

# Get an authentic look with reproductions

Notes for the would-be connoisseur:

- If you can't find or afford the originals, good-quality reproductions are the next best thing.

A neoclassical dining table designed between 1815 and 1819 by Charles Honore Lannuier, a French emigre working in New York, has been reproduced by Kindel Furniture as licensee for the Winterthur Museum.

The Lannuier Dining Table (\$14,000-\$18,500, depending on finish and gilding) has a veneer top with rounded corners over a deep apron, supported by two pedestal sets comprised of four hand-carved mahogany columns, S-shaped legs with leaf designs carved on the knees, ending with carved paw feet.

The original, now in the Georgia Dining Room at Winterthur, is said to have been owned by John MacPherson Berrien of Savannah, attorney-general in Andrew Jackson's administration.

- A small space need not demand a compromise in style. The Demi-Lune Table (\$995) at Pierre Deux replicates a Louis XVI original and can be set against a wall in its semi-circular format. A hinged top can be

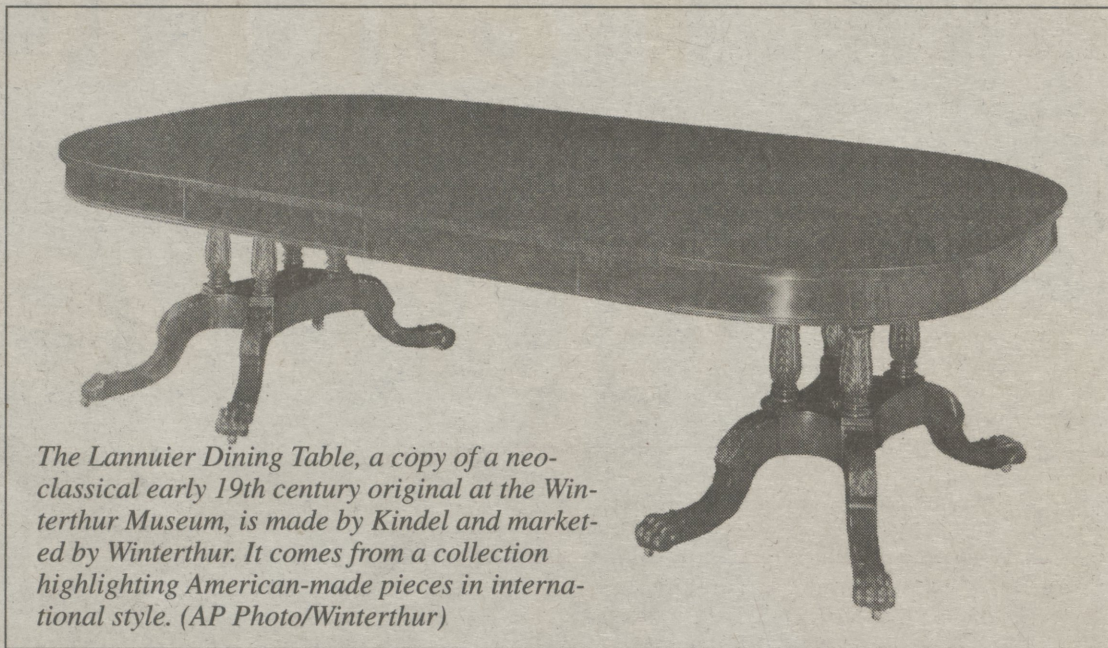
put up to form a console or completely opened to become a 44-inch round dining table. It has a walnut finish, paneled apron, and straight fluted legs with bronze end caps.

- Pierced scallop edging distinguishes a sterling silver tray (\$775) and bowl (\$900) from Tiffany & Co. Neither too plain nor too fussy, these subtly elegant pieces can be used as servers or as tabletop accents.

