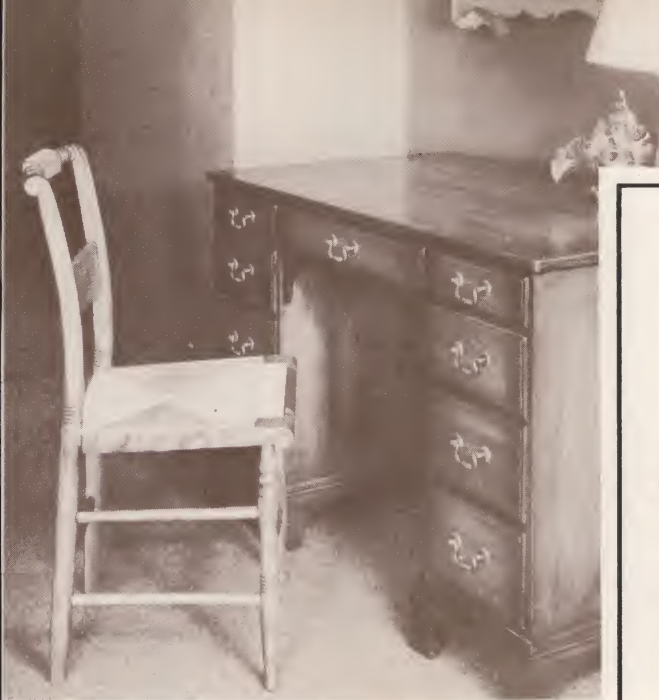


69-6DC

#69-6DC SALEM ROCKER

Honorably named for the historic New England town because it was originally found in Salem, Massachusetts, the Salem Rocker has lived in American hearts more simply as "Grandfather's Rocker"—a name that perhaps more eloquently describes its graceful, homish design and high back to support the head, with back spindles curved to fit the body. The low broad seat assures deep-seated comfort.





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

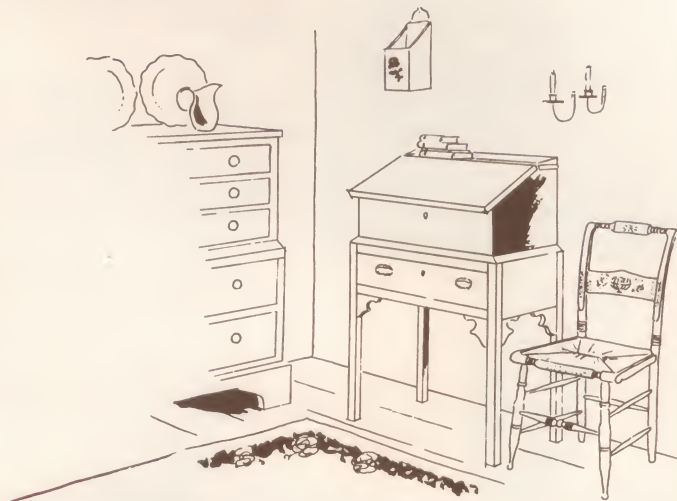
512-1



512-1D

#512-1 FIBRE SEAT HITCHCOCK

While all the lines are derived from the early rush seat Hitchcock chair, and all Americans have never tired of the handsome, unusual pattern, the odd shaped seat, elaborately turned top, and the broad panel . . . all provide practical comfort for many occasions as a side chair, dining room chair, or sitting room chair . . . this particular model has a fibre seat. And, as such, has proved very popular because of the more economical price.





Courtesy of Jordan Marsh Co.

2099-1



2099-1D

#2099-1 WOOD SEAT HITCHCOCK

Since Lambert Hitchcock first created and turned out his so-called "fancy chairs", there's been one demand . . . to adapt this sound and handsome Hitchcock chair design for use in practically every room in the house, so this Hitchcock chair was designed with a solid wood seat.

An added narrow back slat gives ruggedness as well as added back comfort; and the short, decoratively turned miniature spindles joining the second slat to the generous seat make the all wood Hitchcock the sturdy chair with a delicate air.

