

# Lancaster Farming *Antiques Center*

## Collectors Intrigued With Rustic Cabin Collectibles

ANNE GILBERT

Proof that "everything old is new again" is the revived interest in rustic furniture and items related to log cabins, camps, and lodges.

Escape from city heat and stress to a cabin in the cool woods or mountains became popular in America in the late 19th century. It began when America's new millionaires discovered the joys of rural simplicity, albeit on a grandiose scale. For their camps and hunting lodges in the Adirondacks they bought hundreds of pieces of hickory chairs with woven bark seats, tables with branch legs, made to order by the Old Hickory Furniture Company in Indiana. For the middle classes, it was only used as garden furniture.

While Old Hickory Furniture is the best known maker of rustic hickory furniture, rustic pieces were made of local woods in other sections of the country. In the South for instance, roots and branches of both mountain laurel bushes and rhododendron were used. Some North Carolina pieces have been found that at first glance look like a form of tramp art decorated with carved and chipped laurel roots, often in elaborate designs.

Most individual craftsmen who made rustic pieces are unknown. An exception, was Ben Davis of Mars Hill, North Carolina, an itinerant preacher, who worked in the 1920s-1930s. His sideboards and cupboards with chip-carved split root and twig decorations are worth hunting for.

Today, small collections of miniature and doll-size rustic furniture are a favorite decorative accessory.

Over the years, the rustic style filtered down into the early 20th century summer cabins of the middle class. After World War II, interest in spending summers in the mountains or at the lake declined. Instead trips to Europe and other far away places became the new escape.

Aluminum furniture replaced rustic porch furniture. Now, once again, not only are people looking with nostalgia at log cabin summers, but at building log cabins and collecting the variety of items that went with them. In fact, often with the help of decorators, they use such

unlikely objects as canoes and Adirondack pack baskets to decorate homes and offices.

"Log Spirit," written by Linda Arms White, details with photographs the many types of log homes built, their history, and how they are decorated.

Clues: Since this is a relatively new collecting category, there are still examples waiting to be found. Along with rustic furniture, the use of old canoes as book shelves, became popular several years ago. I first became aware of them at the Metrolina outdoor antiques center outside of Charlotte, North Carolina. Prices for fine birch canoes were a couple of hundred dollars. Today, prices top at more than \$1,000. Painted canoe paddles, often with nature scenes finely done, caught my eye. I should have bought one then, for my mountain home. Now they are rarities. When found in outdoor antique shows, the paintings are sometimes newly done and artificially aged.

In a fascinating new book on

the subject, "Cabin Collectibles," author Ralph Kylloe, who has decorated rustic homes and commercial buildings, offers ideas not only on what is collectible, but how it can be used to accessorize homes and vacation cabins.

Consider the paddle yet another art form. Like folk art paintings, some are collected for their decorations. Well-known 19th century artist A.F. Tate, known for his primitive style paintings of deer and woods, also painted scenes on paddles and gave them to friends as gifts.

Another other paddle painter, Al Keech is known for his scenic paintings on small, paddles made for tourists who visited the Adirondack region.

According to Kylloe, Keech

painted paddles are not signed, but collectors recognize his style.

While there are many examples of painted paddles in museums, early examples can still turn up anywhere.

Another type of paddle decoration

are those done as summer camp projects by children.



### Notice!!!

#### New Year Holiday Schedule

Auctioneers...Please Mail or Fax Public Sale Copy Early!

#### DEADLINE

FARM SHOW - Fri., Dec. 29, 2000 - 5:00 p.m.

Fax No. (717) 733-6058

## PUBLIC AUCTION

JOHN M. HESS

AUCTION SERVICE, INC.

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE,

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

SPRECHER'S HARDWARE

SAT., JAN. 20, 2001

Antiques & Collectibles - 9:00 AM

Real Estate - 12:00 Noon

Location: 24 East Main Street, Ephrata, PA 17552.

**Real Estate: (12:00 Noon)** Building is located in the heart of Ephrata and has great retail possibilities and plenty of historic charm! Approximately 9,500 sq. ft. of heated retail space on two floors. Other features include approximately 4,750 sq. ft. of heated basement storage and approximately 9,000 s. ft. of warehouse space, oil fired heat, city sewer and water, adjacent to several public parking lots. Retail area is also equipped with large glass display windows and an inspected and operational elevator. This property has limitless possibilities and provides an excellent opportunity for anyone who wishes to open or expand their business.

