

1 Introduction



MESDA Accession Number 2082

During my initial research on early Georgia Piedmont furniture, I reviewed the 1952 Richmond Southern Furniture Exhibition Catalogue and became aware of the *Salzburger Ebenezer Table*. I was intrigued by the changes made to the table through its history. The table came up in conversations with both Brad Rauschenberg and Dale Couch. If I was to focus on researching Georgia Period Furniture and do any reproductions of the pieces, this table had to be included. It helps tell a story about a very specific European group of initial Georgia settlers who immigrated during the colony's founding. While not having a familiar style or form, I find it an appealing piece that has survived.

On September 19th and 20th, 2019, I was welcomed and given full access to the table and its accession materials at the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts. The table as it currently exists is an original fragment that has been extensively conserved. I believe I now understand its construction and have knowledge of its original materials. This report will serve to record that understanding. Hopefully, this report will also be of use to the museum and others who choose to study this table in the future.

2 Location

Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts

924 South Main Street

Winston-Salem, NC 27101

336-721-7372

www.MESDA.org / www.OldSalem.org

3 Contacts

Daniel K. Ackermann

Curator of MESDA Collections

dackermann@oldsalem.org

4 Pre-Access Research

4.1 Publications

4.1.1 Southern Furniture 1640 – 1820, 1952 Richmond, VA Exhibition



EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT

BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

This is the earliest reference I have found to the table.

The photograph is in the catalogue for the 1952 Southern Furniture Exhibition, held in Richmond Virginia. The Catalogue was compiled by the editors of the MAGAZINE ANTIQUES. Its purpose was to "bring together many pieces of furniture whose southern origin could be verified, so that by study and comparison the distinctive characteristics of the region could be identified". The exhibit was compiled by the leading furniture scholars, purveyors and owners of southern furniture of the time.

<i>Committee for the Exhibition</i>			
Helen Comstock, <i>The Magazine ANTIQUES</i>		Mrs. Douglas Southall Freeman, <i>Honorary Chairman</i> Co-Chairmen	Leslie Cheek, Jr., <i>The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts</i>
E. Milby Burton Joseph Downs	Henry Francis du Pont John M. Graham II	Joe Kindig, Jr. Charles Navis	Mrs. John G. Pollard Alice Winchester
<i>Assisting</i> Edward P. Alexander Vincent D. Andrus Worth Bailey Jake Bernstein John Canaday Mrs. Ralph Catterall Mrs. Herbert A. Claiborne James L. Cogar G. Arthur Cook Mrs. G. Dallas Coons Lucy Cherry Crisp Charles C. Cunningham	Mrs. Robert W. Daniel Virginia Waller Davis Mrs. Frank Duke Mrs. Alfred I. du Pont Benjamin Ginsburg Henry D. Green John Davis Hatch Mrs. George E. Haw Mrs. J. G. Hayes Solange Strong Hertz Miss Virginia Horne Frank L. Horton Colonel Catesby ap C. Jones	Dorothy Holcombe Kabler Mrs. William Kendall Marie Kimball Mrs. John W. Labouisse Charles W. Lyon, Jr. Irving W. Lyon Charles A. MacLellan E. Ross Millhiser Charles F. Montgomery Eleanor Hume Offutt John Marshall Phillips Dr. J. Kirk Richardson Israel Sack	Albert D. Sams Walter Sharp Mrs. H. H. Smith Mrs. J. J. Pringle Smith David Stockwell Arthur J. Sussel Mabel M. Swan Dr. Earl Gregg Swem Mrs. Charlton M. Theus Mrs. Granville Gray Valentine Mrs. Earl Ware C. Malcolm Watkins Mrs. E. A. Watson

The Lenders of the Furniture were;

Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities Miss Ellen M. Bacot Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Gibbs Ball Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Barrett Mrs. John Rutherford Bennett Dr. Green Berkeley Mr. and Mrs. W. Welby Beverley Mrs. Alfred Bissell Mrs. John J. Blount Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Cabell III Mrs. Gabriel Cannon Mr. and Mrs. R. R. M. Carpenter, Jr. W. S. Carpenter, Jr. C. Hill Carter, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hill Carter Charleston Museum Dr. T. J. Charlton Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Chinn James L. Cogar Colonial Dames of America in the State of Virginia Colonial Williamsburg Mr. and Mrs. Lammot du Pont Copeland Mr. and Mrs. G. Dallas Coons Miss Fanny Crenshaw Mrs. John H. Cronly Mrs. F. B. Crowninshield Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Davis Mr. and Mrs. Bolling S. Du Bose Mrs. Lewis du Pont Mr. and Mrs. Andrew W. Dutt	Carroll H. Fowlkes, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Henry T. Gaud Mrs. Joseph F. Geisinger Mr. and Mrs. James G. Gibbs Dr. and Mrs. Wallace Gill Ginsburg & Levy Mr. and Mrs. John C. Goddin Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Green Hammond-Harwood House, Annapolis Mr. and Mrs. Philip Hanes Mr. and Mrs. Ralph P. Hanes Mr. and Mrs. George E. Haw Mrs. John G. Hayes, Sr. Mrs. A. T. Henderson Heyward-Washington House Frank L. Horton Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Jamieson Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation Kentucky Historical Society Major and Mrs. V. Lee Kirby Robert E. Lee Memorial Foundation Mrs. Lionel K. Legge Mrs. George C. Logan Miss Gladys Lyles Mrs. John T. McLaws Mr. and Mrs. E. Ross Millhiser Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Bruce Moffett Mrs. Charles Beatty Moore Mount Vernon Ladies' Association J. Pope Nash Mrs. Lucian D. Nelson Mrs. Eleanor Hume Offutt	Robert S. Pace Mrs. Robert F. Phifer Miss Jennie Porcher Dr. and Mrs. William Branch Porter Mr. and Mrs. Raymond C. Power Dr. and Mrs. J. Kirk Richardson Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rulon-Miller Salem Academy and College Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Sampson Mrs. Walter A. Sams, Jr. Walter A. Sams, Sr. Mrs. George Scheer Mr. and Mrs. Huger Sinkler Smithsonian Institution South Carolina Society Mrs. Francis B. Stewart David Stockwell Mrs. Albert H. Stoddard Mrs. Theodore L. Taliaferro Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences Mrs. William B. Thalheimer, Sr. Mr. and Mrs. Charlton M. Theus H. Eugene Thomas Valentine Museum Miss Otey Vincent Virginia Historical Society Wachovia Historical Society Wadsworth Athenaeum Mr. and Mrs. William H. Walling Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wheelwright Yale University Art Gallery Anonymous Lenders
--	---	--

EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT

BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

4.1.2 SAVANNAH FURNITURE, Mrs. Carlton M. Theus

The next reference I found is in **SAVANNAH FURNITURE**, a self-published book by Mrs. Charlton M. Theus. I believe the book was published 1967 (??). It contains both a photograph and a short description of what was known about the table. At the time she published the book, Mrs. Theus was a previous owner of the table.

The earliest piece of Savannah made furniture to be found is a stretcher table of cypress and southern pine in the style of the late 17th century. This was probably made about 1740 by one of the Salzburger carpenters who had settled at nearby Ebenezer in Effingham County, and who was working in the style with which he was familiar in his old country forty or fifty years earlier. None of the early Salzburger settlers, however, were listed as cabinet-makers. (See Illus. 2)



4.1.3 GEORGIA'S LEGACY: History Charted through the Arts Exhibition, Georgia Museum of Art

In 1985 the table was exhibited at the Georgia Museum of Art in an exhibition to celebrate the University of Georgia's Bicentennial.



35 Stretcher Table, ca. 1740

Ebenezer area, Effingham County
Primary woods: sweetgum legs; tulip poplar apron; yellow pine stretchers

H. 26", W. 29 1/4", D. 24 1/2"

Condition: Top restored; feet tipped; originally had a drawer

Exhibitions: *Southern Furniture 1640-1820*, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, 1952

References: Comstock, "Furniture of Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, and Kentucky," *Antiques* January 1952, 98; Horton, *Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts Catalogue of Collection*, 25; Morton, *Southern Antiques and Folk Art*, 24; Fairbanks and Bates, *American Furniture, 1620 to the Present*, 327; Poesch, *The Art of the Old South*, 89; MESDA file #S-1162.

Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts

EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT

BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

This stretcher table is believed to have been made by Salzburgers in the New Ebenezer settlement. The first group of Salzburgers landed in Savannah in March 1734, led by Pastor Johann Martin Bolzius. To escape religious persecution, the Salzburgers began leaving Austria in 1731; they immigrated via Holland to a site on the west side of the Savannah River. Laid out for them by Oglethorpe six miles from the river, Ebenezer (meaning "hitherto hath the Lord helped us") proved to be inconvenient, swampy, and sandy. In his journal, Philip Georg Friedrich von Reck relates how he and "Mr. Bolzius had informed Mr. Oglethorpe of the conditions of the Salzburgers, the nature of the soil at Old Ebenezer, and the difficult communications between this place and the other English plantations and had suggested for a real and profitable development of the city

of Ebenezer a good and fertile place at the confluence of the Ebenezer and Savannah rivers (Hvidt, *Von Reck's Voyage*, 35). In 1736, Oglethorpe reluctantly allowed the Salzburgers and the third transport, whom he had intended to populate Saint Simons, to relocate at the mouth of Ebenezer Creek, "previously named Red Bluff because of the red clay soil . . . a good German mile from Old Ebenezer" (Hvidt, *Von Reck's Voyage*, 36). The settlement of New Ebenezer was plotted into city lots with space for a church, school, marketplace, and the first orphanage in Georgia, which was established in 1737.

The style of this table is reminiscent of late seventeenth-century furniture. Since its provenance is of New Ebenezer, however, the piece could not predate 1736.

This Salzburger craftsman created a table reminiscent of a style with which he was familiar—Jacobean transitional William and Mary, characterized by ball feet and heavy stretchers. His possible Germanic training is suggested by the repeated turnings and heavy moldings on this piece. The combination of indigenous woods as well as the retardataire style illustrates the cultural lag in America's last colony.

4.1.4 The Savannah River Valley to 1865, Ashley Callahan Editor

The First Henry D. Green Symposium of the decorative Arts was held in January 2002. The table appears in the publication produced for the Symposium in an article written by Dale Couch.



1. SALZBURGER TABLE
c. 1740; Georgia.
Yellow pine, poplar, and gum.
Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts.

The principal surviving example of the decorative arts in the Colonial Savannah River Basin is the well-known Salzburger table in Figure 1. This table is a good example of Germanic design. Turned, out-canted legs combined with flat stretchers represent a distinctive vernacular form of the Palatinate and Tyrol regions of Germanic Europe. Northern, largely Pennsylvania, examples have sawn legs. The pyramidal mass of the base of the table provides extreme stability. First collected in the early twentieth century, the table has a history in the lower Savannah River Basin.¹ The Salzburger authorship of this table is not surprising considering the well-established tradition of Germanic wood technology. In fact, for a brief while, under the tutelage of the clockmaker Freidrich Mueller, turned work from the region was produced for export in the form of spinning wheels.

The rich ethnic meaning of this object is a reminder that a complex mix of European- and African-born people settled in the Savannah River Basin. German- and French-speaking settlers inhabited both sides of the river, from its coastal entry into its far reaches. While this table is the most dramatic example to survive from this polyglot early period, numerous traces of these ethnic heritages can be discerned.

4.2 Museum Information

MESDA has an excellent online information page on the table, part of which is included below;

Stretcher Table

Place Made: Ebenezer Georgia United States of America

Date Made: 1735-1740

Medium: sweet gum –yellow poplar –yellow pine

Dimensions: HOA: 26; WOA: 32; DOA: 27 1/2

Accession Number: 2082

DESCRIPTION: Splayed leg stretcher table with legs turned in a repeating ball pattern; connected at the base with flat stretchers mitered at the corners and morticed into the legs from the side and nailed. Upper apron dovetailed with legs set inside frame.

