



“COLONIAL HOSPITALITY”



PRIDE OF PENNSYLVANIA
PATTERN SERIES



COLONIAL HOSPITALITY

Circa 1870

Christopher Columbus was the first European to land on Guadeloupe in November 1493, where he discovered the pineapple. He called it “pina de Indias” which can be translated as “pine cone of the Indies.” The pineapple symbolized hospitality to the Caribs, who were familiar to the fruit and native to South America. This symbolism spread throughout Europe and on to Colonial North America. European gardeners were not able to successfully grow pineapples until later in the 1600’s. During Colonial times families would set a fresh pineapple on the table as a centerpiece which would later be served as a dessert. The Colonial pineapple trade during the late 1600’s into the 1700’s increased and the pineapples were recognized as a status symbol...a symbol of wealth and hospitality. Pineapples were expensive and difficult to transport from the Caribbean to Colonial America. Most of the fruit rotted during the journey due to the humid conditions on the ships. The pineapple has become a symbol of hospitality everywhere and it is acknowledged in many artistic designs. Today you will find pineapples promoted commercially in a variety of forms...anything from a Christmas decoration to a design carved in a wooden chest. Needle artists have used the pineapple as a design in samplers and as a pattern in quilts. The design of this pattern is from a quilt in the Christ Collection that has been loved over the years. You will now have the opportunity to create some “Colonial Hospitality” for your home.



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