This model offers the other time-tested Hitchcock features—pillow top, reversed curved side posts, turned legs, extra side rungs . . . and the unique seat. It's a triple combination of beauty, ruggedness, and economy.





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

2036-5



2036-5

#2036-5 WINDSOR ARM CHAIR

It is said that an early English monarch saw a chair of this type in the home of a peasant, and was so pleased with it, that he had one sent to Windsor Castle. Other authorities claim that the name was derived from the town of Windsor, England, where chairs of this type were first made.

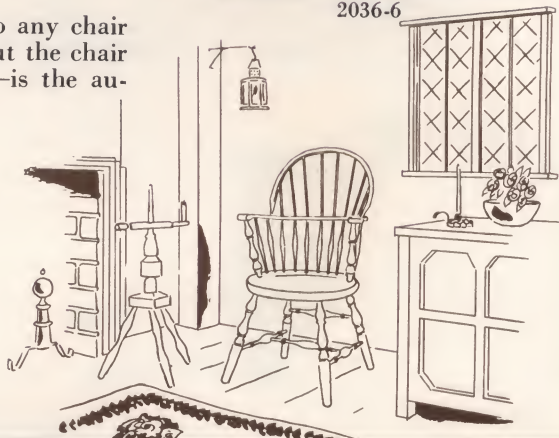
Certain it is that the first Windsor chairs were brought to New England by the Pilgrims in 1620. The pattern was varied and improved upon until the familiar Colonial Windsor arm chair was evolved. This chair has a back shaped like an archer's bow, and usually the arms are formed by another "bow" extending around the back. There are supporting spindles (which differ in number), vase-shaped outspread legs and a roomy, shaped seat.

The name "Windsor" is often applied to any chair which has any of these characteristics, but the chair having all—Windsor Arm Chair above—is the authentic copy of an original.

Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.



2036-6





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

2089-3



2089-1

Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

#2089-3 PRISCILLA ROCKER

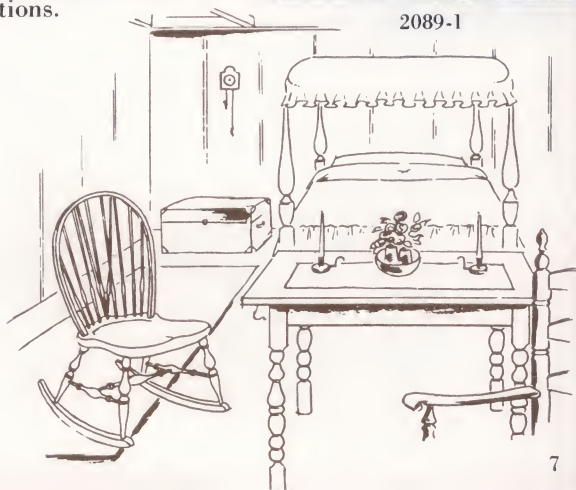
#2089-1 PRISCILLA CHAIR

"Why don't you speak for yourself, John?" is Longfellow's memorable line that inspired the name for these chastely Colonial chairs. Priscilla's forthrightness encourages us to introduce certain innovations in design that enhance their attractiveness and comfort. This charming pattern conforms closely to true Windsor traditions, yet it expresses its individuality just as did Priscilla Mullins in her day.

This attractive chair can be used appropriately in practically every liveable room in the house, due to its general use as an occasional chair to blend with Colonial and modern interior decorations.



2089-1





Courtesy of Parents Magazine

2044-5



2044-5

#2044-5 GOVERNOR CARVER ARM CHAIR

#2044-1 GOVERNOR CARVER SIDE CHAIR

Before the Pilgrims landed to form their colony at Plymouth, they met on board the Mayflower and drew up a compact for their government. At this meeting, John Carver was elected their Governor. In less than four months after that time, however, Governor Carver had perished together with more than half of the little band of Pilgrims.

