Forgers manufacture country look

AP - Anonymous craftsmen cre-ated the country furniture that to-day's collectors crave, but what they fashlored was neither crude nor

fashioned was nervice crown no-primitive The carpenters and craftsmen who supplied furniture for 18th and 19th century settlers outside of Phil-adelphin, Blathurer, New York and Charleston, according to Country Laving magazine, were quite famil-iar with preferred styles and con-struction techniques.

Laving magazine, were quite famil-iar with preferred styles and con-struction terhalques. Exquisite carving, finte-consum-ing may and delicate banding rarely appeared on what would come to be known as 'country' furniture, but no applogies mere be made for the con-struction techniques employed. Unitke true primitive drifting and furner, and alls, rough-sawn lumber, crude joinery and little, if any, funsh American country formi-ture' was intended to be both func-tion's and attractive and was built to writistaid decades of use. Paned joines, murilse-and-tenon construction, earcfully planed boards and adherence to basic prin-struction are evident in the finest ex-amples

struction are evident in the finest ex-amples — Most American country furniture was organizity painted. Entubulasts of the Colonial Revival that began shorty after World War I began simpling, anding and scraping off organizity lumiture in their quest of a clean funds.

WHEN TRVING TO steer clear of furgeries, cullectors should look for original paint Keep in mind that not all of the pains util remain atter 100 years or inner of use. In many mistances, relignal paint will be worn through to bare wood around rephotorial knobs, on the tops of chair seats and ifont rungs, along the edges of tables and on the arms and headrails of chairs. Forgers are skilled in duplicating original paint failshed on both old

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And new furniture. They know the difference between a plece of country furniture that still have a strength of the strength of

signeared. SiMILARIAY, DEEP gauges and scratches should not have any paint in them. If they do, chances are the paint is never than the wood be-neath it. Most authentic country furniture has been either repainted for refin-shed. If you suppect that you own a fine country piece that has been re-painted, inspect the piece for inflas-tions of the original color. Start by turning the piece over and chairs east. Ghes the have to the thouser rugs, overhanging tops and chair scats. Ghes the have to the distance of the second and the second by a second paint. Occasionalicy, a non-original haver of paint should be left alone. Many urantine coll fash century country furniture received their second and only additional coat of paint during the 15th century. If a piece has sur-vived another 100 years without a



third layer of paint, the second layer should not be removed. Most authorities will agree, Bruce

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