

Pier Mirrors Without Projecting Crestings

Comparative material for the George II walnut and parcel-gilt mirror

English, circa 1740 | Patrick Bavasi | A269

Some pier mirrors were designed without separate projecting crestings. The dealer examples assembled here illustrate this architectural treatment: a recessed top rail or horizontal cornice completes the upper frame, without an additional ornamental crest rising above it. The accompanying Linnell drawing supports the intentional use of an uncrested form in pier-mirror design.

The principal comparisons are mirrors offered by established antique dealers: Stuart & Turner, R. L. Harrington Ltd. and Charles E. Thornton. Their catalogue and advertisements present these forms as complete mirrors. Taken together, they support a recognized design approach rather than an isolated anomaly: the absence of a projecting cresting need not indicate that a mirror is incomplete.

The Stuart & Turner example is particularly close in its silhouette: projecting square upper corners flank a recessed top rail, while large scrolls terminate the lower sides. Its printed caption describes a gilt Georgian mirror with its original plate, circa 1745.

The Harrington and Thornton advertisements show further examples, with substantial horizontal cornices and shaped lower frames. In each, the architectural upper edge provides the termination of the composition. These comparisons give context to the George II walnut and parcel-gilt mirror's own uncrested outline.

John Linnell's later pier-glass drawing provides supplementary design context. Its ornament is contained within a rectilinear upper frame, showing a design without a separate projecting cresting.

Stuart & Turner



A very fine quality gilt Georgian Mirror with the original plate, *circa* 1745. Overall height, 4 ft. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. Overall width, 3 ft. 2 in.

Stuart & Turner, catalogue illustration. Gilt Georgian mirror with the original plate, described as *circa* 1745.

R. L. Harrington Ltd.

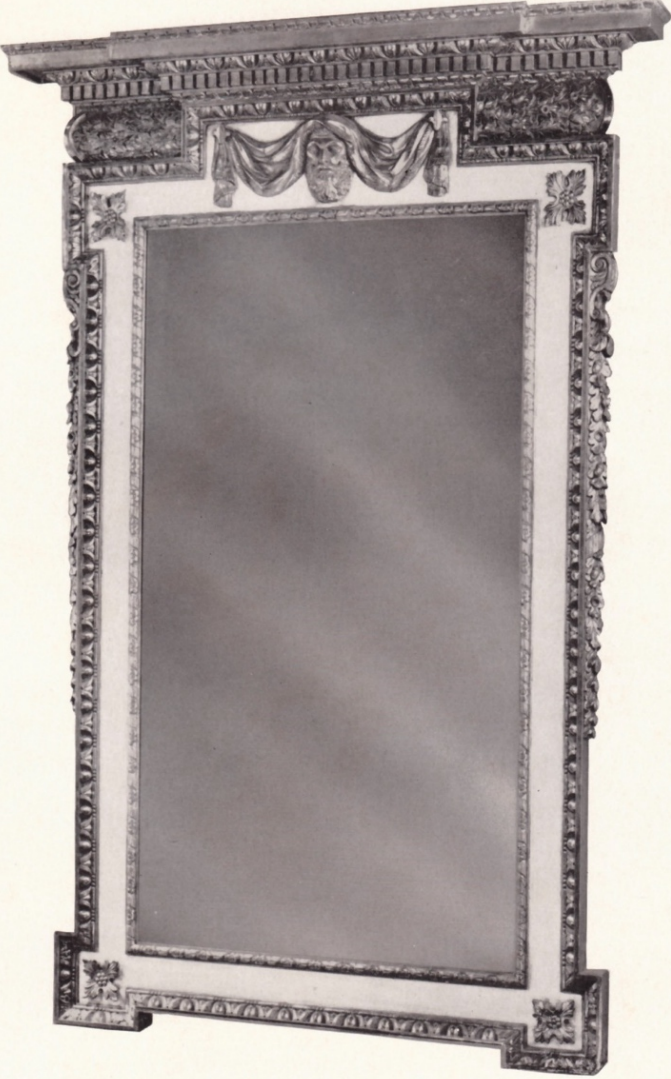
R. L. HARRINGTON LTD.

Directors:
Reginald L. Harrington
Mary T. Holder
Mary Clarke

**120 and 125 MOUNT STREET
LONDON W.1**

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*PAIR GEORGE II MIRRORS
decorated in white and gilt. circa 1740.
overall size: 4 ft. 2 in. wide, 6 ft. 2 in. high*

FINE ANTIQUE FURNITURE : WORKS OF ART

R. L. Harrington Ltd., advertisement. One of a pair described as George II mirrors, decorated in white and gilt, circa 1740.