WOODS: legs of sweetgum (*liquidambar styraciflua*), apron of yellow poplar (*liriodendron tulipifera*) and stretchers of a yellow pine type. The boards that enclose the bottom of the apron are also of yellow pine.

CONDITION: The bottoms of three feet and the removable top are modern replacements.

STYLE: With a removable top, deep frame, splayed legs, and flat stretchers, the table's stylistic heritage is clearly derived from vernacular prototypes in southern Germany, northern Austria, and Switzerland. The dovetailed frame conceals a storage area that can be reached only by removing the top, which is attached to the sides with large pins that pierce dovetailed battens, a standard Germanic construction technique.

HISTORY: The table was first illustrated in the January 1952 issue of *The Magazine Antiques* dedicated to the southern furniture exhibition at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond. Frank Horton purchased it in 1966 from the Savannah antiques dealer, James Arthur Williams. Williams acquired the table from Mr. and Mrs. Charlton Theus of Savannah, who acquired it in the early 1930s from Miss Margaret Stiles. Stiles noted that she had purchased it from a Mr. West, an antiques picker and dealer, who found the table near the site of Ebenezer in Effingham County, Georgia.

The museum has also included historical information that relates to the table and possible makers.

This table is the earliest known piece of Georgia furniture. It was made at the Salzburger settlement in Ebenezer, Georgia, during its first years of settlement. In 1734 the Reverend Johann Martin Bolzius (1703-1765) accompanied nearly fifty German and Austrian Lutherans to Georgia. They were fleeing religious oppression in the Archbishopric of Salzburg, a city located in the Austrian Alps near the Bavarian border. Three additional groups of Salzburgers, as they were called, followed, and German Protestants from Wurttemberg joined the settlement during the 1750s.

The Salzburger settlement included a number of competent woodworkers, such as George Kogler, the town's master builder who supervised construction of the orphanage, the flour mill, and the first wooden church. In 1740, Reverend Bolzius described Kogler as "our most prominent carpenter." In early Salzburger records, Bolzius mentioned only two men engaged in cabinetmaking. The first, Frederick William Muller (d. 1751), arrived in 1736 as a clockmaker from Frankfurt. In 1738, Bolzius lamented that "we have no carpenter or cabinetmaker in the community" and "the clockmaker Mueller is applying himself to such work and makes everything very neatly and industriously...He works not only in wood but also in bone, iron, and other tractable things." Two years later, Bolzius noted that Muller was "a very skillful man, who can copy almost everything he sees, and he is making such spinning wheels for the people." By 1741, Muller had made six wooden clocks for Governor James Oglethorpe and operated a lathe producing buttons and knife handles "as good as in Germany."

Because Muller hailed from Frankfurt, a prosperous urban center on the Main River in western Germany, the more likely maker of a vernacular table with southern Germanic roots would be Hans Krusy (1681-1748), a Swiss joiner who migrated first to Purrysburg, South Carolina, but in 1738 crossed the Savannah River to join the Salzburgers in Ebenezer. Bolzius noted that Krusy was a 57-year-old carpenter from Appenzell, Switzerland, who "can do all sorts of cabinet making and barrel making." Krusy produced a rice mill for the orphanage and wheels for wagons and carts. In 1739, Bolzius called him "the old carpenter from Purysburg, who is helping to build my house." As Bolzius noted, Hans Krusy was from Appenzell, a rural canton in the Alpine region of eastern Switzerland close to the Swiss border with Austria and Liechtenstein.

Fighting during the American Revolution left the town of Ebenezer in ruins, and by 1855 it had been largely abandoned. Jerusalem Lutheran Church is one of the community's few surviving buildings. A large brick structure completed in 1769, it is now the oldest church building in the State of Georgia. Today, both the Ebenezer town site and the church are listed on the National Historic Register, and the town site is the focus of ongoing archaeological investigations.

4.3 Interviews

Prior to my visit to MESDA I spent some time discussing the table with Dale Couch at GMOA. While a Horton Fellow at MESDA in the 1980's he had studied and produced a project on the table. He indicated that the Palatine/South Germanic style of the table gave some clue as to who might have made the table.

