

ISRAEL SACK

A Record of Service



1903 - 1953

ISRAEL SACK

A Record of Service

1903 - 1953



A tribute to Israel Sack in recognition of his fifty year record as a dealer in Early American antiques and for his part in reawakening interest in our American heritage.

This booklet consists of letters from museum directors and private collectors with illustrations of important examples obtained by Israel Sack for these collections.

Compiled by Albert Sack

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

"I believe that the best American antiques were made by the finest craftsmen for the foremost Colonists of the 17th and 18th centuries. I have nothing against ordinary antiques — only they don't interest me." This has been the simple creed of Israel Sack during the past fifty years. It is because of his concentration of purpose, his devotion to integrity, and his ability to project his faith in the American classics to intelligent people, that so many outstanding collections are the result of his stimulation and direction.

His mission has always encountered considerable odds. For some strange reason the majority of Americans have always minimized our cultural heritage and have looked with envying eyes at European creations. I say it is strange because the best English and French creations reflect the pomp and circumstance of the nobility of that era, the very thing which our ancestors came to this country to avoid. Yet, to an exaggerated degree for the first few decades of this century the families who had inherited these great treasures of American craftsmanship were disposing of them for nominal sums and replacing them with English and French antiques or pseudoantiques. And there were very few people with vision enough to acquire these pieces.

In the Krim sale in 1903 a Philadelphia chair, which has since brought \$7500, sold for \$150.

This was the picture when my father began dealing in American antiques in Boston in 1903. He was once asked why he only dealt in American antiques. He replied, "When I came to this country I went native."

Among the influential Americans those who have gone native have always been a small minority. This ever growing minority has reaped unexpected dividends over the years. They have enjoyed living with the unpretentious beauty, the simple dignity and the individual charm of our best furniture. The principles which have made our country great live in our 17th and 18th century creations and have enriched the lives of those who can appreciate them. And to those who, for one reason or another, have had to dispose of some or all of their genuine pieces, the financial gain has been phenomenal. The record of values for the authentic American furniture during this century can match the growth in almost any industry or commodity.

The compensation for Israel Sack has been equally great, not measured in the terms of money, but in the recognition of his many friends who benefited from his direction, knowledge and judgment. The letters which follow are all from outstanding collectors who have surrounded themselves with the best authentic antiques. The personal associations and friendships he has had with these and thousands of other mutual lovers of Americana, the respect and reputation for integrity which he has earned, and the knowledge that in contributing toward a better understanding of American antiques he has contributed toward a better appreciation of American traditions — all these are his reward.

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

CHICAGO 3 ILLINOIS

CHAUNCEY McCORMICK, *President*

DANIEL CATTON RICH, *Director*

CHARLES BUTLER, *Business Manager*

DEPARTMENT OF DECORATIVE ARTS · DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ARTS

MEYRIC R. ROGERS, *Curator*

December 31, 1952

Mr. Albert M. Sack
5 East 57th Street
New York 22, New York

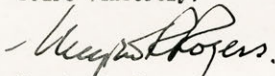
Dear Mr. Sack:

The record of your father's career during the last half century should be of great interest to every collector of Americana.

My own acquaintance with him began some 25 years ago when he furnished most of the material for the small group of American rooms in the City Art Museum of St. Louis. When I started to develop the field of Americana here at the Institute I naturally turned to him for aid. At his urgency we sometimes tried the apparently impossible -- the purchase of the Behrend collection for example, but as in this case luck was often with us. While we perhaps do not always see eye to eye, my regard and respect for him as a man and dealer has steadily grown. Tireless in pursuit of business he nevertheless to my knowledge has never betrayed his dominant love of the genuine and fine in American antiques and the obligations it involves.

I am happy to pay this small tribute to him and wish your project all success.

Yours sincerely,


Meyric R. Rogers

MRR:bv

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO



Philadelphia highboy with companion lowboy, circa 1760.



Massachusetts block front secretary, circa 1760.

In the city of Chicago, as in many other parts of the country, the museums were endowed with large sums for ancient art, paintings, sculpture, etc. but little or nothing for American craftsmanship. Meyric Rogers recognized the greatness of our American culture and battled almost alone with enthusiasm and persuasion to acquire a fine American Wing. When Mrs. Behrend decided to sell her collection of Pilgrim furniture and engaged Mr. Sack as her agent, he offered it to the Art Institute of Chicago. This priceless representation of the first hundred years of American civilization is now a permanent part of that museum, thanks to the vision and unwavering purpose of an exceptional curator.

Westbrook, Conn.

My dear Mr. Sack:-

Little did I realize when my dear mother and I wandered into your shop on Charles Street (over forty years ago) that you would play such a large part in bringing keen interest and joy into my life.

You have helped me in many ways and I want you to know that I appreciate your interest and I think you are as rare as the treasures you carry.

My best wishes are that your dear Albert will carry on in your footsteps.

Cordially yours

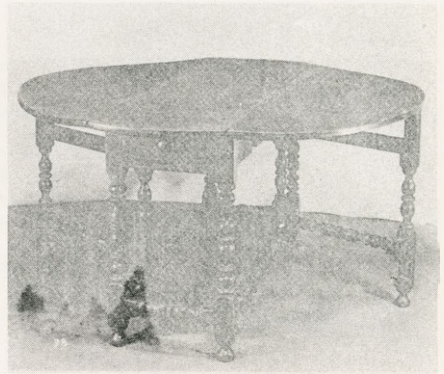
Mar. 17-1950

Alvin Sack *Wm. Sack* *Amelia*

THE KATHERINE PRENTIS MURPHY ROOMS N. Y. HISTORICAL SOCIETY



*Burl maple highboy from the
Revere-Little family, Boston circa
1710.*



*Maple gateleg dining table, New
England circa 1680.*

Mrs. Katherine Prentis Murphy has a spirit as indomitable as the early Pilgrims. She needed it to form this collection under great odds of ill health and limited circumstance. Her love and appreciation for these treasures prompted her to take them from her home and present them to the New York Historical Society, so that countless other Americans can learn to appreciate our early heritage. She not only gave the collection but planned its every detail, arranged it and corroborated the correctness of every item, so that a Pilgrim, if he walked into one of the rooms, would find nothing amiss. We consider her friendship a privilege — we and her many true friends are better for knowing her.