**Antiques & Collectibles: (9:00 AM)** Large wooden bolt and screw display, large tin Sprecher's Hardware sign, early Seth Thomas wall clock, lots of tin and other advertising signs and posters, large metal revolving nail bin, early store ledgers, great selection of early literature, tin smith equipment, early hardware, large selection of ammo boxes, gun & rifle literature, tin items made by Cyrus Moehler, original front door of Sprecher's Hardware, lots of raised paneled doors & shutters. This is a very early listing - full ad will follow.

**Real Estate Terms and Conditions:** 10% Down on day of sale. Balance at settlement on or before 45 days. Real Estate sold as-is. Any announcements made on the day of sale take precedence over any advertised information.

**Open House:** By appointment only! Call 717-733-8192. See our website at [www.hess-auction.com](http://www.hess-auction.com) for more details.

Auction for:

**SPRECHER'S HARDWARE**

Attorney: Kenelm Shirk III, Ephrata, PA

For more information call John:

Auction House 717-733-8192

Home 717-664-5238

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AUCTION SERVICE INC.

## "Horst Auction Center"

### PUBLIC SALE

ANTIQUES, PRIMITIVES  
QUILTS, COLLECTIBLES

HOUSEHOLD GOODS  
& TOOLS

WED., JAN. 3, 2001

AT 2:00 P.M.

Sale to be held at the Horst Auction Center, located at the corner of Rt. 322 & Durlach Rd. (approx. 2 1/2 miles west of Ephrata) Ephrata, Lancaster County, PA

**FURNITURE:** (2) Grained Jelly Cupboards, Fine Decorated Blanket Chests; Wood Chest (Red); Rope Cradle (Red); Sheraton Drop Leaf Table (Red); Pin Top Tavern Table; Dough Tray; Painted Rocking Horse; Paint Decorated Chairs; **Empire** - Slant Front Desk; Chest Of Drawers; Parlor Suite; Marble Top Sideboard; Shelf Clock; **Victorian** - Eastlake Marble Dresser; Wicker Baby Coach; **Antique Oak** - (2) **Fine 3 Pc. Bedroom Suites** (w/Highback Beds); Highback Sideboard; Rollback Bedroom Suite; Sq Ext Table (w/Claw Feet); High Chair; Floor Victrola; Cottage Dressers; Mahogany Cabinet; Depression Chiffonobe; Arch Trunk;

**CHINA & GLASSWARE:** Hist. Blue; Blue Wheat Cups & Saucers; Copper Lustre; Ironstone; Oriental China; Bluebird China; Yellowware Bowls; China Figural Clock; Store & Adv. Calendar Plates; Set Of Noritake China; Cowden Butter Crock; Pie Plates; Redware & Stoneware Crocks & Jugs; Decorated Stoneware; Bennington; Sponge Decorated Bowl; Bisque Figurines; Glass Candy Container; Shirley Temple Glass Pressed & Pattern Glass Depression Glass (Lg. Amount); Kerosene Lamps; Min. Gone With The Wind Lamp; Antique Bottles; Castor Set.

**LINENS:** **Fine Antique Quilts** (Jacobs Coat, Patchwork); Comforters; Crocheted Spread; Pin Cushion; Linen Towels; Homespun; Vintage Clothing; Antique Fabrics; Rag Carpet; Baskets; Antique Prints; Post Cards; Ephemera; Old Photos.

**PRIMITIVES:** Copper Apple butter Kettle; Cavalry Saddle; Sleigh Bells; Early Sled; Trump Art Box; Green Agate; Wood Egg Crate; Wood Buckets; Butterprints; Butter Mold; Paddle; Wooden Crates; Sausage Stuffer; Bar Scales; Bridge Lamp; Desk Lamp; Rayo Lamp; Lamp Parts; Lamp Shades; Antique Drink Fountain; Coffee Grinders; Adv. Tins; Peanut Butter Tins; Tin Lunch Boxes; Iron Skillets; Waffle Iron; **Fine Antique Mechanical Bank** (William Tell); Toy Wagon; Antique Tools and (Many Items In Boxes When Sale Was Listed, Come See What We Found).