This style of Colonial chair, named in honor of the first governor, is a very sturdy type of Windsor chair. The legs are gracefully turned, the seat broad and roomy, and the curved bow of the Windsor chair is replaced by a curved back rest . . . attractive and comfortable on all occasions, individually or in dining room sets this chair is excellent for double duty in small homes or apartments.



2044-1





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

1993-1



1993-5

Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

#1993-1 DUXBURY SIDE CHAIR

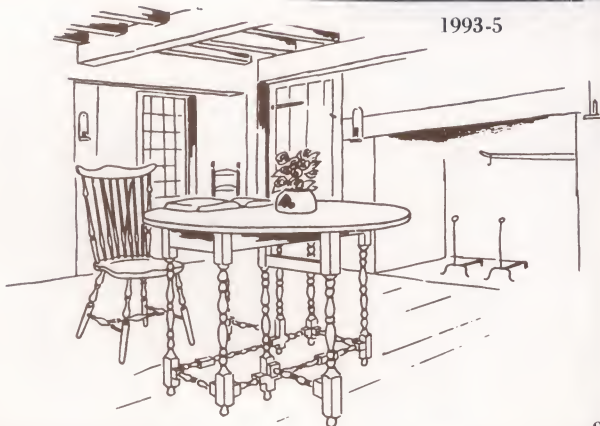
#1993-5 DUXBURY ARM CHAIR

You will find these chairs both useful and decorative in your dining room, breakfast nook, living room, bedroom, or as occasional chairs almost anywhere in your house or apartment.

Duxbury, the small New England town near Plymouth, is known to millions as the home of John and Priscilla Alden. It is so deeply associated with early American history that we pay tribute by choosing its name for this artistic, yet functional, chair. The pattern is artistic, practical, and one of the most popular of modern Windsor reproductions.



1993-5





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

72-6DC



72-6DC

#72-6DC BOSTON ROCKER

#X55-6DC CHILD'S BOSTON ROCKER

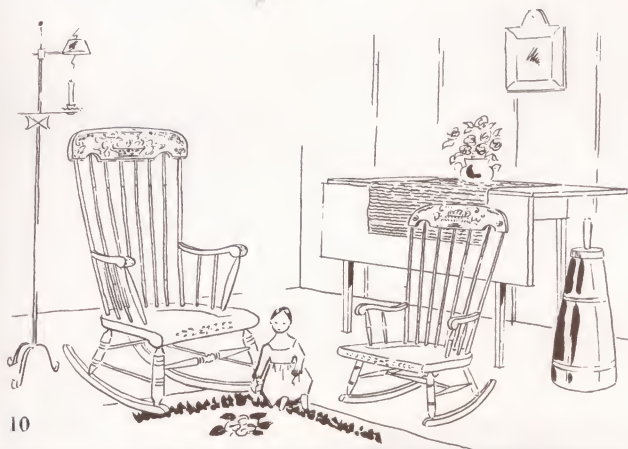
Courtesy of
Paine Furniture Co.

There is no piece of furniture today that is more truly American than the historic Boston Rocker. It has survived those centuries of change—and is still cherished in homes across the land. Its high back and low, broad seat hold the same charm and comfort they did years ago. Familiarly called, "Grandfather's Rocker" by many natives of New England . . . it has a high back, which supports the head—long back spindles to fit the body—and a low seat.

We make a Child's Rocker #X55-6DC, a miniature replica of the Boston Rocker. These two chairs together have become a very popular Mother and Daughter combination, which has been gaining in nation-wide acceptance.