The rooms which Mrs. Murphy gave to the New York Historical Society are shown in *Antiques Magazine*, June, 1950 and October, 1950 issues.

FLYNT AND SULLY

COUNSELORS AT LAW

30 BROAD STREET, NEW YORK 4

HENRY NEEDHAM FLYNT
WILBERFORCE SULLY, JR.

CABLE ADDRESS
FLYSULAW, NEW YORK

July 8, 1953

Mr. Israel Sack
5 East 57th Street
New York 22, New York

Dear Mr. Sack:

Your son Albert is to be congratulated on his idea of compiling a booklet showing you how people appreciate your devotion to and great work in things of American Antiquarian interest.

When Mrs. Flynt and I started a few years ago to carry on the work of restoring Deerfield and bringing it back to its great glory of the eighteenth century, as a tribute to our ancestors and also the brave people who had shown what the American heritage really is, I was delighted to find and appreciate that you recalled my Father. To me Father was one of the most delightful men imaginable and a real true lover of fine American things. I deeply regret that when he died I had not then begun to appreciate the beauty and joy of American antiques. You helped kindle this fire and it's still raging.

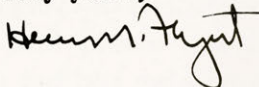
Mrs. Flynt and I value your friendship, your advice and the privilege of seeing the many fine things which you call to our attention. I only wish that I were able to buy more of the items which you have pointed out as being real masterpieces, but those which I have been able to purchase from you stand out as some of the high spots in our collection.

I am sorry that you have not been up to Deerfield enough to see whether we have placed our purchases in the most advantageous spots. Hundreds of people go to the beautiful town of Deerfield each month and the things displayed must do justice to the great craftsmen of the eighteenth century and to you who have done so much to make the American public realize what you have realized for half a century.

Your zeal, your enthusiasm and your continued trips here and there are bound to be inspiring.

Here's good wishes and good hunting for the years to come.

Sincerely yours,



HNF:DTR

DEERFIELD VILLAGE, DEERFIELD, MASS.



Cherry secretary made for Governor Caleb Strong by Aaron Chapin, circa 1770.



Serpentine front small bureau, New England circa 1770.

One of the most remarkable and valuable restorations is the restoration of the early settlement at Deerfield, Mass. conceived and accomplished by Mr. Henry Flynt. This pioneer village was the scene of an early Indian massacre, later growing into a flourishing community in the early 18th century. Mr. Flynt not only restored the early buildings but furnished them with appropriate antiques, a vast, difficult and successful project. No place can portray the spirit and character of our early Pilgrims as well as Deerfield Village. Mr. Flynt's book "Frontiers of Freedom" I consider one of the best representations of our American adventures.

ROBERT H. TANNAHILL
22 LEE GATE
GROSSE POINTE FARMS 30, MICHIGAN

Jan. 20, 1953.

Mr. Israel Sacks,
5 East 57th Street,
New York 22, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Sacks,

For over twenty-five years
we have worked together building up
the American Colonial section of the Detroit
Institute of Arts. For me it has been
a very happy and profitable association,
which I hope we shall be able to
continue for the rest of our lives. You
have always been helpful and considerate
in all matters concerning the Museum,
and I am delighted to take this
opportunity of formally expressing my
appreciation of your efforts.

With kindest regards

Very Sincerely,

Robert H. Tannahill

THE DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS



Block front chest-on-chest made for Mary Hidden, Marblehead, Mass., circa 1774.



Chippendale lowboy, Philadelphia circa 1770.

In 1926, when the Detroit Art Institute desired to install an American Wing, they called on Mr. Sack. Mr. Robert Tannahill, director, explained to Israel Sack that they would like a fine representative collection but had no funds allocated for American furniture. Mr. Sack offered to furnish the museum in its entirety and leave the pieces there for one year without charge or obligation with the anticipation that donors would be found. This was done and the result was that not one piece was returned.

H. F. DU PONT
WINTERTHUR, DELAWARE

February 22nd, 1953.

Dear Mr. Sack:

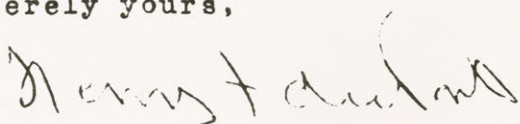
When I was in college in 1901-'02-'03, I remember going into your shop many times and I know I did get some pieces of Dutch Delft from you then. Unfortunately I did not start collecting my American furniture until some twenty years later and there is no telling how much better a collection I might have had if I had started with you at that time. However, for the past thirty years I have appreciated very much the many pieces of furniture you brought to my attention, all of which, unfortunately, I was unable to purchase, but the ones I did get were outstanding and will give pleasure to countless people through the ages.

One of my favorites is the little Queen Anne mixing table with its dish top of grey marble and candleslides at each end. That piece, you may remember, you telephoned me about during the height of the depression and when I said I was out of the market you answered: "I shall bring it down in my car immediately". Needless to say, the minute I saw it, it was a "must".

I am so glad that your son is writing a tribute to your outstanding service to all those who have been collecting antiques for the last fifty years and I wish to add my grateful appreciation.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Israel Sack,
5 East 57th Street,
New York 22, N. Y.



THE HENRY F. DUPONT WINTERTHUR MUSEUM



*Marble top tea table, New York
circa 1740. (Referred to in Mr.
DuPont's letter.)*



*Block front lowboy, New Eng-
land circa 1750.*

The Henry F. du Pont Winterthur Museum is probably the finest and most complete representation of a culture in the world. Over ninety 17th, 18th and 19th century American rooms are furnished down to the last detail in contemporary furniture and accessories. Each item, from the smallest candlestand to the Van Pelt highboy is supreme in its own right. This achievement required a broad conception of the final goal, an amazing memory of infinite details and forms, and faith in the significance of the early American culture. No man living can measure the importance of this contribution, but it is timely to show what free men, unhampered by oppressive governments, have created. Those many Americans who apologize for our primitive background and believe that we must look to Europe when we speak of culture had better visit the Du Pont Museum. They are in for a rude awakening.



