

SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER

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Design Files Road Trip: I said, 'Who wants some antiques?'

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By ROBIN DALY AND CHRISTIAN URSINO

We took a day and explored some antique shops we'd always meant to visit "someday." Our day happened to be a Tuesday, which brings us to tip No. 1: Mondays and Tuesdays seem to be the days these folks are closed. It's always best to check ahead.

Some of these shops already may be among your favorites. If not, give them a try. Our efforts were rewarded with interesting merchandise and shopkeepers enthusiastic about their businesses.

ACCENT ANTIQUES

At only 6 months old, this is the new kid on the block. Ordered chaos reigns supreme in this medium-size shop full of European and American antiques. We found tons of chairs, impressive prices and a noteworthy inventory. A set of four Biedermeier-influenced dining chairs (under \$400 per set) caught Christian's eye so strongly that you will no longer find them in the shop.

*6019 15th Ave. N.W.; 206-782-1322. Hours:
Wednesday-Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday noon-5.*

JOHNSON & JOHNSON ANTIQUES

We were surprised to find so many beautifully refurbished old light fixtures, perfect for the classic Seattle home. Even though they carry furniture, their passion appears to be lighting and vintage refurbished plumbing fixtures. We were impressed with the early-20thcentury version of the multiple spa showerhead. We liked the 1920s corner porcelain sink, surprisingly shallow compared with today's basins. You'll find doorknobs, hinges and other house fittings, all salvaged from previous lives.

6820 Greenwood Ave. N.; 206-789-6489. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.



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PELAYO ANTIQUES

Shocker of the trip: This Seattle institution will be closing at the end of July. So get in there now to see a seemingly never-ending collection of mostly European antiques and artwork. Particularly impressive is the collection of Russian icons and oil paintings. Not to be missed (and, frankly, impossible to miss): the *immense* South American carved armoire, created in Spain and most likely rescued from an old church. Yours for only \$35,000. Some things already are marked down, with other values surely on the way.

7601 Greenwood Ave. N.; 206-789-1999; www.pelayoantiques.com. Hours: daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

ANTIKA

We loved Antika! Thirsting for a hip '50s martini bar? Well, \$450 to \$700 will get you some instant James Bond. A great selection of English gentleman's wardrobes, priced from \$435 to \$735. Look inside some of them and find the original shelf markers identifying where shirts, underwear and "pyjamas" are to be placed. The husband-and-wife team at the helm of this 10-year-old business travels to England five times a year to stock their store in a well-ordered and beautifully displayed fashion.

8421 Greenwood Ave. N.; 206-789-6393. Hours: daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

AGEING FANCIES


This great store, in the same location for 33 years, is the place to visit for instant history. Filled with a variety of merchandise, it seems to have everything from stuffed pheasants to bronzed baby shoes. A whole display table devoted to vintage and antique flatware (1920s to '40s) really caught our eyes. Many interior designers shop here for their "family silver."

308 N.E. 65th St.; 206-523-4556. Hours: Wednesday-Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

ALTSTADT INTERIORS

This store is filled with select merchandise that is on consignment. Best frequented often, as the space is small and the merchandise changes frequently. Tip: Tana Mattson keeps a photo book filled with prospective additions that are available for purchase before they come into the store.



Interior design services also are available. Don't  forget to stop and visit with the puppy.

2618 N.E. 55th St.; 206-523-8838. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday noon-6 p.m.

MR. JOHNSON'S ANTIQUES

Talk about the cart before the horse! Matthew Johnson is ready to make a deal before you know what the deal is. While most shops don't encourage negotiating, Johnson will be offended if you don't. Add this to his already well-priced merchandise and it's a no-brainer addition to your personal road trip. This Seattle native has turned his childhood passion of collecting into a grown-up business soon to celebrate 10 years in its current location. You will find an eclectic collection of vintage and antique ephemera, all expertly selected from his well-cultivated list of resources.

2315 24th Ave. E.; 206-322-6033. Hours: Wednesday-Thursday noon-7 p.m.; Friday-Saturday noon-8; Sunday noon-5.

Also well worth your time:

Chelsea Antiques -- Notable quality silver, European and American antiques, appraisal services available, and it's all well priced. Anchoring the Laurelhurst neighborhood for more than 30 years.

3622 N.E. 45th St.; 206-525-2727. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Mandrake's Antiques -- Truly out of the way, but worth the trip for American antiques. Definitely go here for dining-room furniture. Upholstery and refinishing services also offered.

4501 Shilshole Ave. N.W.; 206-784-1808, www.mandrakes.com. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 11-5.

Antique Liquidators -- The birthplace of antique-warehouse shopping. Uncle Carl will treat you well.

503 Westlake Ave. N.; 206-623-2740, www.antiqueliquidators.com. Hours: Monday-Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5.

Pacific Galleries -- Come prepared to spend some time. This antiques mall is filled with aisles of independent dealers and makes a road trip in itself. There is something here for everyone.

241 S. Lander St.; 206-441-9990, 800-560-9924; www.pacgal.com. Hours: Monday-Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday 10-8; Sunday 10-5.

Henry's Antiques -- Recently relocated from Madison Street. This expanded location offers a rich trove of fine European silver, antiques, artwork and religious icons.

211 14th Ave. E.; 206-626-0500. Hours: daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

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