Child's Rocker X55-6DC





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

X3-5

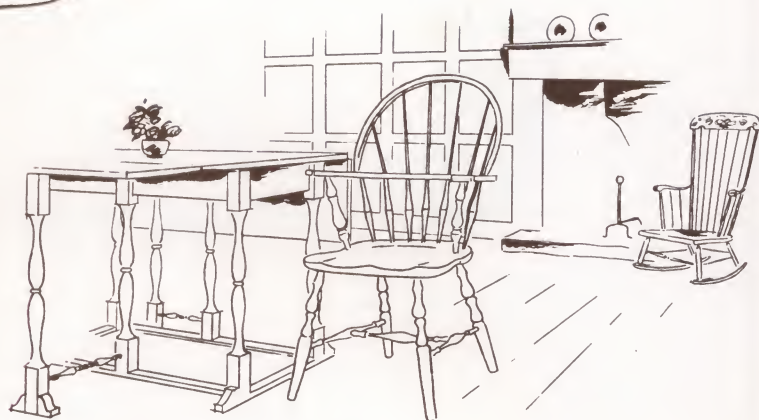


X3-5

#X3-5 WINDSOR ARM CHAIR

The English origin of the Windsor chair has not been determined. But we do know the first one to arrive in America was with the Pilgrims in 1620. The original pattern was varied until the familiar Colonial chair evolved. Today the Windsor—with its vase-shaped outspread legs, bow shaped back and roomy seat, is one of the most commonly seen chairs in American homes.

Our X3-5 Windsor Arm Chair is an authentic copy of an original Colonial model . . . its popularity is due to its attractiveness and practical comfort.





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

X3-1



X3-1

#X3-1 WINDSOR SIDE CHAIR

Colonial craftsmen were artists also; and they developed many interesting variations of the basic Windsor design, such as the bow-back, fan-back, brace-back, comb-back and splat-back.

Windsors were America's most popular chairs for a full century, 1725-1825; and, during that century, the Windsor established itself as one of the great, enduring furniture forms.





2104-1D

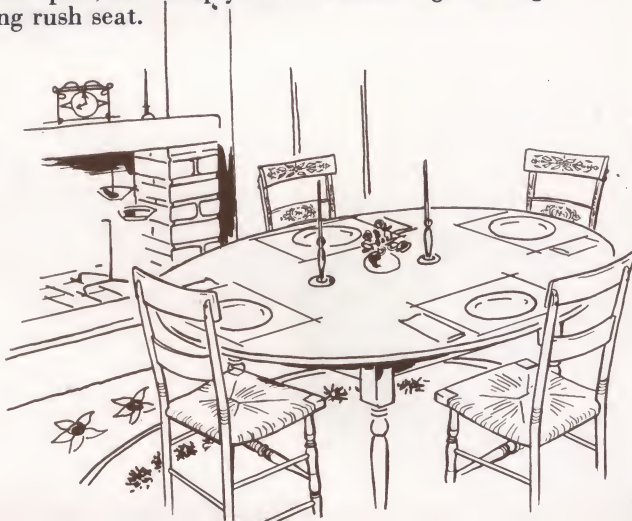


2104-1D

#2104-1D RUSH SEAT NANTUCKET

Antiquarians describe this style as transitional, placing it midway between two important groups of American chairs. The first of these classifications is the rush-seated fancy chair so popular in the late 1700's. Made in all sections of the country, they were charmingly decorated with painting or gilding. Fancy chairs inspired the more familiar Hitchcock chair, introduced by Lambert Hitchcock of Connecticut in the 1820's.

This Nantucket side chair is typical of its period. Note the authenticity of detail—the curved uprights, the elegant gold stencilling on wide concave top rail and back splat, the simply turned front legs ending in ball feet, and the flaring rush seat.





2103-5D



2103-1D

#2103-1D BAMBOO WINDSOR SIDE CHAIR
#2103-5D BAMBOO WINDSOR ARM CHAIR

Bamboo turnings, which so closely simulate the appearance of the Oriental wood, are typical of a group of American Windsors made in the Post-Revolutionary period. Bamboo with two or more joints is identified as the trademark of a skillful cabinetmaker. He has also given us a pleasant contrast in the thoughtfully matched turnings of slender spindles and sturdy legs. The fan-back, with its seven delicately-spaced spindles, is designed for comfort as well as grace. The fine rake of the legs, extending well beyond the shield-shaped seat, is another indication of a fine Windsor of authentic design.