William Clay Ford, President
A. K. Mills, Executive Director

The Henry Ford Museum AND Greenfield Village

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

January 8, 1953

Mr. Israel Sack
5 East 57th Street
New York 22, New York

Dear Mr. Sack:

Your son has informed me of the booklet he is compiling entitled "A Record of Service, 1903-1953" in tribute to your 50 years in the antique business. It gives me great pleasure, therefore, to add all my sincere good wishes and congratulations on this long period of fine service which you have rendered to the antique business.

During the last few years that I have been connected with the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, I have noted the large percentage of fine material in the Museum which was acquired by Mr. Ford through your services, and I know that you value this service performed for this institution greatly.

To me, however, the outstanding fact in your career has been that you came to this country as a poor immigrant boy and acquired during the last 50 years a very wonderful understanding and appreciation of the spirit that produced America. This I know, of course, has been duplicated many times over by others, but certainly none has done it to a greater degree.

My very best wishes for many more years of the work that I know you love so much.

Most sincerely,

Hayward S. Ablewhite

Hayward S. Ablewhite
Chief Curator

HSA/s

THE HENRY FORD MUSEUM



The Mary Ball Washington highboy, New England circa 1710.



The Hannah Barnard court cupboard, New England circa 1680.

Henry Ford was a lover of Americana and had an especial interest in pieces that belonged to historical figures of the 17th and 18th centuries. Through the years during the formation of the extensive Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan, Mr. Sack obtained for him a number of examples superlative in their own right and with authentic association to notable Colonial figures. In 1923 when Mr. Ford purchased the Wayside Inn in Sudbury, Massachusetts, he engaged Israel Sack to furnish it. Mr. Sack obtained several examples which had belonged to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow along with appropriate examples of Pilgrim furniture.

February 1, 1953

MAXIM KAROLIK
BELLEVUE AVENUE
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

Dear Mr. Sack:-

I have heard from several "Antique" friends that 1953 is the year of your fiftieth anniversary in your profession. I want to join the chorus of praise and congratulations. . . .

Personally, I take this opportunity to thank you anew for the role you played in the formation of the M. and M. Karolik Collection of 18th Century American Arts.

You were among the very few dealers who helped the select few among collectors to raise american furniture from the antiquarian level to the status of Art. During only the past generation have we witnessed that even Art Museums realized this fact and built wings to house american furniture.

I extend to you my good wishes for many more active and useful years. I am sure that your enthusiasm for American Antiques will keep you from becoming an antique american.

As always, sincerely yours,

Maxim Karolik

THE M. & M. KAROLIK COLLECTION
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON



Philadelphia highboy from the Potter family, circa 1770. One of the supreme creations of the Philadelphia Chippendale school.



Block front kneehole desk labelled Edmund Townsend, Newport, R. I., circa 1770.

The Karolik Collection in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts is second to none in the quality and artistic expression of Early American craftsmanship. Mr. Karolik was not primarily interested in rarity or historical association but chose only those pieces for the Collection which excelled in creative genius, superlative craftsmanship, and a fine state of preservation. He wisely corroborated his sound aesthetic judgment with the able advice of Edwin Hipkiss, Curator of the Boston Museum, in making his selections. The study of our Colonial culture is too new to evaluate the importance of this collection. Time alone will prove its greatness.

Westbrook, Conn.

My dear Mr. Sack:-

Little did I realize when my dear mother and I wandered into your shop on Charles Street (over forty years ago) that you would play such a large part in bringing keen interest and joy into my life.

You have helped me in many ways and I want you to know that I appreciate your interest and I think you are as rare as the treasures you carry.

My best wishes are that your dear Albert will carry on in your footsteps.

Cordially yours

Mar. 17-1950

Miss M. Sack *with Mrs. Sack*

THE KATHERINE PRENTIS MURPHY ROOMS N. Y. HISTORICAL SOCIETY



*Burl maple highboy from the
Revere-Little family, Boston circa
1710.*



*Maple gateleg dining table, New
England circa 1680.*

Mrs. Katherine Prentis Murphy has a spirit as indomitable as the early Pilgrims. She needed it to form this collection under great odds of ill health and limited circumstance. Her love and appreciation for these treasures prompted her to take them from her home and present them to the New York Historical Society, so that countless other Americans can learn to appreciate our early heritage. She not only gave the collection but planned its every detail, arranged it and corroborated the correctness of every item, so that a Pilgrim, if he walked into one of the rooms, would find nothing amiss. We consider her friendship a privilege — we and her many true friends are better for knowing her.

The rooms which Mrs. Murphy gave to the New York Historical Society are shown in *Antiques Magazine*, June, 1950 and October, 1950 issues.

J. C. NICHOLS
HERBERT V. JONES
ROBERT B. CALDWELL

UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES
THE WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON TRUST
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

OFFICE OF
J. C. NICHOLS
310 WARD PARKWAY
KANSAS CITY 2, MISSOURI

October 1, 1948

Mr. Israel Sack
5 E. 57th
New York 22, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Sack:

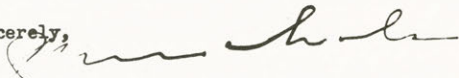
I was glad to get your letter of September 23. As you probably know, we are at present devoting our funds to medieval and European objects for our new installation in the west wing of the building which is nearly completed.

We simply do not have room for any more American furniture at this time. You did such a grand job for us many years ago that we have felt that field was fairly well covered for the present. Perhaps when we finish the west wing on the second floor there will be additional space available.

We well remember how fine you were to us in the early days, and are delighted with the things you got for us. In fact, nearly everything we have in your line came through your guidance.

Hoping we will be seeing you in Kansas City some of these days,
I am

Yours sincerely,



JCN:b

THE WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON GALLERY KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI



Interior of American room in the Nelson Gallery.

About twenty-five years ago, when Mr. Sack heard the William Rockhill Nelson Gallery was interested in an American Wing, he wasted no time in getting there. The late Mr. J. C. Nichols, trustee and the man who planned Kansas City asked Israel Sack why he should get the job. Mr. Sack replied "Because there is only one right way to do it and I know the way."

