

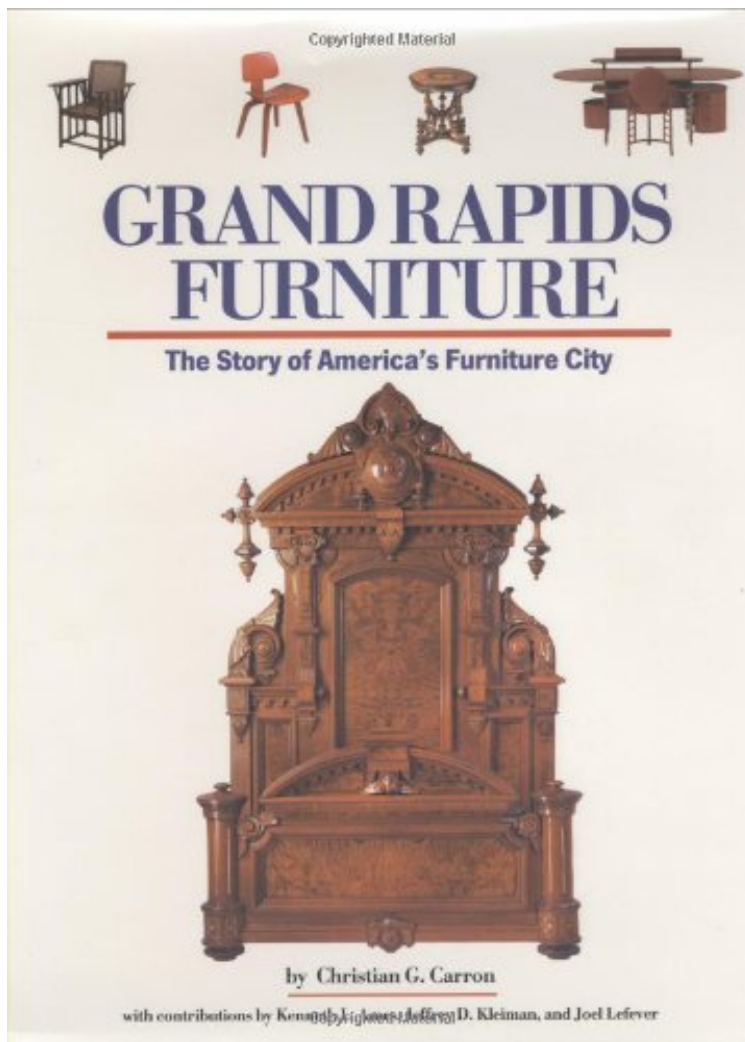
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*Christian G. Carron*

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(Free) Grand Rapids Furniture: The Story of America's Furniture City

## **Grand Rapids Furniture: The Story of America's Furniture City**

**Christian G. Carron : Grand Rapids Furniture: The Story of America's Furniture City** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Grand Rapids Furniture: The Story of America's Furniture City:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Good Reference ToolBy Sharon BeverlyHaving recently acquired a vintage, demi-lune credenza with a small 'Make in Grand Rapids' label, I wanted to know more about this piece of furniture. Buying it from Salvation Army was a cost saver but, we had no one to ask for information.This book, while not telling me who made our piece, was extremely interesting. It gave us the history of furniture making in Michigan and how some very famous makers got their start. It shows different period styles with good color photos, too. There are a number of pages devoted to the various furniture makers' logos. Whether you have curiosity about a piece you own or, simply like to learn more about American craftsmen and the furniture industry's early days, this is a valuable

book. If you are looking for a larger, showier, coffee table book, this isn't what you want. Think of this as an exceedingly good and easy-to-read reference source. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Surprise! By Cat Smiles This was not what we thought it would be, but it had other attributes that make it a good book. I was looking for more photos, more splash -- and was initially disappointed. Then as I explored it (there are great photos) and realized the last half of the book gives the maker's marks and a history, even if brief, of SO MANY small and large companies -- we realized it is a find we will use again and again. A good reference book for dealers and designers; not a coffee table book 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. incredible read By Robert Klein if you have any interest in the social, cultural, financial, prejudices, or history of the furniture manufacturing in the USA and in the grand rapids area this is the book to have. it is a cultural and manufacturing treatise that cannot be overlooked by anyone in the antiques and/or the restoration trade or a collector who wishes to expand their knowledge. well written, a genuine research text.

Grand Rapids Furniture: The Story of America's Furniture City is the first major history to be published about the place that once crowned itself "The Paris of Furniture Design." Over 200 photos illustrate the lively text by Christian G. Carron, curator of one of the nation's largest furniture collections. The story begins in the 1830's with the region's first cabinetmakers, and covers designs from Victorian and Modern through Reform and Revival to the high-tech office furniture of the late twentieth century. Delving deeper than forms and ornamentation, this volume includes anecdotes and insights from four of the most knowledgeable experts on the Grand Rapids furniture industry. The detailed manufacturers directory lists more than 800 West Michigan furniture makers past and present, including company names, locations, designers, and product descriptions. Never-before-published hints for identifying Grand Rapids furniture complement more than 400 maker's marks and labels, to make this an important resource for every reference shelf.

About the Author Christian G. Carron is head of the curatorial department of the Public Museum of Grand Rapids, and has cultivated the furniture collections there for over ten years. Each year he answers hundreds of requests from around the world for information on Grand Rapids furniture. After studying in the Historical Administration Program at Eastern Illinois University, Carron curated similar collections in Louisiana and Kentucky. An active lecturer and author, Carron conducted much of the research for this publication during the development of The Furniture City, a permanent exhibition that opened in 1994.