



**Queen Anne - chair & sketches**

## ARC INTERNATIONAL BUREAUS

*Architects: Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates, Inc.*

*Client: Arc International*

*Completion: 1985*

These three bureaus designed for Arc are the styles of Queen Anne, Louis XV, and Louis XVI. Their historical symbolism, of course, is not literal -- it is abstracted in a way that attempts to convey the essence of each of these conventional styles. And this abstracted (not abstract, mind you) design is flat, not three-dimensional; it is what we call representational -- that is, a depiction, not an expression -- a sign like a false front on a country store. In this way, we unambiguously proclaim our ornament as symbolic, not substantive -- also our technique as modern, not craft-like. We make up for the lack of relief by the boldness of the color. The scale is bold too, so these little pieces have presence.

