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EARLY FURNITURE & 20TH CENTURY ART

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NEWSLETTER CHRISTMAS 2012

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Celebrate the festive season and the end of year with me at my **CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION**, Thursday 20th & Friday 21st 11 am - 8 pm or by appointment

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In the spirit of large gatherings and lavish meals at Christmas and the New Year I am presenting two exceptional, massive tables, one 16th century, the other 17th century, at my Christmas Exhibition at which I will be juxtaposing my stock of modern British pictures with the early furniture.



FEATURED ITEMS

An exceptionally rare, Elizabethan, 8ft., 2" long, 6-legged, oak drawleaf table extending to a massive, 15ft. 6 in., from Ripley Grange, Theydon Bois, Essex

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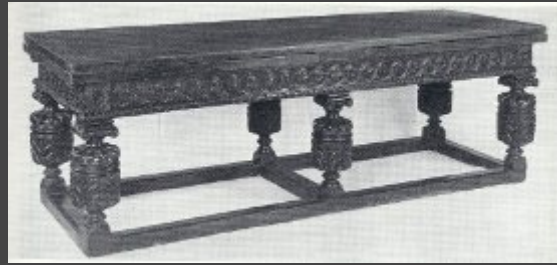


PROVENANCE : Ripley Grange, Theydon Bois Essex. Reputedly acquired by Charles Clarke for the house. Mallett & Son, London.

RELATED TO : There appears to be only one other comparison from this period with 6 bulbous legs which is in the Burrell Collection. Only the base survives and it has a modern top, replaced feet and has lost its leaves. As far as I am aware, this is the only other surviving, period example which could have extended to a similar size. The 4-legged drawleaf tables from this period all appear to have significantly smaller frames which indicates they could not have extended to this length.

LITERATURE : Illustrated in English Furniture 1550-1760 (Geoffrey Wills) Figure 3, courtesy of Mallett &

Son, London



'Banquets from medieval times being the recognised form of hospitality and entertainment, required tables of great length and solidity, as the amount of food prepared for these occasions was enormous.'

A massive, 17th century, oak trestle table with a 16ft 5 in long top made from a single plank of timber, from Sutton Place & the late John Paul Getty Collection

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Tables of trestle construction, were the most common type of early dining table. The tops were detachable and the entire table was frequently removed after meals. Trestle tables continued to be popular in the 17th century probably because they were so readily removable when a room had to be cleared for dancing and other revels. In *Romeo & Juliet*, Capulet instructs the servants to clear the hall and 'turn the tables up' for dancing. Even as late as 1649 there was 'a Long Table standing upon antique tressells' among Charles I's furniture at Greenwich.

PROVENANCE : Private Collection. Purchased from the Estate of the late J P Getty Esq, Sutton Place. Inventory Number BRITFRN/162. The table has, by repute, been at Sutton Place since it was made.



A SELECTION OF DINING TABLES



A 12-14 seater, 18th century, 'antiquarian', elm, trestle table in the Gothic revival style, with a beautifully figured, 9ft 9in long top, from the collection of Lord Inchcape



An unusual, early-18th century, French, cherrywood & chestnut, 8ft 6in long, 'H' stretchered table with sliding doors along the back frieze revealing a large compartment under the top



A 6-8 seater, late-16th/early-17th century, French, 6ft long, oak, centre table with 'X' ends & iron stretcher in the Renaissance manner



DARWIN BI-CENTENARY TABLE SCULPTURE : Laurence Edwards (b. 1967) in collaboration with Lucy Johnson, 6ft long, 6-8 seater

An unusual, 4-6 seater, late-17th/early-18th century, oak, trestle, table with bench, 4ft 10in long



A 6-8 seater, late-18th century, 'H' stretchered, oak, farmhouse table, 5ft 2in long



A 6-8 seater, 19th century, pine trestle table, 6ft 5in long



A rare, large, 8-10 seater, late-17th century, gateleg table, extending to 5ft 8in with an elaborate, turned, oak base and mahogany top, possibly Colonial



A large, 8-10 seater, mid-18th century, rectangular, oak gateleg table with an exceptional patina, extending to 5ft 3in



A rare, 4-seater, late-17th/early-18th century, walnut, envelope, gaming, or supper, gateleg table extending to 4ft 5 in.



A 4-6 seater, Second Renaissance, French, walnut, centre table with a slate inset top, 4ft 10in long

Finally, I will be exhibiting from STAND 16 at the London Art Fair, Business Design Centre, Islington, 16th - 20th January 2013. Please email me if you would like a complimentary invitation to the fair.

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