**1998 Dodge Ram 1500 Pick-up Truck** (Matching Capper, V8 Engine, Auto., 52,000 Miles, Excellent.

No out of state checks without prior approval.

SALE FOR:

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## "Horst Auction Center"

### PUBLIC SALE

ANTIQUES, HOUSEHOLD  
GOOD, COLLECTIBLES,  
TOOLS & PRIMITIVES

SAT., JAN. 6, 2001

AT 9:00 A.M.

Sale to be held at the Horst Auction Center, located at the corner of Rt. 322 & Durlach Rd. (approx. 2 1/2 miles west of Ephrata), Ephrata, Lancaster County, PA.

**FURNITURE:** **Softwood 12 Light Corner Cupboard;** Blanket Chests (One w/Black Trim); Red Cradle; Wood Chest; Jelly Cupboard; Cherry Drop Leaf Table; Decorated Plank Chairs; Primitive Stepback Cupboard; 2 Door Cupboard; Painted Corner Cupboard; One Door Cupboard; Dough Box; Rope Bed; Plank Settee; **Sheraton Transitional Chest Of Drawers; Victorian - Fine Walnut Cylinder Rolltop Desk;** Eastlake Marble Dresser & Washstand; Walnut Dresser; Walnut Marble Washstand; **Outstanding 10 Pc. Carved Mahogany Dining Room Suite** (Carved Legs & Claw Feet); Mahogany Vanity & Washstand; Oak - **Fine Side by Side Desk/Bookcase;** Sq. Extension Table; Library Table; Ext Table; Treadle Sewing Machine; Corner Shelf; Antique Brass Bed; Fern Stand; Maple Chest Of Drawers & Dresser; Iron Candlestand; Mortised Bench; Child's Rocker; Porch Rockers; Wicker Rocker; Fernery; Wicker Baby Coach; Baby Coach; Pedal Tractor; Pedal Car.

**APPLIANCES** - Maytag Wringer Washer; Cookware; Set Of Silver Seal Cookware; Lamps; Bracket Light; Kerosene Lamps; Hanging Lamp; Alladin Lamp; Ornate Mantel Clock; Early Brass Andirons; Brass Bucket; Iron Kettle; Sad Iron & Trivet; Iron Doorstops; Iron Bank; Walnut Trinket Boxes; Tin Bank.

**CHINA & GLASSWARE** - Gaudy Welsh; Queens Rose; Copper Lustre Rockingham Teapots; Snowflake Teapot; Ironstone Pitcher & Bowl; Set Of Flow Blue Plates; Gaudy Ironstone; Austrian Chocolate Pot; Set Of Crooksville China; Ginger Jar; Redware; Decorated Stoneware; Stoneware Jugs; Pie Plates.

**ART POTTERY** - Weller Vase; Weller Jardinier; Rockwood; Hull Art; Art Glass; Heisey Glass; Pressed & Pattern Glass; Depression Glass; Lead Crystal; Demijohn.

**LINENS** - Woolen Coverlet; Amish Linen Towels; Comforters; Feed Bags; Homespun; Stereoptic Cards; Baskets; Dolls.

**ARTWORK** - Original Oil Paintings, (By E. Roma Gosa); **Collection Of Wallace Nutting Prints** (Lg. Interior, Lg. Exterior); Lg. Chester County Print.

**TOOLS & PRIMITIVES - Complete Broom Making Set;** Antique & Primitive Hand Tools; Schnitzelbank; Grist Mill Feed Stand; Corn Sheller; Grain Cradle; Chick Waterer; Ice Tongs; RR Oil Can; Butchering Utensils; Galv. Sprinkling Can; Wooden Measures; Hog Scrapers; Wooden Barrels; Boxes & Crates; **Antique One Horse Sleigh;** Wooden Shutters; Panel Doors; Orchard Baskets; **Horse Drawn Ice Cutter;** Lg. Butcher Block; Milk Cans; Carriage Seat; Scolding Trough; Wood Ladder; Wood Rake; Saw Buck; Feed Mill Items; Stone Lifters; Lg. Millstone Cover; Iron Water Trough.

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*Autographs  
Wanted*

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