In the records the Salzburger leader, Reverend Bolzius, noted that a man named Mueller was involved in a lot of cabinet and joinery work. Even though he is known to have a lathe and turned many items, he is not from the area where the style of the table originated. Thus, it is expected one of the others mentioned as carpenters from that region, probably made the table.

Dale indicated that there were some doubts on Henry Green's part as to the origin and date of the table. However, Dale contacted Mrs. Theus and got her recollections of the table's acquisition in the early 1930's. He was able to obtain a signed letter from her on the table acquisition and he forwarded that on to Frank Horton at MESDA. She had obtained the table from the front porch of a Miss Styles. Miss Styles is a descendant of William Few, an important Colonial merchant who engaged with the Salzburgers. Dale is aware of the table representation in the

1952 Exhibition Catalogue. He is not sure it was shown at the exhibit due to Henry Green's lack of knowledge/memory that it was there.

It appears there may have been an underlying/unspoken competition between Green and Theus as to who owned the oldest piece of Georgia Furniture.

5 Table Access Level

Daniel Ackermann, Kim May and all the staff at MESDA were extremely helpful during my research and table examination. They provided me full access to the table and existing research documentation, as well as whatever assistance I needed. The table was placed in a conference room to allow easy access and I was given all the time I needed to compile my research. During my time with the table I was able to:

- Take 176 detailed photographs
- Generate a basic sketch of the table with dimensions noted
- Generate seven detail/section sketches
- Develop three story sticks of the table's base with detailed dimensions
- Generate a chipboard half section pattern of the leg turnings
- Generate a chipboard tracing of the two front legs
- Generate a chipboard tracing of the table feet
- Develop a chipboard story drawing of the leg angles

This information gave me a thorough understanding of the table, its condition and its construction.

6 Piece Description

6.1 Accession Information

Review of the Table's Accession File produced the following:

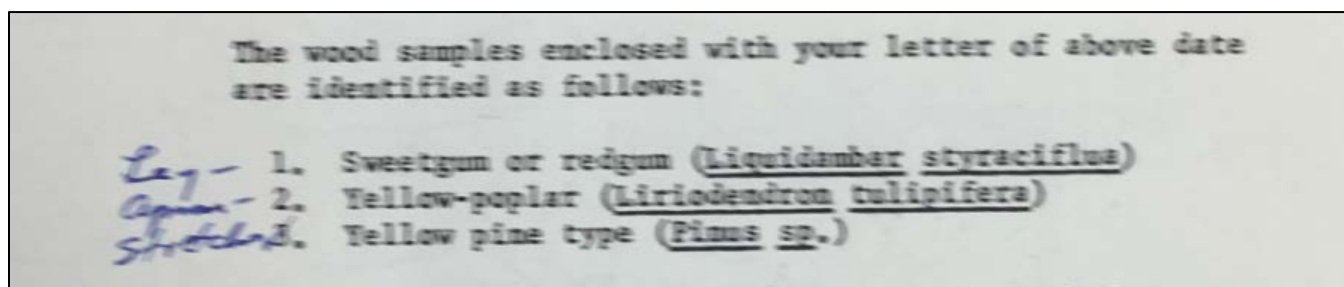
The file contains this photocopy of the table photograph



