

Obituary

Paul McPherson 1920-2007

We were sorry to hear of the death of long-time American member of the RFS, Paul Shedd McPherson, in Washington DC. He joined America's Foreign Broadcast Information Service as an intelligence analyst in 1948, becoming a highly-respected specialist in monitoring Soviet, Chinese and east European radio broadcasts and other media for the CIA. By 1956 he had become chief of the Radio Propaganda Branch, and from 1961 he spent a considerable period working in England, where he was able to indulge a growing interest in regional furniture.

During his retirement he spent a further five years with his family in England, collecting all the time. Immersing himself in the British way of life, he lived in a house in the Thames Valley with a large garden including three greenhouses, apple and plum orchards, rose gardens and a grass tennis court. Deeply interested in archaeology, he travelled throughout the country following the network of Roman roads with the help of Ordnance Survey maps. He was also a regular contributor to *The Good Food Guide* and *The Good Pub Guide* and was a member of the English Place-Name Society. A larger-than-life character of wide-ranging enthusiasms, he made an outstanding collection of Windsor chairs which included a number of rarities.