Antique lamps surge in value

Home lighting trends offer more than a flicker of nostalgia. In fact, the mass market is aglow with traditional lamps.

"What really excites the public is period decorating," says Rhett Sypher, president of Shoai Creek of Analston, Ala. "High tech and contemporary do not sell very well."

Symber pages 95 percent of his

contemporary do not sell very well."

Sypher says 95 percent of his company's 800 styles are traditional. Many have period detailing that fills into rooms with Victorian, neoclassical, French country, 18th-century or even Russian court decorating schemes.

Interest in 20th-century designs appears to stop at the Aria & Craits period, which began about 1888. That era is especially rich as a source for lighting since it coincided with early electrification of American homes. New York City, for example, was electrified in the 1890s.

for example, was electrified in 1890s.

The cost of period originals designed by famous early 20th-century designers such as Gracian designers with a Gracian designer of the control of the period colors that recrease the feeling are readily available.

One popular style reminiscent of the period uses mica lampshades. The mica sheets treated with shellar to give them as moky amber translucence are handled like stained glass and inserted into metal channels.

writen SHOAL CREEK first of-fered mice-shade lamps in Arts & Crafts styles two only of the con-many in add to the collection. Now there are 18 styles at prices rang-ing from \$200 to \$300. Mica shades are also available on other lamps for about \$400 extra Jerry Cohen of The Mission Oak Shop in Woodstock, Com., reports that pricey reproductions of arts

lamps and fixtures by Stickley, Van Erp and Wright are doing well all around the country. The lamps, which sell for \$425 to \$5,500 each, are made by Michael Adams, a Syracuse, N.Y., crafts-

Cohen started buying the reproductions to sell in his antiques store in 1984 after he saw them in a Syracuse antiques shop. He began distributing Adams' lamps nationwide in 1987.

Honwide in 1897.

"Some antiques dealers don't like reproductions because they think they underent sales of the originals," he says. "I don't think we are going to ruin our market. We don't have many customers who can pay \$50,000 for a lamp, but we do have customers who can pay \$2,000 or \$3,000."

ALTHOUGH ORIGINALS by top names are scarce and expensive, there is a good supply of learning according to Bill Langton, a Norwalk, Cona., dealer. Langton reconditions old lamps he finds at auctions and house sales, antiques stores and flea markets.

He says demand is driving up prices and creating scarcity in a field where 20 years ago finding customers was the biggest problem. For example, a gasolier (a banging gas lamp converted to electric) that sells for \$1,000 today went for about \$150 in 1970. A converted brass oil lamp with a glass shade that once sold for \$45 now runs about \$170.

Besides specialty stores such as Langton's 'Fe Olde Lamp Shop, other sources for old lighting are auctions, estate sales and, if you are lucky, flea markets. Typically, those bought as is need new wiring and socket replacements If brass, they require reflinishing.

Here's how to stop burglars

(AP)H you worry about burglars — and most of us do — there is much you can do to prevent lilegal entry. Here is some information that can reduce your chances of being burglarized and provide you with greater peace of mind.

e If you spot people in your neighborhood behaving suspiciously, notify the police immediate-

For example, burglars often cruise in pairs. Upon seeing an empty garage or a car pulling out of a driveway, they ring the doorbell. If someone answers, they ask an innocent question and leave. If there is no response, they try to enter the home.

Speak to your local police to find out which entry methods intruders favor in your area. Then, examine your home for weak points.
Burglars commonly enter through an un-locked door, break in through a cellar window, break simple locks on doors or use force until the screws burst out of the wood or the frame gives way.

break simple locks on doors or use force until the screws burst out of the wood or the frame gives way.

Replace a bollow wooden door or flimsy door frame with a solld wooden (or even a steel) door mounted in a sturdy frame. Then equip the door with a deadboil tock. A good bolt is one lach thick is and has a l-inch throw.

• Overgrown shrubbery and high hedges provide as much privacy for burglars as they do for you. Keep hedges trimmed, prume tree branches and remove treilises — especially if they provide access to second-floor windows. Keep basement windows — a favorite entry point for burglars — locked and free of foliage.

• If you live on the first or second floor of an apartment building, keep all windows locked. Lock windows or doors that least to balonate, rooftops or fire excepts and an emergency.

• Burglaries in occupied bomes are not as rare as you might expect. Keep your doors locked even when you're home.

• Before moving lato a new bouse or apartment, save the cylinders of each door lock in your new home changed.

• If you have a telephone answering machine.

nave the cylinders of each door feet in your new home changed.

• If you have a telephone answering machine, don't let the greeting message reveal your whereabouts. Say simply that you can't come to the phone right now, but you will return the call as soon

es possible.

• Don't put your name on your mailbox. Bur-

Neighborhood watch programs work well.
 Post signs warning strangers that they are being

observed.

* Finally, a family dog is one of the best burglar

alarms you can have. The sound of loud, frantic
barking is often all that's needed to discourage a

eliars will phone to learn if anyone is at home.

• If you're planning an evening out or going on yeaction, set an automatic timer to create the illusion that someone is at home. Use it to scitivate inmy, tolevision sets and radios that will make the house seem occupied.

• Before leaving for an extended period, arrange to have your home appear occupied. As someone to park a car in the driveway and mowe it periodically. Arrange to have the mow shoveled or the grass mowed. Have mail and newspaper deliveries halted until you return.

• Avoid attracting unwanted attention to your valuables. For example, if a new stereo arrives, of which your valuables arrived in the tabeled carton in the trash without flattening it inside out.

• Neighbors.



THE QUAINT VILLAGE OF CHELSEA"

1-94 to Chelsea exit, N. 15 mile to stop light, left 1 block Models open 7 days 12 noon-5 p.m.

(313) 475-7810

2.3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, full basement, central air, GE built-ins, deluxe floor covering, patio deck & more.

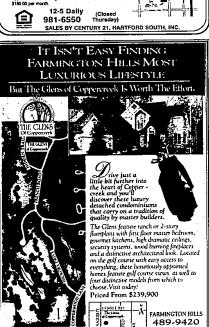
From \$99,900

Association dues: \$65.00 per month Building last phase. Units available for immediate occupancy.

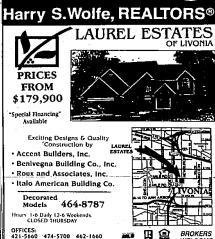


(313) 442-2626





Protally Built in the Tradition of Quality by Curtis Building Co. & Gerish Custom Homes



The **Prudential**