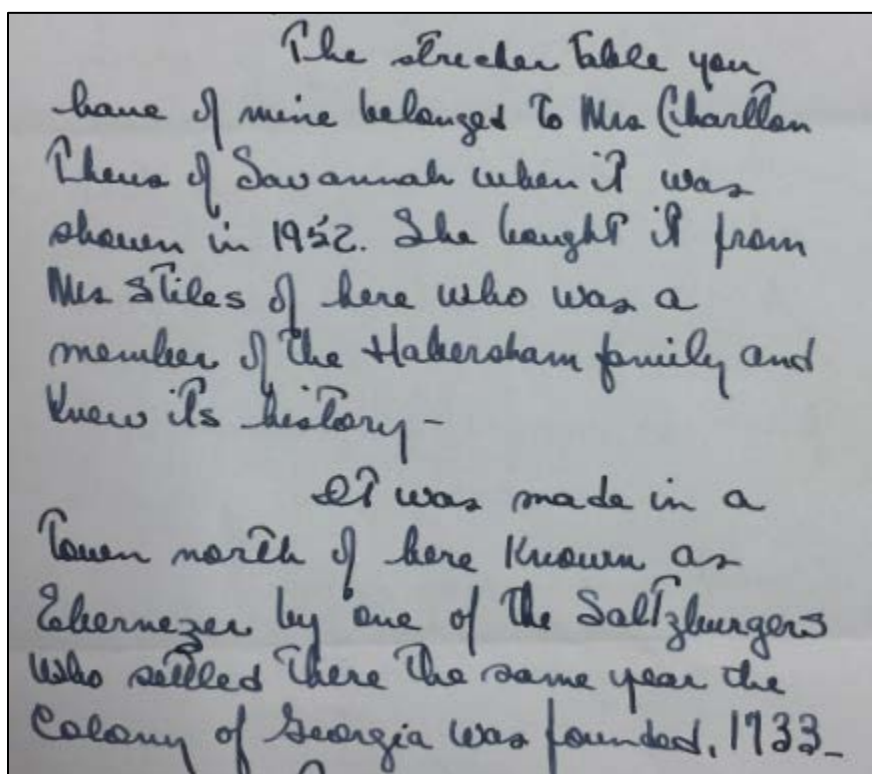
This photograph is part of a confusion of images of the table. Compare the 1952 photo, page 2, to the 1967 photo, page 4, the 1985 photo page 4. There appears to be an intermediate level of conservation documented. In the second photo you can see the feet have been repaired but there are no side battens holding the top. This is true also of the photo above. The latest image of the table, page 1, shows the table as it exists today.

EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT
BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

Prior to the Accession of the table, correspondence indicates that Frank Horton undertook a microscopic analysis of the wood species to ensure the table was not of European origin. The results obtained from the USDA in April 1966 were



The Table was purchased by MESDA on April 21, 1966 from Mr. James Arthur Williams of Savannah. His representation of the table was as follows;



In April of 1987 Dale Couch mailed a letter that contained Mrs. Theus' recollections of her acquisition and ownership of the table.

EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT
BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

First are citations of articles she wrote.

Mrs. Theus's early ownership of the table and/or its Salzburger attribution are mentioned in:

ANTIQUES, January, 1952

GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY
Volume 36, September, 1952
"Furniture and cabinetmakers of
Early Coastal Georgia" by Mrs.
Theus.

ANTIQUES, February, 1954
"Furniture and cabinetmakers of
Coastal Georgia," by Mrs. Theus

Next is her signed remembrances of her purchase.

1. You and your late husband purchased the table in the early 1930's.
2. You purchased the table from the front porch of the home of Miss or Mrs. Margaret Stiles.
3. It was clearly understood by you that Margaret Stiles had obtained the table from a fellow West who had bought it locally.
4. West himself was well known to you as a picker.
5. You paid \$10.00 for the table.
6. You kept the table in its found condition in your attic for many years realizing it was quite early and thus not wishing to alter it.