Mr. Sack obtained the exceptional panelling illustrated, which came from General Gage's headquarters in Danvers, as well as most of the American furniture in this museum.

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

"I believe that the best American antiques were made by the finest craftsmen for the foremost Colonists of the 17th and 18th centuries. I have nothing against ordinary antiques — only they don't interest me." This has been the simple creed of Israel Sack during the past fifty years. It is because of his concentration of purpose, his devotion to integrity, and his ability to project his faith in the American classics to intelligent people, that so many outstanding collections are the result of his stimulation and direction.

His mission has always encountered considerable odds. For some strange reason the majority of Americans have always minimized our cultural heritage and have looked with envying eyes at European creations. I say it is strange because the best English and French creations reflect the pomp and circumstance of the nobility of that era, the very thing which our ancestors came to this country to avoid. Yet, to an exaggerated degree for the first few decades of this century the families who had inherited these great treasures of American craftsmanship were disposing of them for nominal sums and replacing them with English and French antiques or pseudoantiques. And there were very few people with vision enough to acquire these pieces.

In the Krim sale in 1903 a Philadelphia chair, which has since brought \$7500, sold for \$150.

This was the picture when my father began dealing in American antiques in Boston in 1903. He was once asked why he only dealt in American antiques. He replied, "When I came to this country I went native."

Among the influential Americans those who have gone native have always been a small minority. This ever growing minority has reaped unexpected dividends over the years. They have enjoyed living with the unpretentious beauty, the simple dignity and the individual charm of our best furniture. The principles which have made our country great live in our 17th and 18th century creations and have enriched the lives of those who can appreciate them. And to those who, for one reason or another, have had to dispose of some or all of their genuine pieces, the financial gain has been phenomenal. The record of values for the authentic American furniture during this century can match the growth in almost any industry or commodity.

The compensation for Israel Sack has been equally great, not measured in the terms of money, but in the recognition of his many friends who benefited from his direction, knowledge and judgment. The letters which follow are all from outstanding collectors who have surrounded themselves with the best authentic antiques. The personal associations and friendships he has had with these and thousands of other mutual lovers of Americana, the respect and reputation for integrity which he has earned, and the knowledge that in contributing toward a better understanding of American antiques he has contributed toward a better appreciation of American traditions — all these are his reward.

RALPH E. CARPENTER, JR., C. L. U.
11 EAST 44TH STREET
NEW YORK

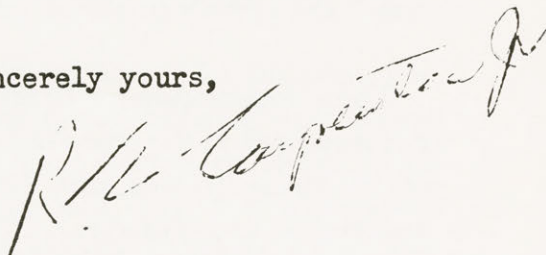
April 4, 1952

Dear Mr. Sack:

Because over the years your advice has helped me so much, and because of your assistance in assembling a collection of American furniture, I thought that you might be interested in having a set of the photographs which I have taken recently.

As I have often told you, your vast experience with collectors over more than fifty years has furnished me with the answers to a great many questions.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R. E. Carpenter, Jr.", written in dark ink.

Mr. Israel Sack
5 East 57th Street
New York, N. Y.

REC/B

HOME OF MR. AND MRS. RALPH E. CARPENTER, JR.



Interior of the living room in the Carpenter Home.

An antique dealer has a tendency to rate his customers as much as he rates the antiques. We rate Ralph E. Carpenter, Jr. as one of the most intelligent and successful young collectors. He applied his executive ability as a Pension Consultant in his approach to American antiques. By frequenting the better dealers, museums, and historic houses, constantly learning and slowly collecting with the limited funds at his disposal, he ultimately accumulated a choice collection. He then built a mid-18th century American colonial house using old materials and original panelled rooms. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter, illustrated in *Antiques Magazine*, June 1952, is a model of successful collecting and traditional atmosphere.

Remington



REMINGTON ARMS COMPANY, INC.

ARMS-AMMUNITION-TARGETS AND TRAPS

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

EXECUTIVE
OFFICES

CABLE ADDRESS
HARTLEY, BRIDGEPORT, CONN.
ALL CODES USED

January 20, 1953

Mr. Israel Sack
5 East 57th Street
New York 22, New York

Dear Mr. Sack:

I would like to extend to you my heartiest congratulations upon the unique and splendid service you have rendered during the past fifty years to those of us who love antiques.

As you know, I first became seriously interested in American antiques in 1935. I knew little about antiques but did know something of your reputation for honesty, integrity and fair dealing. So I came to your establishment on Madison Avenue, told you I would like to accumulate a small collection of outstanding American antiques and placed myself virtually in your hands -- an action I have never had cause to regret.

Over the past 18 years I have assembled a rather sizeable collection of American antique furniture and many pieces in other fields, including silverware, pewter, Lowestoft china, blue Staffordshire china and pottery, Currier and Ives prints, Durrie paintings, glassware, rugs and antique books. Also, quite a number of 18th Century items in brass, copper, wood and iron.

A large percentage of these pieces were purchased from you, and I have you to thank for guidance in my early days of collecting. In my opinion, you probably know more about American antique furniture than any person alive, and I am grateful for the knowledge I have gained from association with you. As a matter of possible interest to you, I am enclosing a few pictures of interiors, the pieces in which I am sure you will recognize. It has been a wonderful hobby and I thank you for the enjoyment you have added to it.

Our dealings have always been most pleasant, and I want to wish for you good health and happiness in the years ahead.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C. K. Davis".

C. K. Davis
President & General Manager

CKD:JV

HOME OF MR. AND MRS. CHARLES K. DAVIS



Interior of Davis living room with great American classics arranged in a warm, liveable fashion.