1993-6



1993-6

#1993-6 DUXBURY ROCKER

This fan-back Rocker is distinguished by the strength and grace of its horned comb or crest rail, and by the two spindles that flare up to brace it from the tailpiece . . . both details representative of 18th Century Windsors and adding considerable charm to the chair. Although invention of the first American Rocker has been attributed to Benjamin Franklin, no actual evidence supports the surmise. It is definitely known, however, that rockers were being attached to favorite Windsor chairs in the early 1800's. With its fine proportions and sturdy saddle seat, the Duxbury Rocker is typical of its day.





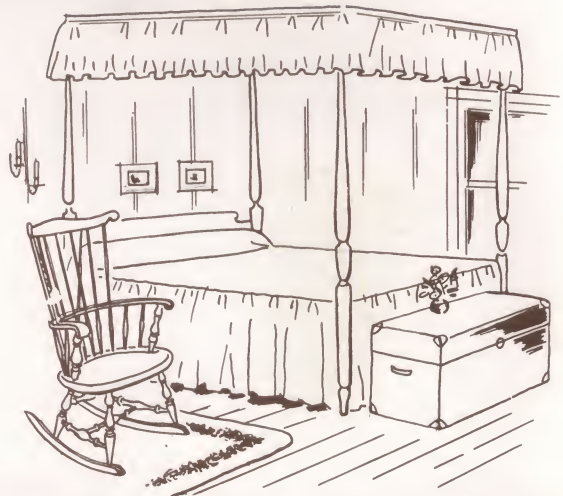
2095-6



2095-6

#2095-6 GOVERNOR BRADFORD ROCKER

An excellent example of the braced comb-back arm chair, this Rocker might well have originated in New England—where the majority of original Windsors with this characteristic have been found. It may be presumed that early inhabitants of that section were fond of the comfort afforded by the unusually high back. The welcoming sweep of the arm rail gives this chair an excellent style, as well as solidity. It is also interesting to consider that in today's antique market the braced-back Windsor commands up to twice the price of chairs without this feature. How this chair got its name is related on the following page.





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

2095-5



2095-5

#2095-5 GOVERNOR BRADFORD ARM CHAIR

William Bradford, the second Governor of the Plymouth Colony, who came in the Mayflower with the first little band of Pilgrims is one of the most familiar characters in the history of the New England colonies. Among other incidents we remember in connection with his name is the fact that he inaugurated the New England holiday—Thanksgiving Day, now a nation-wide holiday.

In his honor, this type of Colonial chair has been named. The pattern has long been familiar to collectors of antique furniture. Its high back, with carved head rest is reminiscent of "Ye Comb Back" chair of Pilgrim days. That the pattern has survived three centuries of varying fads and styles in furniture is ample proof of its practicability . . . useful as a side or desk chair.





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

X61-1D



X61-1D

#X61-1D PAUL REVERE CHAIR

The design of this distinguished chair was inspired by the graceful lines of a fine old Fan-Back Windsor in the restored home of Paul Revere in Boston, Massachusetts.

While all the grace and dignity of the olden times are retained in this modern reproduction, present-day manufacturing methods have given it a sturdiness which, through passing years, will qualify it too as an heirloom.

The one chair form which most truly expresses the gracious dignity of old Colonial days, is the Windsor. Originating in the southern shires of England in the late 17th Century, it was brought to America about 1725, and became the vogue throughout the Thirteen Colonies.

Seven straight spindles and moderately detailed posts give the chair sturdiness and elegance that make it consistent at a desk for television viewing, in dining room, or bedroom. Legs, rungs and crossbars all pick up the turning design which relieve its simplicity and make for an ornamental and practical chair.





Courtesy of Living Magazine

73-6DC



73-6DC

#73-6DC BOSTON ROCKER

Colonial towns were rivals. Each watched its laurels: Salem had homes; Philadelphia, feminine pulchritude. But, allegedly, "In Boston they lean toward brains", so in this chair we have a very popular rocker that is both useful and decorative . . . our expression is "The chair that rocks the nation", due to its tremendous popularity.

This Boston Rocker in which the slightest turn in the back spindles and the ample saucer seat give comfort past measure proves that boast. It still has the features which make it the favored chair—thus it lasted as "Grandfather's Rocker" for hundreds of years. The Boston Rocker's charm and universal use make this chair appropriate for the spacious modern kitchen that is now having a revival or for the graciously furnished living room.





