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GEBRÜDER THONET, Austrian  
company design

ARMCHAIR c. 1900  
Steam-bent beechwood  
Mfr: Gebrüder Thonet, Austria

Philip Johnson Fund  
667.80

During the 1850s Michael Thonet perfected the  
process of bending lengths of steamed beechwood  
rods in iron molds. This technological development  
eliminated laborious hand carving and led to the  
first mass-production of inexpensive standardized  
furniture. Its only ornament consists of decorative  
spirals accentuating the ends of the rods. Thonet's  
furniture was produced in great quantity and sold  
around the world through mail-order catalogs.

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GEBRÜDER THONET, Austrian  
company design

RECLINING ROCKING CHAIR WITH  
ADJUSTABLE BACK c. 1880  
Steam-bent beechwood and cane  
Mfr: Gebrüder Thonet, Austria

Phyllis B. Lambert Fund  
644.90

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instituto de arte contemporânea