In 1936 Mr. C. K. Davis came into our shop and said he would like to furnish his home with fine Early American furniture. He told my brother Harold Sack he had studied Wallace Nutting's "Furniture Treasury" and found that the pieces he liked best belonged to Israel Sack. He decided to place himself in our hands and in the following six or seven years completed one of the notable private collections in the country. His love of simplicity and dignity in Early American furniture is reflected in his beautiful home in Fairfield, Connecticut. Every piece is used in every day living and while each item is museum quality there is no exhibition feeling to the home. Mr. Davis told me recently that he finds great relaxation from his busy schedule as President of the Remington Arms Co. by the companionship of these creations.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Davis is illustrated in *Antiques Magazine*, January 1941.

C. RAY FRANKLIN, M. D.
10 EAST 90TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

January 5 - 1953

Dear Mr. Sach:

More than a quarter of a century ago
your advice and counsel kindled and
inspired a love for American Antiques.

My collection of Americana is ad-
mittedly modest, but I find a
full measure of pleasure and satisfac-
tion in thanking you for the con-
tribution you have made to my col-
lection - without your help I never
could have owned it.

Wherever I turn in my home I
see an antique that makes
me increasingly grateful to
you: Then, with kindest personal
greetings,

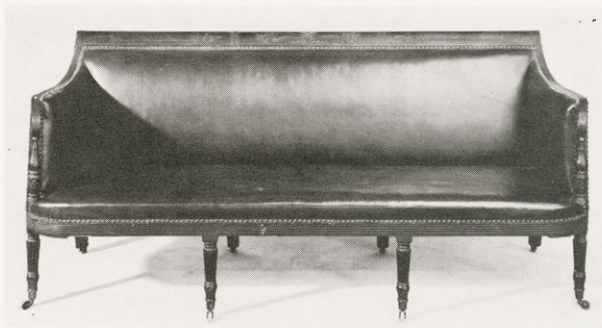
I am,

Gratefully yours

C. Ray Franklin

HOME OF DR. AND MRS. C. RAY FRANKLIN

Philadelphia highboy with sunflower carving, circa 1760. From the Geo. S. Palmer collection.



Duncan Phyfe sofa from the DeWitt Clinton family, circa 1800.

Dr. Franklin's passion for Early American antiques is shared by his wife. Their quest for a well rounded collection has been unceasing since the flame was kindled in Boston — years ago. Their home is filled from cellar to attic with an outstanding collection, the finest cabinet-makers of Philadelphia, Newport, Boston and other important schools of American craftsmanship being well represented.

WHITEHALL 3-5300

RODMAN & LINN
MEMBERS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE
44 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 5

CHICAGO OFFICE
209 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET

ROBERT LEE GILL
RESIDENT PARTNER

December 12, 1952

Mr. Israel Sack
Israel Sack Inc.
5 East 57th St.
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Sack:

I thought you would like a set of pictures taken by Antiques Magazine of my apartment. You will probably recognize most of the pieces as coming from your shop.

Without the assistance of you and Albert, I would never have been able to assemble this Collection. These pictures are only a small tribute to your ability and good taste.

Sincerely yours,



Robert Lee Gill

RLG:VLC

COLLECTION OF MR. AND MRS. ROBERT L. GILL



Interior of the Gill apartment.

The arrangement and blending of antiques to their surroundings is as important as the quality of the individual items. The adaptability of American antiques in a modern setting is admirably demonstrated in the Gill home. Their apartment in New York City is tastefully furnished with American antiques of high quality and individuality, yet well suited to the needs of present day gracious living.

R. M. HANSEN
907 PARK LANE
GROSSE POINTE 30, MICHIGAN

January 5, 1953.

Mr. Israel Sack,
5 East 57th St.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Sack:

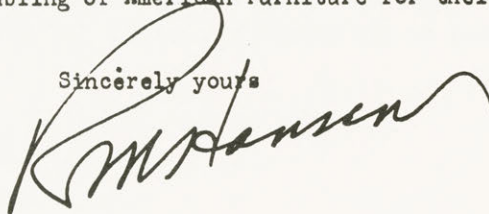
As one of the more recent collectors of American Period furniture I wish to express to you at this time, the culmination of 50 years of Service in your field, my sincere appreciation for the great and invaluable assistance you have given me in assembling our collection.

At the time we started to collect, fine things were becoming increasingly scarce but you impressed upon me then, that in the final analysis the best and seemingly more costly furniture was actually the least expensive. You also convinced me that it was far better to rely upon the judgement, experience and integrity of nationally recognized dealers in American Period furniture in locating items of quality rather than to try to "find" these items in out of the way places. I have tried to follow this early and sound advice of yours without deviation and feel well rewarded in having done so as we have now gathered a collection that has given Mrs. Hansen and myself a tremendous amount of pleasure, as well as having a considerably enhanced value, another thing you assured me in our earlier conversations on the subject.

I am very happy to remind you at this time, that our collection holds a great number of Sack "American Classics" and you may be sure that it has always been a source of great and satisfying pleasure to deal with you. I am proud to say that I am a good customer, but more especially, a good friend, of Israel Sack.

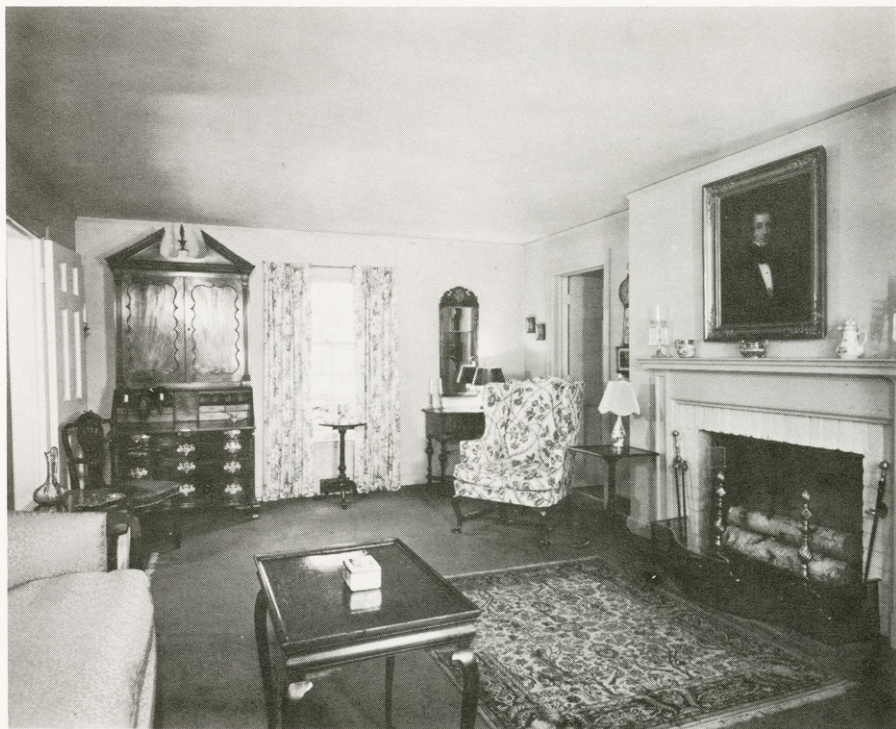
I sincerely trust that you will be permitted many more years of Service to your friends who have an interest in your lifes work, the assembling of American Furniture for their profit and pleasure.

