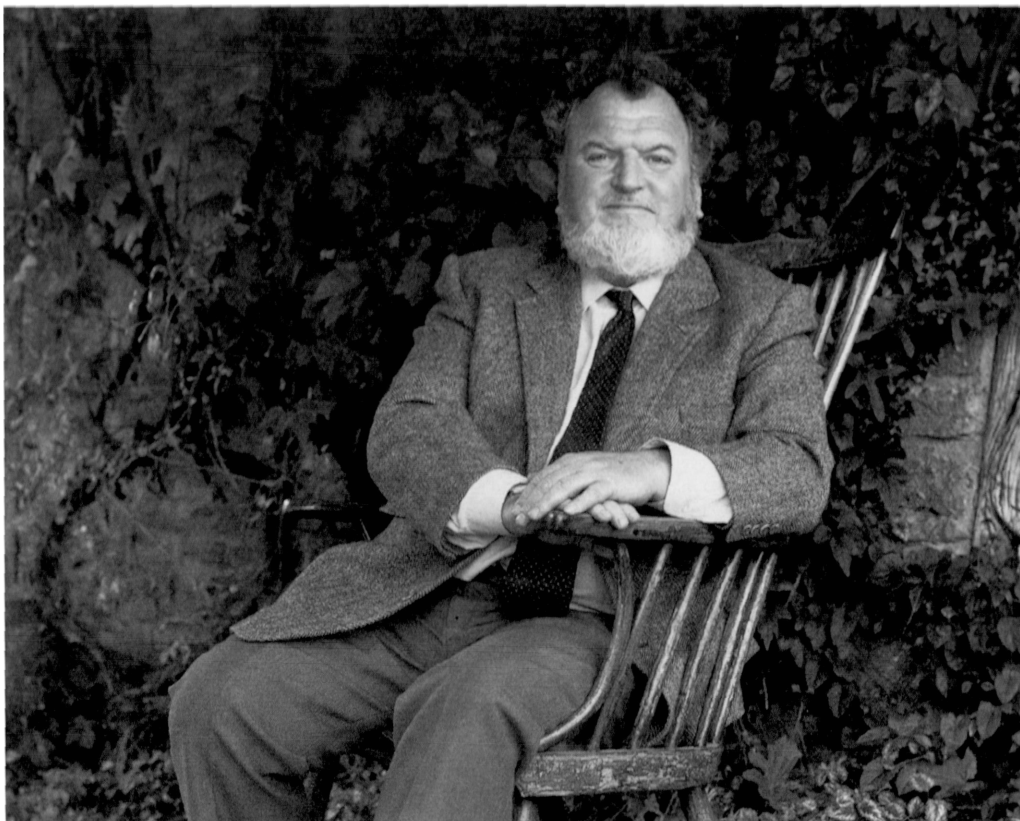


DEDICATION



The Society is delighted to dedicate this volume of *Regional Furniture*, which focuses on chairs, to Dr. Bernard Cotton. We do so as a mark of our profound respect for him and our gratitude for his untiring work in establishing British Regional Furniture as a serious field of study, and his huge contribution to the subject, in particular through his academic writings, notably *The English Regional Chair* (1990), a memorable series of exhibitions of regional chairs, and his educational work in colleges and universities in Britain and North America. Bill, as he is widely known, was a founder member and Chairman of the Regional Furniture Study Group when it was set up in October 1984, and continued in that capacity after it became the Regional Furniture Society the following year, up until the end of 1993. He has now assumed the new rôle of President of the Society. The imminent fulfilment of his long-term ambition of establishing a permanent Regional Furniture Study Collection may mark Bill's crowning achievement, but we sincerely hope that the great knowledge and enthusiasm which has been an inspiration to so many people over many years, will long continue.

CHRISTOPHER CLAXTON STEVENS