

Cover illustration; Recently discovered workshop of Hugh Kaighin's at Kerrowglass, in the parish

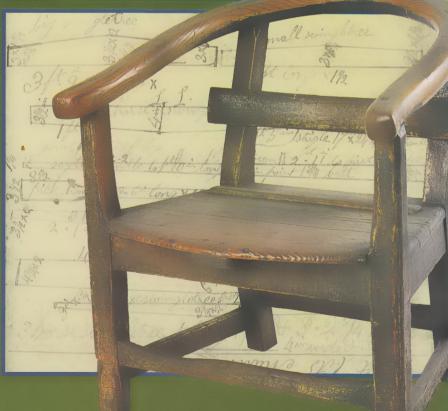
Photograph courtesy of B. D. Cotton

of Michael, Isle of Man.

MAN Traditional Furniture







by Bernard-D.Cotton



A Catalogue of the Furniture Collections of Manx National Heritage by Bernard D.Cotton

his book sets out to examine in some detail the furniture traditions of the Isle of Man, an Island of some 227 square miles situated in the Irish Sea, mid-way between England, Ireland and Scotland and which has retained a strong sense of its traditional way of life.

In a wide ranging introduction, the author examines the concept of Manx furniture, investigating its antecedents and influences from other parts of the British Isles, the social context in which it was used and focussing in some detail on the life and work of one crofter-joiner, through the evidence of his personal diaries, his surviving workshop and examples of his work.

The furniture catalogue examines over 400 items dating from the 16th to 20th centuries. These items are categorised into 23 numbered sections and include joined chairs and Windsor chairs, settles, dressers, tables, long case clocks and wooden cradles, as well as a section on the Museum's large collection of spinning wheels and devices. Each item is meticulously described and each section is

Signature:

introduced by an essay analysing the furniture and outlining its history and social use, drawn largely from interviews with Manx people.

With over 300 lavishly illustrated pages, including a full colour section, this is a book which will interest the general reader and furniture expert alike.

The Author

Dr.Bernard 'Bill' Cotton, is a furniture historian who specialises in the study of vernacular furniture traditions, in Britain and abroad. He researches and lectures widely, including North America where he has been Visiting Scholar at the Winterthur Museum, Delaware. Dr.Cotton is currently undertaking a survey of traditional furniture for the Museum of Newfoundland. He has published widely and his work *The English Regional Chair*, published by the Antique Collector's Club (1991) is the standard work in the field.

Published by Manx National Heritage

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Fig. 5. Extract from the Manx furniture collection catalogue. 'A 19th century painted windsor chair. Made in ash and oak'