Sincerely yours



RMH/ld

HOME OF MR. AND MRS. RAY HANSEN



Interior of living room in the Hansen home with fine pieces of early and late 18th century American origin successfully combined.

The misapprehension that, in assembling a collection of fine antiques, a home tends to have a museum atmosphere has discouraged many potential collectors. But the warmth, simplicity, durability, and functional qualities of American antiques lend themselves admirably to the present day home as the Hansen collection well illustrates. While the pieces they acquired from Israel Sack were of the highest caliber, they were selected to fill the various needs required and to blend harmoniously in their setting. A portion of the Hansen home is illustrated in *Antiques Magazine* for December 1948.

Vulcan Forging Company

3900 Wyoming Ave., at. M.C.R.R.

Dearborn, Michigan

July
22
1953



Mr. Israel Sack
5 East 57th. St.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Sack:

When one enters the court yard at Versailles he is immediately impressed with the sanctity and the graceful creative arrangement reflecting the spirit of the glorious 18th century and the classics of that era. Were it not for King Louis - Phillippe who rescued Versailles from neglect and decay in 1830, it would not be there to-day as evidence of his dedicating it "To All the Glories of France".

While we are not as old as France and do not have such an historic counterpart as Versailles, we do have "All the Glories that are America" and an awakening appreciation of our own pioneer creative spirit as well as examples of our own classics also developed in the 18th century.

It is perhaps providential, that we too have our own "King Louis - Phillippes" who have not been unmindful of our past glories and accomplishments. They have given of themselves to point out and preserve for our future generations, the classics that are of our own creation as distinctive as is our way of life compared to that of the old world.

You, Mr. Sack in this your 50th year in Americana, belong in that category of those who thru research, education and service have helped to preserve from neglect and decay those forgotten items and nostalgic memories that are a part of the glory that is America.

Mrs. Meyer joins me in congratulating you on this anniversary of your long service and appreciate the direction and guidance both you and Mr. Pavey have given us in the selection of those genuine items we have been able to acquire.

Cordially,

A.H. Meyer

AHM:mdp

THE HOME OF MR. AND MRS. A. H. MEYER



Block front secretary made by Benjamin Frothingham, Charlestown, Massachusetts, circa 1760.



Upholstered armchair which descended in the Wharton family of Philadelphia, circa 1760.

Having begun to collect less than 10 years ago, the Meyers have shown it is still possible to acquire the finest Colonial furniture if one uses the right approach. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer are unpretentious people who live in an unpretentious home. Yet every room is tastefully furnished with masterpieces of 17th and 18th century American furniture and each piece, from the superb Philadelphia piecrust table to the Paul Revere silver is in daily use.

E. ROSS MILLHISER
R. F. D. 9
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

July 25, 1953

Mr. Albert Sack
5 East 57th Street
New York 22, N. Y.

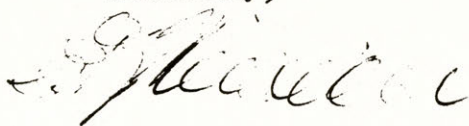
Dear Albert:

The brochure you are preparing will afford your father's many friends a very much desired opportunity to join you in expressing their admiration for him and their appreciation of the interest he has awakened in American antiques during the fifty years he has devoted to our early art and culture.

I hope we may all continue to have, for a long time to come, his interest and knowledge as well as the pleasure of his friendship.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,



THE HOME OF MR. AND MRS. E. ROSS MILLHISER



Philadelphia lowboy with exceptional carved shell and pierced brasses, circa 1760.



Queen Anne wingchair together with six matching sidechairs, Newport, R. I., circa 1740.

Those who truly appreciate Americana love its integrity, its simple dignity and unpretentiousness. The fine Colonial home of the Millhisers, with its choice early American furniture reflects these qualities. Many items throughout the house are supreme in their class, yet blend in with the surrounding to reflect the character of 18th century America at its best.

CORNELIUS C. MOORE

SALVATORE L. VIRGADAMO
FREDERICK W. FAERBER, JR.

LAW OFFICES
CORNELIUS C. MOORE
179 THAMES STREET
NEWPORT, R. I.

TELEPHONE
NEWPORT 120
AND 121

July Thirtieth
Nineteen Hundred and Fifty Three

Mr. Isral Sack
5 East 57th Street
New York 22, New York

Dear Mr. Sack:

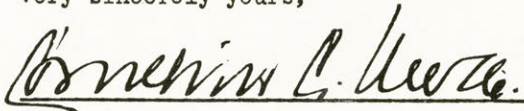
I was very happy to hear of Albert's plan for the observance of the Fiftieth anniversary of your activity in early Americana.

I look back to the day of our first meeting at the Parke-Bernet Galleries and you, no doubt, will recall it was the day I purchased the Holmes-Weaver clock, which was in the Duncan Hazard collection. It was, as you know, a real joy for me to be able to bring the clock back to Newport. Prior to that time I had commenced my collection of early Americana, but since then, I have had, I am happy to say, your valued assistance and association. You have helped me immeasurably, and I am indebted to you for the joy and happiness which each day I have living with my collection. I look forward to our continued association and your assistance. I will in the future, as I have in the past, call on you for your advice in the selection of further items for my collection.

