

# Georgian Furniture

Robert  
Adam

## Robert Adam ( 1745 - 1780 )



Robert Adam  
Image courtesy of  
Wikimedia commons

- British architects Robert (1728-1792) and James (1730-1794) Adam were leaders in the neoclassic style in the late 18th century.
- Their graceful, elegant work is based chiefly on ancient Roman and Renaissance motifs.
- The Adam brothers hired workers such as cabinetmakers, painters and sculptors to carry out their designs.
- A firm of cabinet-makers called "Adam Furniture" produced furniture from Adams designs

- One of their most noted works is Harewood house Yorkshire England.
- Build in the late 18 century by John Carr of York, Adams was responsible for the interiors he commissioned cabinet-maker Thomas Chippendale to make most of the furniture.



## Harewood House

Image courtesy of Historical geographies

- Adam spent some time studying in Italy. The excavations of Pompeii and findings of the 1750's had a large influence on his work.
- Adam started the neo-classical style of sleek, straight lines and simple mouldings
- Adam developed his own style which later became known as 'Adamesque'
- In 1768 he refurbished part of Saltram House in Devon.
- <http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/r/robert-adam-neo-classical-architect/>



## Saltram House Devon

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# Adam Style or Adamesque

- Adam used lots of fans, urns, honeysuckle, patera, swags & leaves, bells & husks as decoration.
- His later designs had gilding, marquetry, ormolu ornaments.
- He designed lots of mirrors and wall furniture also fire surrounds and is credited with inventing the sideboard.
- Chairs : Adam's chairs were simple and gracious. The legs for the most part were straight, wide chairs with pierced splats wheel backed chairs

# The Red Drawing Room at Hopetoun House



Image courtesy of [undiscoveredscotland.co.uk](http://undiscoveredscotland.co.uk)

[Hopetoun House](#)

