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E. R. BUTLER & Co.

*Suffolk Pattern Thumb Latch Handle*

THE SUFFOLK THUMB LATCH is a latch with a handle joining two cusps without a backplate or escutcheon. This pattern made the latch very quick and simple to forge, sometimes from a single iron bar. Though in America its use was most widespread in the mid-nineteenth century, colonists in New England had used the Suffolk latch the century before. Originally the latch was imported from England or forged by American ironworkers imitating British styles; however the simple design let blacksmiths soon create styles uniquely American. In Boston, Enoch Robinson & Co. made early Suffolk latches, as did

Enoch Robinsons' onetime collaborator William Hall. Robinsons' former employee L. S. Hall carried on Robinsons' business under his own name until selling the company to the W.C. Vaughan Co. When the W.C. Vaughan Co. later bought the assets and decorative patterns of Wm. Hall & Co. they reunited the historic collaboration. Our latch has stylistic elements common throughout nineteenth-century New England. Forged from solid brass rather than iron, the Suffolk thumb latch handle is available in all standard, custom plated and patinated finishes.

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FINE ARCHITECTURAL, BUILDERS' AND CABINETMAKERS' HARDWARE