Many, many years of happiness I wish you, and continued success in your efforts to preserve American culture of the eighteenth Century.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,



CCM:rs

HOME OF MR. C. C. MOORE



Hepplewhite chair signed Stephen Badlam, master carver of Boston circa 1780.



Block front desk with blocked lid which admirably shows the bold character of Massachusetts artisanship, circa 1770.

Mr. Moore had the foresight to accumulate, under Mr. Sack's guidance, a fine collection of Newport silver and several fine specimens of Newport furniture before such items became virtually unobtainable. He has also taken time from his busy law practice to furnish his Newport home with choice specimens of New England masterpieces.

STANLEY STONE

411 EAST MASON ST.
MILWAUKEE 2, WIS.

August 17, 1953.

Mr. Albert M. Sack,
5 East 57th Street,
New York 22, N. Y.

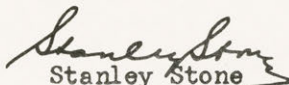
Dear Albert:

Although Mrs. Stone and I can be considered neophytes as collectors of American antiques, our first experience being but seven and one-half years ago, I can say that if we had not met up with Israel Sack by merest chance, we would not have been steered into one of the most satisfying experiences of our lives.

Your father has had a wonderful life. Time and again he shows by his acts and statements that an infinite pleasure can be gained by being a moving spirit in a fascinating pastime that has increased in importance during his fifty years connection with it. His name is a byword all over the land where collectors gather, and his influence permeates the homes and lives of many of us who have become eager students of the best in the arts and decoration of our country. The pride of America's heritage in these expressions of our early culture has been made even more important to us because of hours spent with him in our homes as well as in his shop.

His spirit is unquenchable and his long connection with Americana provides a background from which we draw a wealth of knowledge. Long may he be here to exert this influence over all who have known and will honor him through the years.

Sincerely yours,


Stanley Stone

SS:ASB

HOME OF MR. AND MRS. STANLEY STONE



Queen Anne walnut lowboy with finely carved center shell, Rhode Island circa 1740.



A masterpiece by David Wood, Newburyport, Mass., circa 1790. The pewter fretwork and center door add to its distinction.

When Mr. Stone wandered into our shop seven years ago he was looking for an English kneehole desk. His discriminating eye quickly perceived the beauty of our Colonial craftsmanship and thus began the formation of one of America's best private collections.

Mr. Stone from the beginning demanded and obtained only the finest specimens of each type. Recently Mr. and Mrs. Stone have built a fine Colonial home to more appropriately house their early American treasures.

WHITEHALL 3-5300

RODMAN & LINN
MEMBERS NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE
44 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 5

CHICAGO OFFICE
209 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET

ROBERT LEE GILL
RESIDENT PARTNER

December 12, 1952

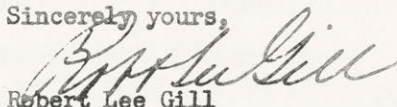
Mr. Israel Sack
Israel Sack Inc.
5 East 57th St.
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Sack:

I thought you would like a set of pictures taken by Antiques Magazine of my apartment. You will probably recognize most of the pieces as coming from your shop.

Without the assistance of you and Albert, I would never have been able to assemble this Collection. These pictures are only a small tribute to your ability and good taste.

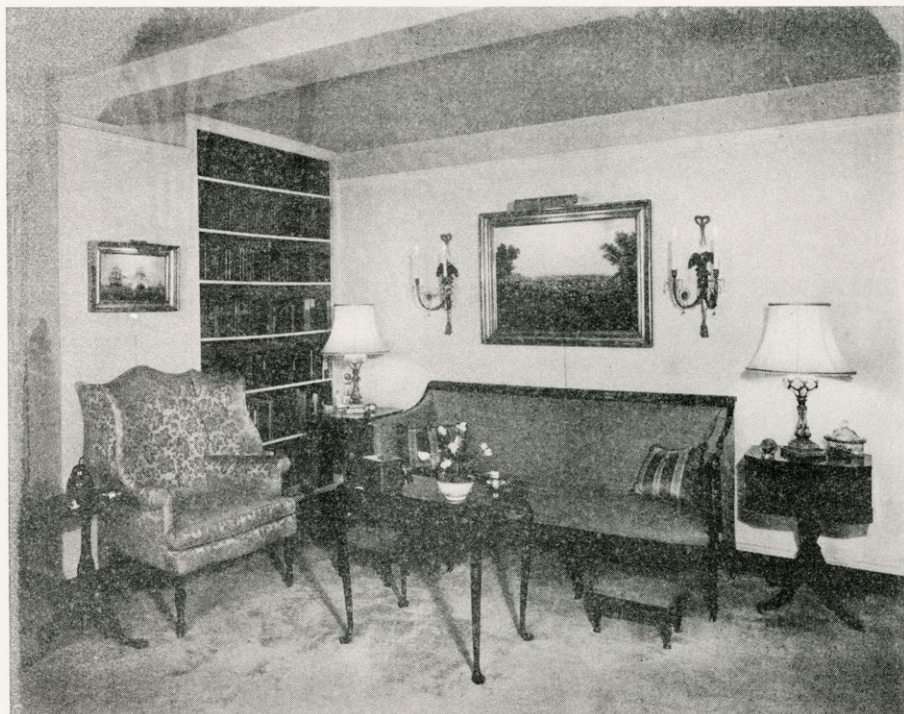
Sincerely yours,



Robert Lee Gill

RLG:VLC

COLLECTION OF MR. AND MRS. ROBERT L. GILL



Interior of the Gill apartment.

The arrangement and blending of antiques to their surroundings is as important as the quality of the individual items. The adaptability of American antiques in a modern setting is admirably demonstrated in the Gill home. Their apartment in New York City is tastefully furnished with American antiques of high quality and individuality, yet well suited to the needs of present day gracious living.