# Robert & James Adam Book

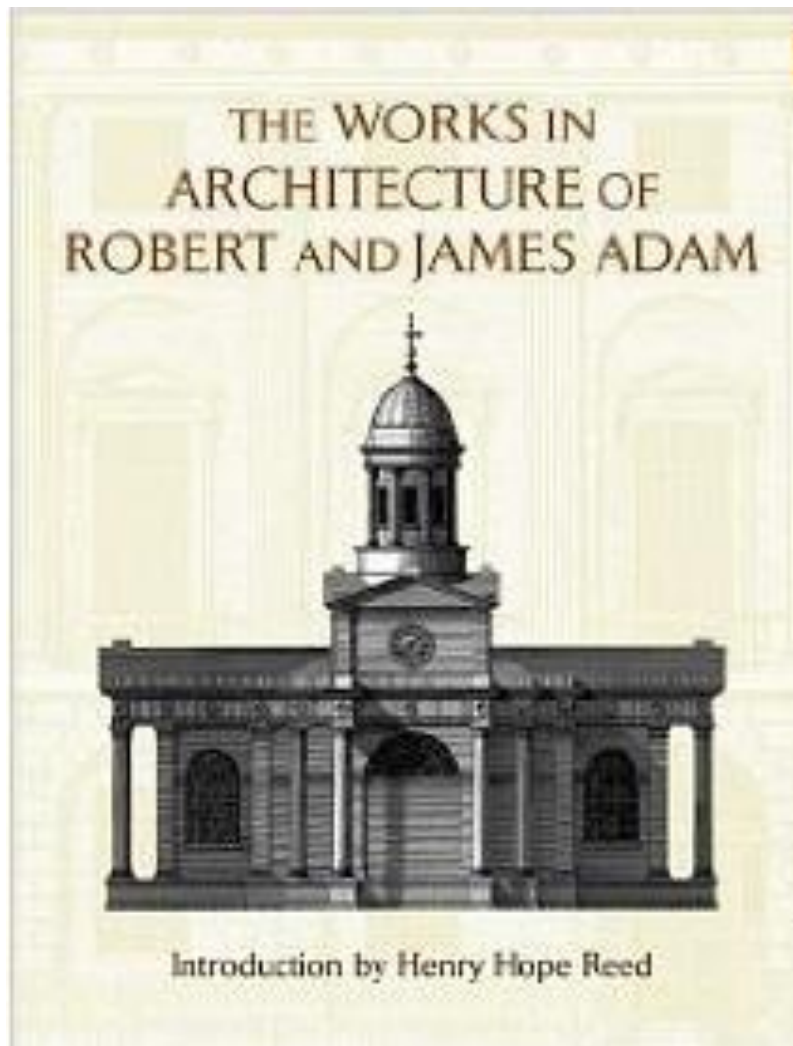


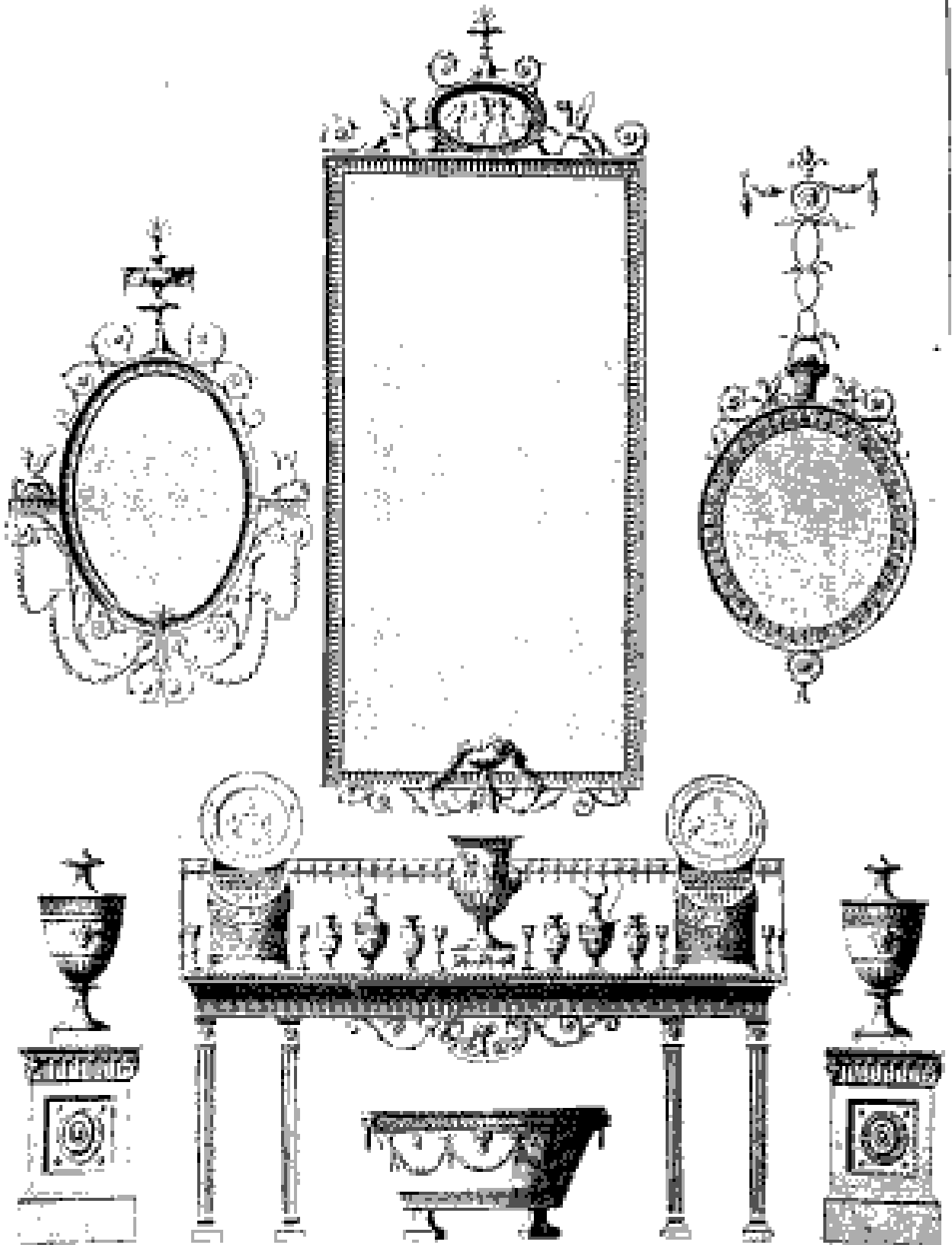
Image courtesy of Amazon .com

[Guttenberg press](#)

# Design page from Adam



Some 3000 drawings by Robert Adam and other members of his firm are preserved at [Sir John Soane's Museum](#) in London.



# Robert Adams



Adams side table  
Image courtesy of  
[museumfurniture.com](http://museumfurniture.com)

## Robert Adam Style Commode



- A Commode first appeared in the 1700's it comes from the French word for convenient.
- They were small decorative cabinets or chest of drawers usually with marble tops.
- Bedroom commodes were often used to sit washing facilities on.