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

Arm Chair X27-5D



X27-1

#X27-5D COLONIAL FIBRE SEAT LADDER BACK CHAIR

This popular Colonial chair has many styles but the comfort of the four slat Ladder Back chair has prompted every major designer to fashion his own version.

It is easy to see how the Ladder Back chair in which its own structure forms a pleasing design—became a leading fashion in Colonial furniture. Comfort and the dignity of a graceful chair with intrinsic eye appeal made it popular then and now.

With a patterned fibre seat, this authentic Colonial Ladder Back is a stylish and valuable chair in the dining room, as a desk or occasional chair.

Courtesy of Jordan Marsh Co.



Side Chair X27-1D





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

2071-1



2071-1

#2071-1 PILGRIM RUSH SEAT LADDER BACK

There was a Ladder Back chair on the Mayflower and almost every collection of Pilgrim property which is handed down includes a Ladder Back chair.

In time the Pilgrims created their own Ladder Back chair—which, as seen here, is an example of the simple beauty for which they are renowned. The three solid slats with modulated curves show the Pilgrim resistance to frills.

The genuine rush seat (of *Typha Latifolia*) is twisted and woven by hand by Nichols and Stone craftsmen just as it was done in Colonial days; and woodworking and joining all reflect the skill acquired in four generations of that firm's furniture production.





2111-5D

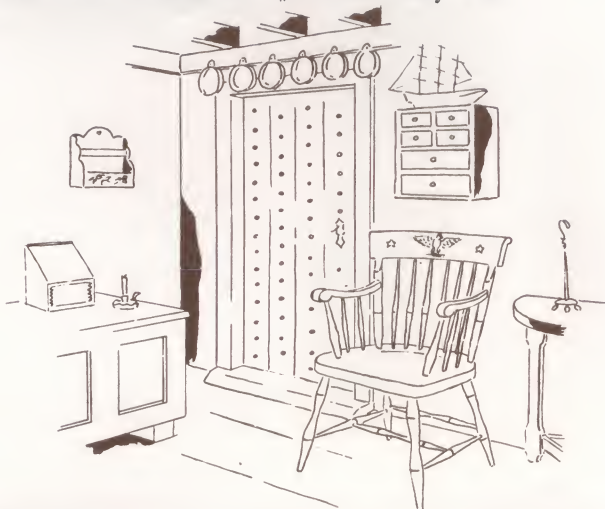


2112-5D

#2111-5D LIBERTY ARM CHAIR

This delightfully comfortable and rugged chair was adapted from the old New England Colonial Hubbard Chair. It comes in black with the attractive gold stenciling decoration plus maple colored arms. It is made of birch, solidly built, traditional in style, with a wide and deep seat for lasting comfort.

The Liberty chair was primarily designed for the men in the family, but its general usefulness and decorativeness have now won the feminine nod as an asset to practically any room because of its old Colonial ruggedness and simplicity. #2112-5D is the same chair as the #2111-5D only with fruit decoration.





Courtesy of Jordan Marsh Co.

Side Chair X-40-1



Side Chair X40-1D

#X40-1 THUMB BACK CHAIR

This authentic reproduction of the original, graceful, old New England "Thumb Back" design is one of our most popular chairs because of its general utility value.

The early Colonial chair makers almost always favored a small, comfortable side chair. Strictly basic Colonial chairs appeared mostly with black and gold stencil design on the back.

The value of these authentic reproduction chairs will increase with the years; for genuine Colonial chairs are prized by collectors, and honestly-made authentic reproductions are comparatively few.

The name, of course, is taken from the design of the thumb-like posts . . . an excellent chair for bedroom, living room, den or as an occasional chair and for many other uses.