PRESIDENT
STEPHEN B. LUCE
VICE-PRESIDENT
ARTHUR S. DEWING
TREASURER
GUY W. WALKER, JR.
RECORDING SECRETARY
SUMNER APPLETON WELD



LIBRARIAN
BUCHANAN CHARLES
DIRECTOR OF MUSEUM
RUSSELL H. KETTELL
DIRECTOR AND
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
BERTRAM K. LITTLE

HARRISON GRAY OTIS HOUSE
141 CAMBRIDGE STREET, BOSTON 14, MASSACHUSETTS
TELEPHONES CAPITOL 7-3088, 7-3857, 7-3080

A PRIVATE CORPORATION OF A CHARITABLE NATURE, CREATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING AND
PRESERVING FOR POSTERITY BUILDINGS, PLACES AND OBJECTS OF HISTORICAL AND OTHER INTEREST
FOUNDED BY WILLIAM SUMNER APPLETON

April 8, 1953

Dear Mr. Sack:

It hardly seems possible that it was nearly fifty years ago that as a small boy I used to go into your store on Charles Street with my father, and that a whole half century has gone by since you started in the business of American Antiques. My heartiest congratulations.

My father and step-mother were keenly interested in antiques and it occupied a good part of their conversation, and I used to listen to many dissertations on past, present and contemplated purchases, and about the purchases made by Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Prouty, my uncle and aunt, as there was considerable rivalry between the two families in their collecting. In the course of these conversations your name was continually coming up and it didn't take me very long to realize that you were a leader in your field.

It is not surprising, therefore, that many years later, when I first felt that I could afford to collect on my own account, that I went directly to you in New York, and that since then most of my purchases have been made either from or through you.

I think that the pieces I have purchased from you stand out for their good condition and original state and very often for something a little extra or out of the ordinary in design or craftsmanship, which is always so pleasing to the collector, and which pieces, due to your knowledge and perception, you have been so successful in obtaining.

I hope we may have the advantage of your knowledge and experience for many years to come.

Sincerely yours,

Guy W. Walker, Jr.

Mr. Israel Sack
5 East 57th Street
New York, N. Y.

HOME OF MR. AND MRS. GUY W. WALKER



Chippendale highboy with the open claw and ball feet by John Goddard, Newport, R. I., circa 1760.



William and Mary lowboy with branch walnut veneer, New England circa 1710.

About 10 years ago, a Colonel in the U. S. Army walked into Israel Sack's shop and introduced himself as Guy Walker's son. Mr. Sack remembered the small boy and wonderful antiques which he had sold to his father in Boston. He asked Colonel Walker if he wished to sell any of these pieces. The Colonel replied, "On the contrary, I want to buy more." Since then he has formed an outstanding collection of his own. He also devotes much time from his busy schedule to the development of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, of which he is the Treasurer.



REMINGTON ARMS COMPANY, INC.

ARMS-AMMUNITION-TARGETS AND TRAPS
BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

EXECUTIVE
OFFICES

CABLE ADDRESS
HARTLEY, BRIDGEPORT, CONN.
ALL CODES USED

January 20, 1953

Mr. Israel Sack
5 East 57th Street
New York 22, New York

Dear Mr. Sack:

I would like to extend to you my heartiest congratulations upon the unique and splendid service you have rendered during the past fifty years to those of us who love antiques.

As you know, I first became seriously interested in American antiques in 1935. I knew little about antiques but did know something of your reputation for honesty, integrity and fair dealing. So I came to your establishment on Madison Avenue, told you I would like to accumulate a small collection of outstanding American antiques and placed myself virtually in your hands -- an action I have never had cause to regret.

Over the past 18 years I have assembled a rather sizeable collection of American antique furniture and many pieces in other fields, including silverware, pewter, Lowestoft china, blue Staffordshire china and pottery, Currier and Ives prints, Duffie paintings, glassware, rugs and antique books. Also, quite a number of 18th Century items in brass, copper, wood and iron.

A large percentage of these pieces were purchased from you, and I have you to thank for guidance in my early days of collecting. In my opinion, you probably know more about American antique furniture than any person alive, and I am grateful for the knowledge I have gained from association with you. As a matter of possible interest to you, I am enclosing a few pictures of interiors, the pieces in which I am sure you will recognize. It has been a wonderful hobby and I thank you for the enjoyment you have added to it.

Our dealings have always been most pleasant, and I want to wish for you good health and happiness in the years ahead.

Cordially,

C. K. Davis
President & General Manager

CKD:JV

HOME OF MR. AND MRS. CHARLES K. DAVIS



Interior of Davis living room with great American classics arranged in a warm, liveable fashion.

In 1936 Mr. C. K. Davis came into our shop and said he would like to furnish his home with fine Early American furniture. He told my brother Harold Sack he had studied Wallace Nutting's "Furniture Treasury" and found that the pieces he liked best belonged to Israel Sack. He decided to place himself in our hands and in the following six or seven years completed one of the notable private collections in the country. His love of simplicity and dignity in Early American furniture is reflected in his beautiful home in Fairfield, Connecticut. Every piece is used in every day living and while each item is museum quality there is no exhibition feeling to the home. Mr. Davis told me recently that he finds great relaxation from his busy schedule as President of the Remington Arms Co. by the companionship of these creations.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Davis is illustrated in Antiques Magazine, January 1941.

In 1903, the future of the value and recognition of American antiques was by no means assured. It is today. The many fine museums and private collections, the restorations and historic houses, the books and articles on the subject have all helped to awaken the American people to the importance of our cultural contributions.

It is true that the prices of fine genuine antiques are vastly greater than in the early days of collecting. But the record has shown that the outstanding items have increased in value and maintained their level during periods of depression far more than mediocre examples. Everyone cannot form collections to the extent of those contained in this booklet. But to future collectors large and small, the experience of Israel Sack has shown that, while there are thousands of ways to collect wrongly, there is only one way to collect properly — that is to acquire items of high caliber according to the limits of one's income.

Mr. Du Pont once said to my father: "Mr. Sack, just think of the advantages I would have had if I had begun collecting 18 years ago." Mr. Sack replied "True Mr. Du Pont, but think of the collectors who will start 18 years from now."

