

Furniture Surgery AM Sunday 17th July 2005

Space only permits the illustration and record of the discussion which took place in relation to two important items brought along to the furniture surgery in Beverley, following the AGM.

Bill Cotton emphasised the almost self-evident links between two mid 18th century Lincolnshire rush-seated chairs (figs 15 & 16), made out of fruitwood, and certain 18th century Philadelphia chairs made in the USA in the same period.

For example, the front square cabriole legs used on William Savery chairs made in Philadelphia, as illustrated in *The English Regional Chair*, (NE 188) are

very similar to those used on figs. 15 & 16.

Furthermore the cresting-rail and splat patterns (vase splat) on the Lincolnshire chair (fig. 16) are similar to the chair backs used on Hudson Valley (N.Y. State) chairs and those made in the Dominy workshop, East Hampton (N.Y. State) between 1770 and 1830.

It is worth noting that in the publication *'With Hammer in Hand'* by Charles Hummel it states that the dimensions of the cresting rail template B in the Dominy workshop are 15 inches long and $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches deep, identical to the dimensions of the cresting rail on figure 16.

John Boram



Fig. 15
Mid-18th
century
Lincolnshire
ladderback chair
in fruit wood



Fig. 16
Mid-18th
century
Lincolnshire
vase splat chair
in plumwood