2000-5



2000-5

#2000-5 CAPTAIN'S CHAIR

Here is a delightfully pleasing chair for the man in the house . . . originally it was designed for use on shipboard—thus it has the wide angle leg-spread, simple rugged construction, heavy wood seat, strong supporting back and arms. But today you'll find them decorating many American homes as an attractive chair for the hall, or in a den, or playroom; sometimes we've found beautifully decorated dining rooms using these chairs around the table, lending solid, old Colonial impressiveness to the scene.

The extra large, broad seat provides comfort for many hours and of course they'll wear indefinitely and improve in appearance and atmosphere with the passing of time.

For a man who wants comfort at his desk at home, there isn't a better chair.





Courtesy of Paine Furniture Co.

X6-5



X6-5D

#X6-5 STUB ARM WINDSOR CHAIR

The classic Windsor has lent itself to this modern adaptation that fits into compact twentieth century homes.

The snug lines of this chair make it suitable in numerous places throughout the house—in the dinette, at the card table or desk, or as the indispensable TV chair. Abbreviated stub arms and the height of the seat set especially well at a table, or playing or working surface. The center position of the fourth rung gives foot freedom—especially good at the game table. And the functionally designed back never hampers arm motion, yet it gives the support that assures relaxation.

Its intriguing design has feminine appeal, while comfort and solid construction impress the men in the family. Here's a chair for every member of the household.





2057-5D



2057-5D

#2057-5D HITCHCOCK ARM CHAIR

A charming companion piece to the Hitchcock Rush Seat is the Hitchcock Arm Chair, identical in styling with its sister chair except that it is designed with arms. Excellent for dining room use as the master chair or as a complete set . . . always in good taste. Following the distinctive lines of the Hitchcock Rush Seat, the authentically styled arms of this Hitchcock chair give added comfort and beauty.

Every detail of construction and design—the double arm support, the genuine rush seat made of *Typha Latifolia*, the turned legs, the gracefully curved back panels, the handsome stenciling—make the Hitchcock Arm Chair a versatile occasional chair that creates casual elegance wherever it's placed . . . and it is very comfortable, too.





474-Y



474-Y

#474-Y WINDSOR YOUTH'S CHAIR

This good-looking Youth's Chair will fill a very useful function in any home with growing children. Made of the finest in hard woods and strongly constructed, it has been built to withstand years of rigorous use. The Youth Chair's contours—shaped seat; high back; broad, sturdy foot rest—have been especially designed for the child who has outgrown his baby's high chair yet is still too small to be comfortable in an adult's chair.

Though the Youth Chair has been made primarily for practical purposes, beauty of design has not been sacrificed. A high, long-wearing, lustrous finish, graceful lines, spool-turned legs, slender back spindles, all combine to make a fine-looking practical chair.





X34-1



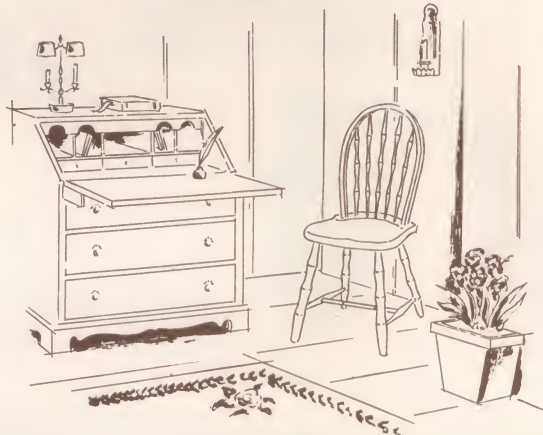
X34-1

#X34-1 WINDSOR KNEE-HOLE DESK CHAIR

This sturdy, undersized, yet well-made chair—a reproduction of one favored by early Americans—is especially designed for use in small, cramped areas where a normal chair is too large and awkward—such as with a narrow opening knee-hole desk . . . or it makes a nice little telephone stand chair.

The seat is well-formed for comfortable sitting; the high curved back with slender spindles has a pleasing design and provides firm support; the spool-turned legs are solidly built from the finest of northern hard woods and attractively shaped.

Good-looking and constructed for serviceability, the Knee-Hole Desk Chair will prove an excellent addition to any American home.





