



FURNITURE NOTES

A NORTH COUNTRY DRESSER

An 18th century oak dresser has recently been discovered with a brass plaque attached to the top-board above the drawers.

The inscription on the plaque indicates that the dresser was presented as a gift, by the local parishners, to the Curate, The Reverend James Dixon M.A. on his departure from the Parish of St. Oswalds, Durham on the 30th May 1887.

The current vicar of St. Oswalds, The Reverend Ben de la Mare, researched Crockfords to substantiate this date and provide further information. Apparently, The Reverend James Dixon was ordained in 1883 and served his four years as Curate at St. Oswalds before moving to London in 1887 to become Curate of St. Augustines, Kilburn.

The sense of regionality of this provenanced 18th century dresser is strengthened by certain similarities to 18th century dressers attributed to the Pickering area of North Yorkshire. For example, the applied mouldings to the end panels of the dresser base echo the bold fluted pilasters used on the North Pickering dressers.

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