

## North Carolina Furniture Heritage Center High Point Museum

High Point, North Carolina, is the *home furnishings capital of the world*<sup>™</sup> by virtue of its continuing furniture manufacturing base and the bi-annual High Point Market. But the furnishings business is changing rapidly and little has been done to preserve the important contributions made by North Carolina's furniture companies in the twentieth century. The Furniture Heritage Center (FHC), created with funds from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services\*, seeks to document this important industry in North Carolina in a variety of ways.

### Our Purpose

- Increase the knowledge base about High Point's and North Carolina's significant contribution to the history of American furniture manufacture and marketing in the twentieth century;
- Increase High Point Museum's collections that illustrate and preserve this history;
- Raise public awareness and participation in this important aspect of local and regional history at a time of great change in the furniture industry; and
- Encourage furniture heritage tourism and preservation of the historical architecture related to the furniture industry in North Carolina.

\*The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this brochure do not necessarily represent those of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Furniture Heritage Center logo by Me & Him Designs

## Our Plans

### Exhibition

The High Point Museum will open an interactive exhibition on the history of furniture making in North Carolina to coincide with High Point's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009. The exhibition will focus attention on the furniture industry as a key element of the city's growth and prosperity.

### Website

The High Point Museum will host a website that coordinates with the exhibition and describes the history of North Carolina's furniture business.

### Digital Database

The Furniture Heritage website will include a digital database of 20<sup>th</sup> century North Carolina furniture makers. The database, called FINial for Furniture Information Network, will provide public access to research information and encourage collection and preservation of North Carolina furniture.

### Driving Tour

The High Point area's historic furniture sites will be described in a brochure distributed through the High Point Museum, Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Furniture Heritage website. The tour will promote furniture heritage tourism and encourage preservation of buildings related to the region's furniture business.

### Symposia

FHC will sponsor public symposia as a way to encourage advanced research on North Carolina's furniture history.

### Study Collection

Eventually, the museum's North Carolina furniture collection will be on view for use by collectors, home furnishers, retailers, students of design, and workers who made the goods.

## How You Can Help

### Oral History

Give us your memories in recorded interviews that will be preserved in the museum's furniture archives.

### Donate

We need items related to High Point's furnishings business, including examples of North Carolina-made furniture, to use in the exhibition and Study Collection.

### Give

Contribute funds to preserve North Carolina's furniture heritage.

### *How You Contact Us*

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### *How We Contact You*

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Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Connection to Furniture/Furnishings Industry:  
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