1-9



Overall Length 34"

1-9D

#1-9D ARROW-BACK SETTEE

Reproduced from an early Colonial design, the Arrow Back Settee is a stylized traditional piece with unusual distinction and charm. A black finish decorated with quiet but rich stenciling in gold and simple, tasteful style make the Arrow Back Settee the kind of piece that will harmonize perfectly with surrounding decor. The austere handsomely and unusual back is formed from arrow-like panels—an authentic design which gives the settee its name.

Construction of the settee is precise and sturdy, and its slender graceful contours make for beauty and comfort. The beautiful decorated black and gold finish is the most popular, but it is also available in all other famous long-wearing Nichols & Stone finishes, such as maple, old pine and mahogany. Placed in a reception room or hall, or used as an occasional piece in other rooms, the Arrow Back Settee will add to the attractiveness of any setting.



Nichols and Stone chairs are fashioned from the finest northern hard wood.

All Nichols and Stone chairs are made from selected northern hard woods; namely, yellow birch and hard maple. This sturdy stock assures staunchness of construction which lends itself to fine workmanship and gives long life to the finished product.

This top quality birch and maple is then seasoned in one of the most modern dry kiln systems in the nation, which means Nichols and Stone chairs are always free from open joints and separations which deface and reduce the wearing qualities of chairs. In addition, most tenons (spindles) are fashion-carved oversize, so that when the tenons are compressed on the special valiton compressed-tenon machine, before final assembly, they all have a snug fit which provides extra life to all Nichols and Stone chairs.

The finish of Nichols and Stone chairs is further evidence of the painstaking methods and the sacrifice of high-speed production to produce a quality product. This finish is not merely a protective coating but it is a durable, genuine varnish finish, built up with a heavy body that is unusual in modern furniture production.

The final treatment on most chairs is the hand-rub finish which produces that beautiful satiny effect on the Nichols and Stone chairs. Generation after generation has bowed to the beauty of colonial craftsmanship, so in the chair family the oldest members are still favorites. And in the trade the favorite maker of such time honored models is still Nichols and Stone Company . . . because of their faithful reproductions and their good faith in always giving the best value for the money.

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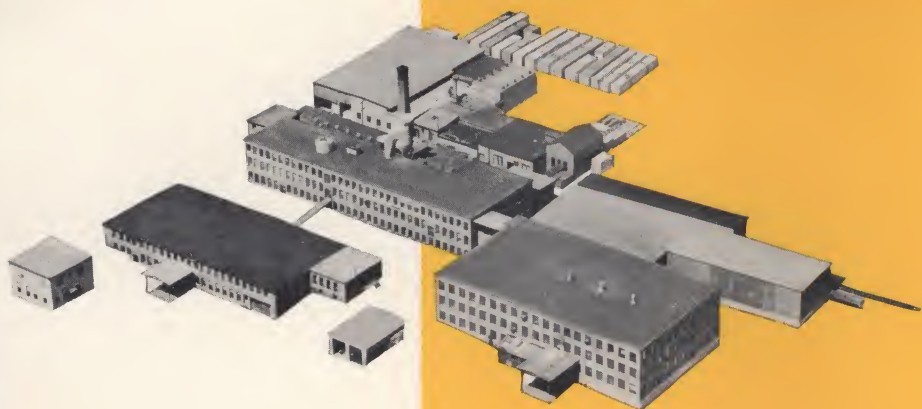
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From the collection of:

Mike Jackson, FAIA



Nearly one hundred years ago the small wood-working shop that was to become the Nichols & Stone Company made its first Windsor chair. That was in 1857. Today the Company is one of the few remaining establishments devoted exclusively to the manufacture of chairs, and its name is famous, country-wide, for fine design, excellent craftsmanship and honest value.

Through five generations of the founders' direct descendants, the traditional beauty of Colonial craftsmanship has been preserved. And, because of their readiness to adopt modern production methods whenever they could be employed without impairing authenticity and genuine old-fashioned quality, this beauty has been made increasingly available to home-lovers in every part of the land.