Charles E. Thornton

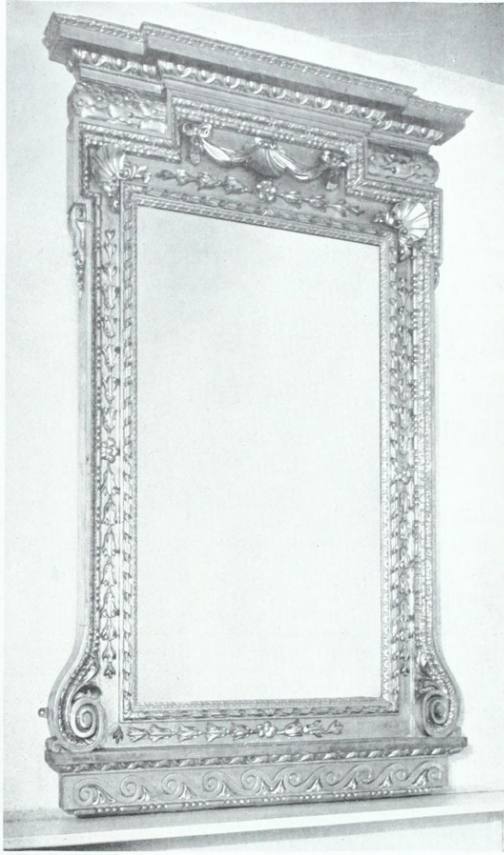
CHARLES E. THORNTON

THE ADAMS HOUSE
PETERGATE, YORK

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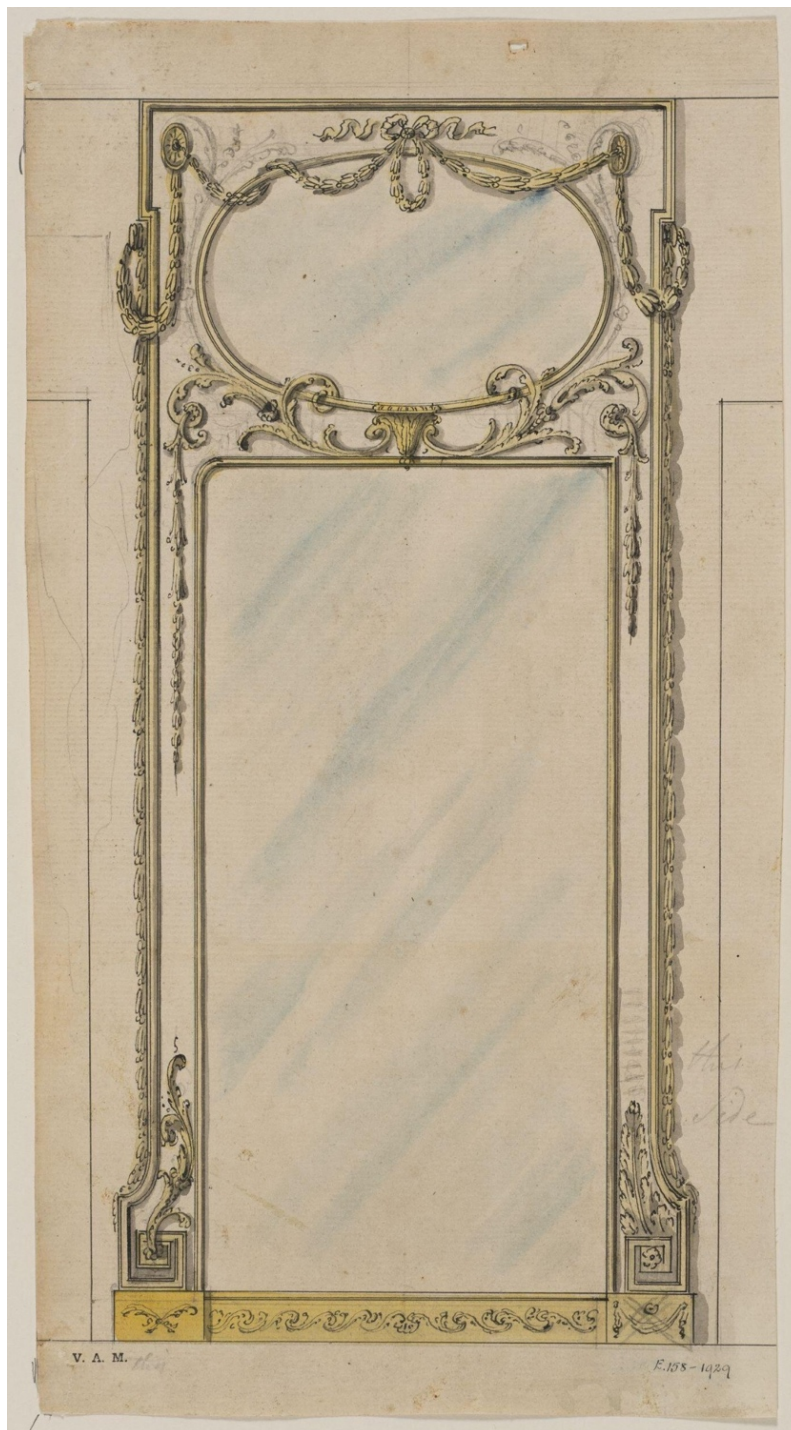



Above :-
ONE OF A PAIR OF GILDED AND
CARVED WOOD MIRRORS. CIRCA 1760
Height 5 ft. 8 ins. Width 3 ft. 6 ins.

Left :-
ONE OF A SET OF TWELVE SINGLE
CHIPPENDALE PERIOD CHAIRS. CIRCA 1760
COVERED IN NEEDLEWORK
(which is not contemporary)

Charles E. Thornton, The Adams House, Petergate, York, advertisement. One of a pair described as gilded and carved wood mirrors, circa 1760.

John Linnell: supplementary design comparison



John Linnell, design for a pier-glass with foliage, late 18th century. Victoria and Albert Museum, E.158-1929. © Victoria and Albert Museum, London.