# Typical Adam Style hall table & mirror

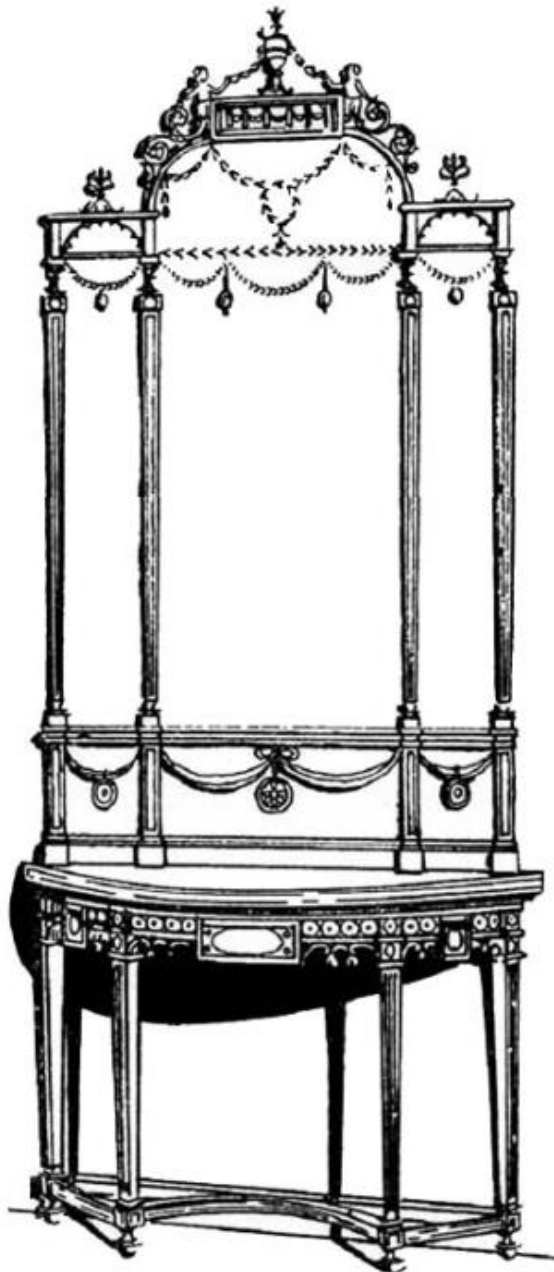


Image courtesy of [colonialfurniture.us](http://colonialfurniture.us)

## Typical Adam Style Sideboard

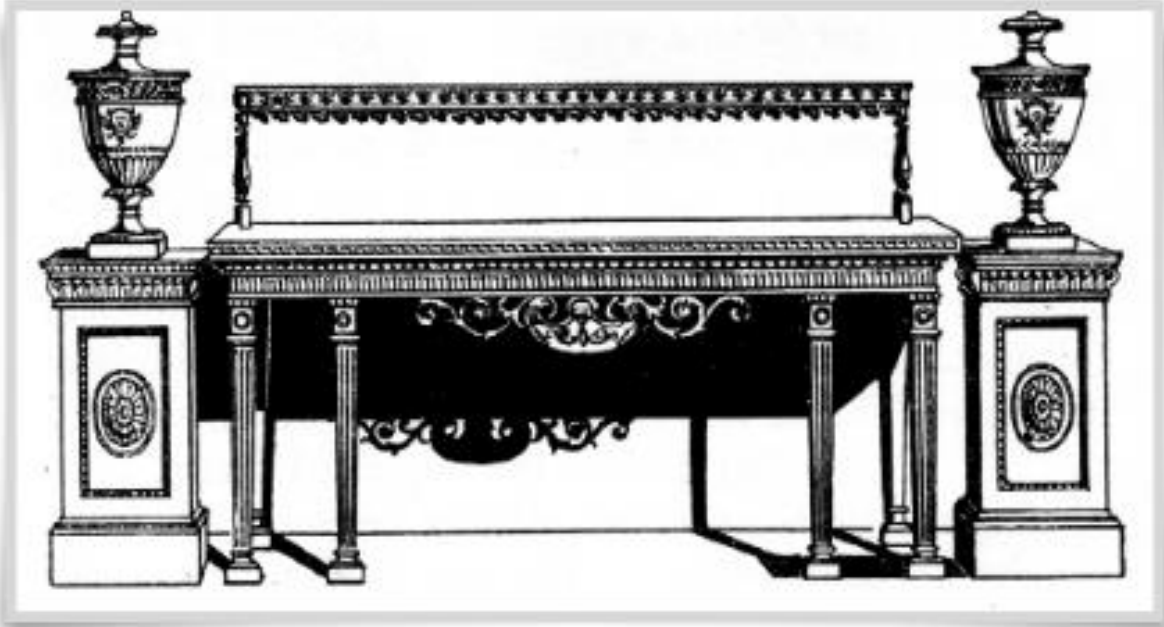


Image courtesy of [colonialfurniture.us](http://colonialfurniture.us)

Sideboard with pedestals,  
later these pedestals were transformed  
into cupboards and later still removed  
altogether

# Robert Adams



Wheel back chairs



Candle stands

# Robert Adams



Adams Chair

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# Robert Adams



Adams Style room

# References

- <http://www.harewood.org/house>
- [http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Robert\\_Adam.aspx](http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Robert_Adam.aspx)
- <http://www.museumfurniture.com/adam/>
- <http://www.amazon.com/>
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