



Use of Dots on Germanic and Pennsylvania Furniture (Black Unicorn Blanket Chests)

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These pics offer a compelling contrast of dots vs no dots.

The decorators on these BU chests always anchor their dots to some feature (a vine, a flower, between the diagonal lines).

In my Continental German-based training, the dots do not have to be anchored to an object. I would probably put a triangular set of dots in the empty corner where the arch begins (above the bird) because that is a lot of empty space.



Original in MET



Dietrich before antiquing





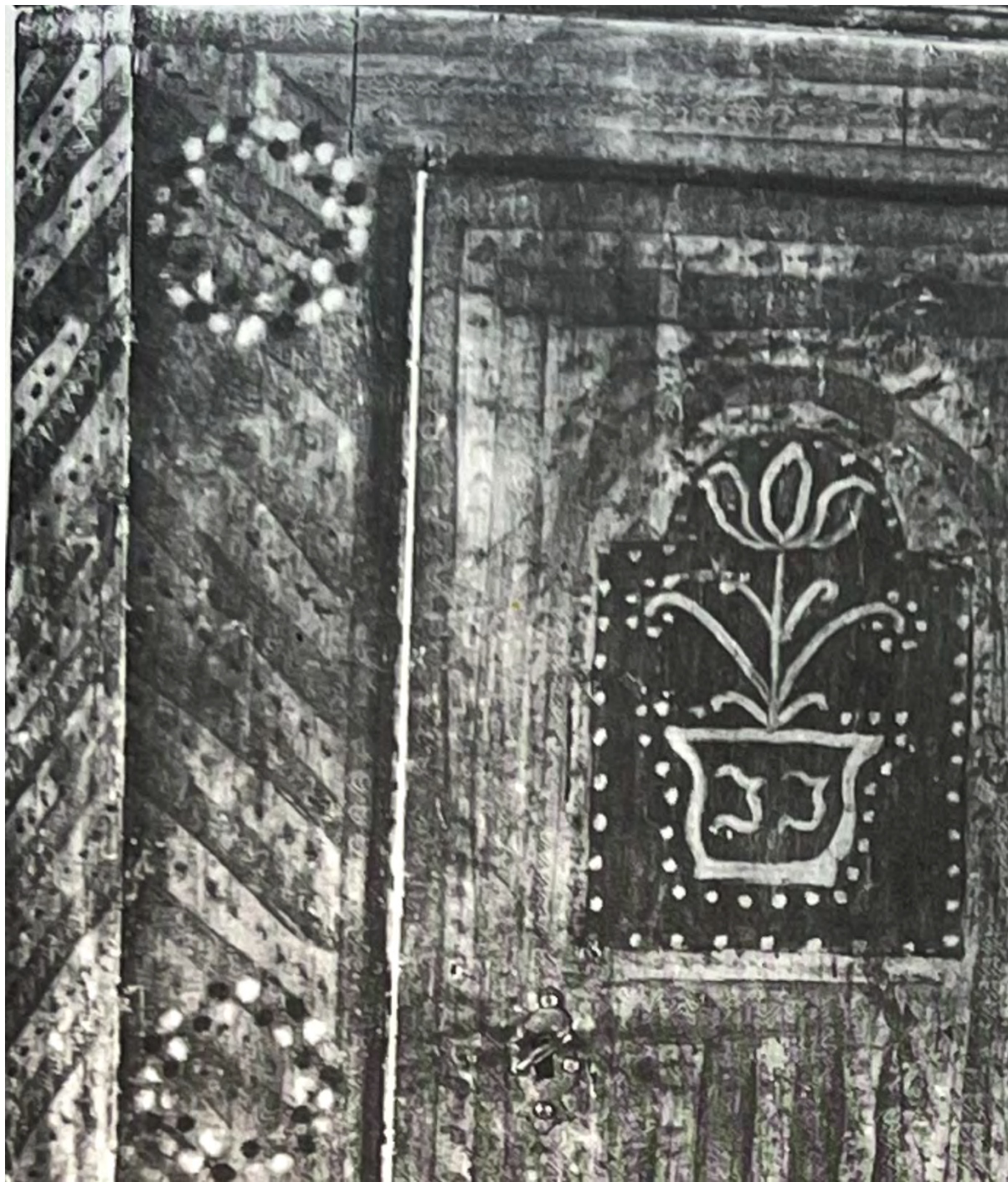
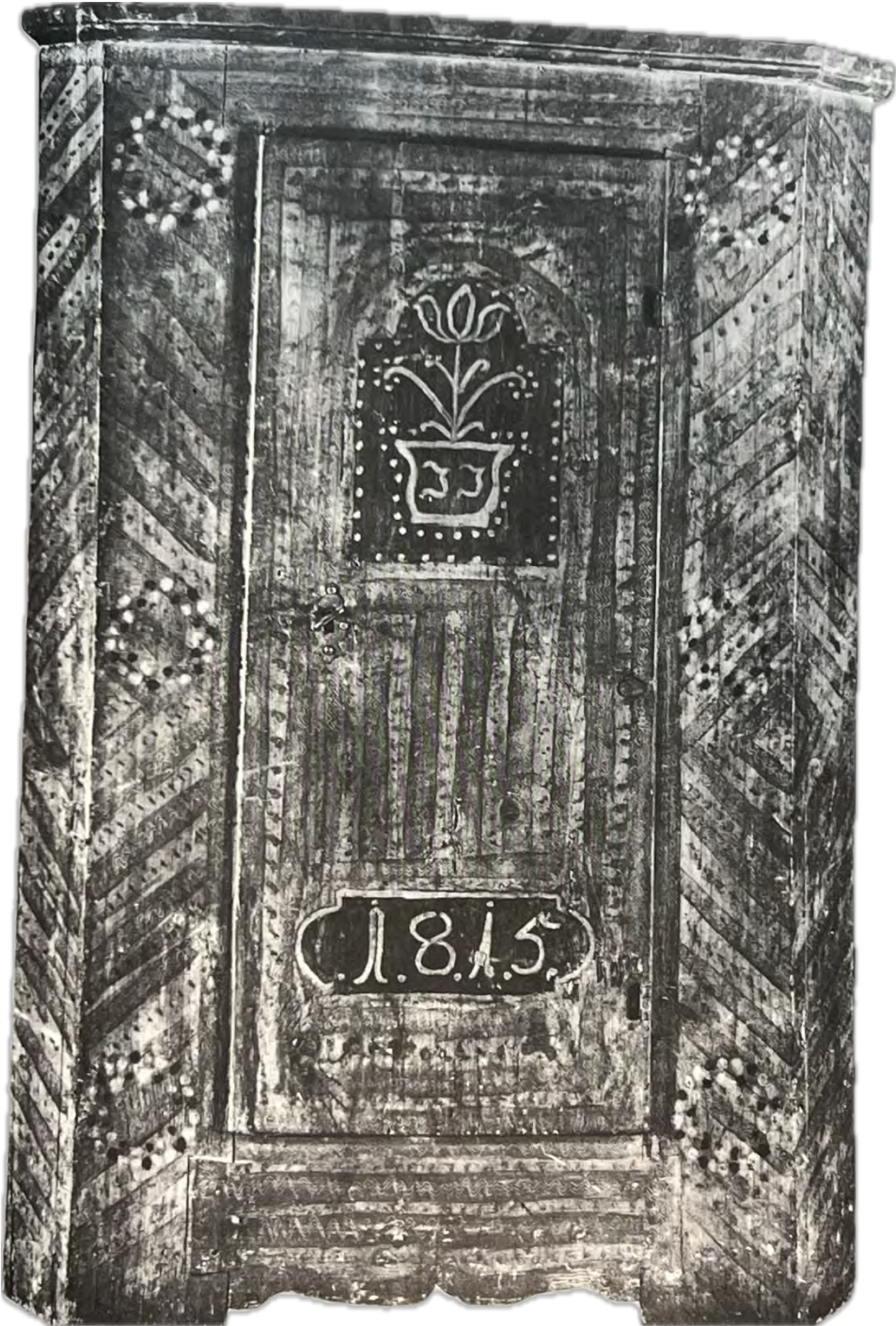
Here and following are pics from some of my European books.



This 1825 schränk from Arrach in Bavaria uses a combination of dots and what my teacher called “tichies,” e.g., squiggly brush strokes.



Abb. 125: Bogenschränk aus Arrach, brauner Kammzuggrund, grüne Felder, um 1825
Standort: Zwiesel, Sammlung Fastner





cupboard wall from Upper Bavaria, Germany, 2nd half of 18th century. Munich, Münchner Stadtmuseum



etail of small box from northern Switzerland, 2nd half of 17th century. Basel, Historisches Museum



This late 18th Century Bavarian schränk decoration is far more sophisticated than what I've seen in America.

I was trained also to use progressively sized lines of dots like on this schränk (see shelf above), usually coming out of flowers like stamen and around the upper part of some flowers as seen on the right here.



I purchased this circa 1800 Franconian (upper Bavaria) beauty with my University of Maryland weekend teaching pay while stationed in Germany in 1991.

While it uses a lot of long stems with progressively smaller leaves as space filler, it also has a few dots on the corner posts to make them less stark.





My dot collecting 1800
Austrian Schrank.



Some of my work with dots to fill voids and add interest.

NOTE: My early work was influenced by Bavarian originals and my German training and NOT by any PA German decoration.