- Also from Tiffany are a series of Italian handblown glass candlesticks by Archimede Seguso. One design features fluted cobalt blue crystal columns mounted on clear crystal bases and holders (\$525 tall; \$425 medium, \$350 small). Another has clear glass stacked globules separated by classical pedestal stations (\$500 tall; \$450 medium, \$425 small.)

- Dinnerware with unifying designs but with different motifs on each piece have proven their popularity (think of Portmeirion's Botanic Garden range, for example). Now Herend, the Hungarian firm, looks to the U.S. market with its American Wildflowers line in handpainted porcelain (\$795 for a five-piece setting). Match the pieces or mix them: Prairie Rose, Butterfly Weed, Morning Glory, Texas

Bluebonnet, Meadow Lily, able in either Japanese or Chinese styles. Designed by



*The Lannuier Dining Table, a copy of a neoclassical early 19th century original at the Winterthur Museum, is made by Kindel and marketed by Winterthur. It comes from a collection highlighting American-made pieces in international style. (AP Photo/Winterthur)*

Evening Primrose, Indian Blanket Flower, Blue Wood Aster, Red Clover, Tall Goldenrod and California Poppy. The pieces also can be integrated with Herend's Golden Edge pattern.

- It's unlikely that your flatware service includes chopsticks. Christofle fills the gap for formal dining with resin sticks capped in sterling silver. The Cannele (\$160 a pair) or Perles (\$115 a pair) patterns are avail-

able in either Japanese or Chinese styles. There's also a Galet pattern set (\$140) Chinese-style chopsticks with a matching sterling silver rest.

- The Royal Elephant and Royal Camel needlepoint pillows (\$90 each) from Peking Handicraft make excellent foils for rooms decorated in traditional Mediterranean or

Stephanie Stouffer, the 16- by 20-inch pillows show each animal wearing fringed regal tapestries, against a beige background. The theme is picked up in the tapestry-design border with coordinated fringes.

Winterthur Museum - 1 (800) 448-3883, x4822

## Before you start, try reading these

If you have nothing else for your home, you can at least line your shelves with books:

- Jeffrey Bilhuber wants his clients — and readers — to understand that a decorating project isn't a matter of waving a magic creative wand, inspired by a tub of money.

In "Jeffrey Bilhuber's Design Basics" (Rizzoli, \$39.95 hardcover, October), the designer offers an inside look at some of the real details: how the professional can help the client focus on what he or she really wants; how to work toward a plan that's livable and pleasurable; how to set a budget; how to read blueprints and working sketches; and how to get through the actual project.

"Part of fear-free decorating is figuring out the money part," he writes. "Never start a project before outlining the budget! This will help you prioritize what you'd like to get done, give you a realistic idea of how much decorating work costs, and pre-

vent any unpleasant surprises when you get your Visa bill at the end of the month."

- Perhaps you are unlikely to sleep in a bed under an aristocratic canopy, but don't be surprised if your choices of furnishings and decor bear more than a passing resemblance to the preferences of titled families of the past. After all, the visual pleasures of the designs are part of what makes them classical.

Henrietta Spencer-Churchill takes the reader on a tour of some of the progenitive styles in "Classic Interior Design: Using Period Features in Today's Interiors" (Rizzoli, \$45 hardcover, October).

Spencer-Churchill, as daughter of the 11th Duke of Marlborough, has an insider's view of the originals but at the same time is a professional decorator. She offers advice about translating the look to your own little palace.

- Just like plants and other living things, humans instinctively are attracted by natural light, argues Elspeth Pridham in "Transparent: Contemporary Interior Design Elements" (Mitchell Beazley, \$37.95 hardcover).

"Plenty of natural light, combined with the feeling that we are not totally enclosed, is conducive to good mental and physical health," she writes.

What's different now is that improvements in glass technology make it possible to use greater amounts of glass in architectural elements, including walls and ceilings. And inside, translucent or clear panels can be used instead of light-blocking interior walls. Her book shows creative examples to lighten both domestic and commercial interiors.

- Remember all those household appliances or long since recycled to the junkyard and re-

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