

A DATED CHAIR (1792)



Fig. 4

This old Chair has suffered obvious indignities during its long life but has survived, thankfully, to give authentic record to early origins in Worcestershire.

Although cut down, and 'de-armed', this early ladderback chair remains in good heart - basically sound and of excellent colour. The date of 1792 (figure 4) is very clear on the reverse of the dry, unpolished seat frieze. Several traces of the original green paint remain. The simple, and charming, piercing of the top ladder, (figure 5) seems most unusual, but in all other respects the chair bears all the constructional and design hallmarks of the chairmaking family of Kerry (Evesham)¹.

Details: Ladderback chair, ash, with elm seat. Back uprights smoothed and slanted off at top. Four graduated ladders, the top one shaped and pierced. Original stretchers to sides and front. Evidence of original green paint.

¹John Kerry, wood turner and furniture broker, first recorded 1820 at the age of 75. See page 290, 'English Regional Chair' by B. D. Cotton.

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Fig. 5 Ladderback Chair, 1792