

Church Furnishings a NADFAS guide by Patricia Dirsztay.
Illustrated by C. Cook, F. Curwen and P. Vincent. RKP 1978 £5.50

This NADFAS guide was drawn up to enable members of that organisation to describe correctly items found while compiling inventories of 'goods' in parish churches, using a common terminology acceptable to amateur and professional alike.

It contains within its 246 pages hundreds of extremely clear and explicit line drawings accompanied by succinct captions, a series of sample descriptions and a good index.

No single compilation can cover all the items and their innumerable variations to be found in the churches of this or any other country, but this has proved of very great value, and could be the inspiration for a similar work on English regional furniture. If such a work were to be produced it would help dispel confusion in people's minds as to what is meant by a particular term; if compiled on historical lines noting changes of terminology it would be even more valuable.

This book should be consulted by all those interested in such a project, its section devoted to furniture and woodwork is particularly useful and points the way to a fuller and more specialised compilation.

Lionel Reynolds