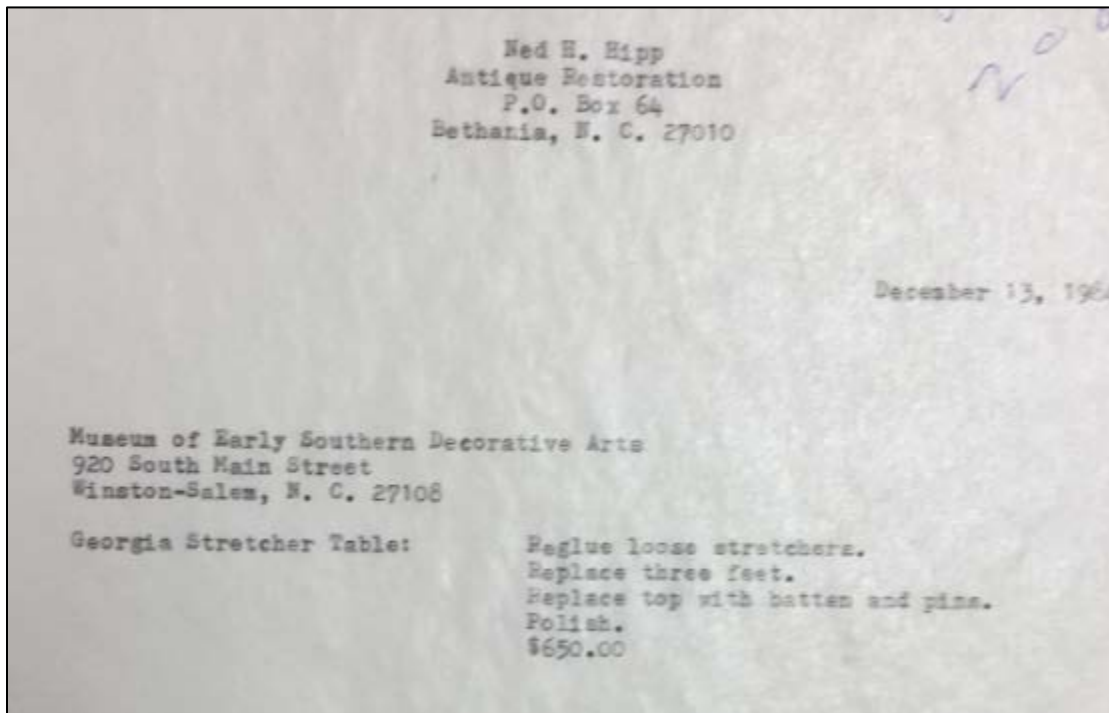
Wm. A. Theus
signature
Jan. 12, 1987
date

Please indicate your agreement with this version as amended by you.

EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT

BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

The tables conservation was done by Ned H. Hipp and was concisely detailed in his invoice of December 13, 1984 in his invoice.



This leaves the question that the intermediate picture represents a previous undocumented conservation. I've also noted on what appears to be the original Accession Card, that there were previous restorations. Also, note the assumption the drawer was not thought to be original.

Measurements: 32" W, 27 1/2" deep 24" top, frame 24x18 1/2" top, 24x18 1/2" base.
Restorations: entire top, a drawer opening, thought not to be original, was closed by previous owner, and the ball feet were restored.
The Williams purchased from Mrs. Charlton M. Theus of Savannah. She

Included in the file are several excerpts from the "Detailed Reports on the Salzburger Emigrants...." Edited by Jones & Wilson. Highlighted are entries about

- "An old Swiss from Appenzell" (Is this Krusy?)
- "the Clockmaker Mueller"
- "Kogler most prominent carpenter, ."

A printout of the MESDA Craftsman Database filtered for Ebenezer, GA in September of 2018 is included in the file. There are multiple carpenters on the list, including all those noted previously except for Mr. Krusy.

EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT

BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

Multiple printouts of examples of Swiss tables have been printed from various websites in 2018 as well. The Swiss Extending Table below is an example of those selected.



6.2 Condition

Overall the condition of the *Salzburger Ebenezer Table* is excellent. All its joints are tight, and the current finish is in very good condition. The table's bottom is loose, laying atop battens that are nailed to the inside bottom of the aprons. There is no evidence that these boards have ever been attached to the battens. It is surprising to me that the bottom survived loose while the top was lost. The look of the pine bottom boards is very similar to the sides, so I have no reason to doubt they are original to the table. Three feet are replacements with a dowel placed in the fourth to level the table. I assume the fourth was left that way so the condition of the feet at conservation can be seen. The drawer opening closure is easily seen both inside and out. I looked over the piece both inside and out with a strong light and a black light, noticing no signatures or other markings.

While the finish is consistent with polish/wax over aged linseed oil I've noted that the apron is very dark and opaque. This leads me to wonder if the original might have been painted.

6.3 Overall Dimensions

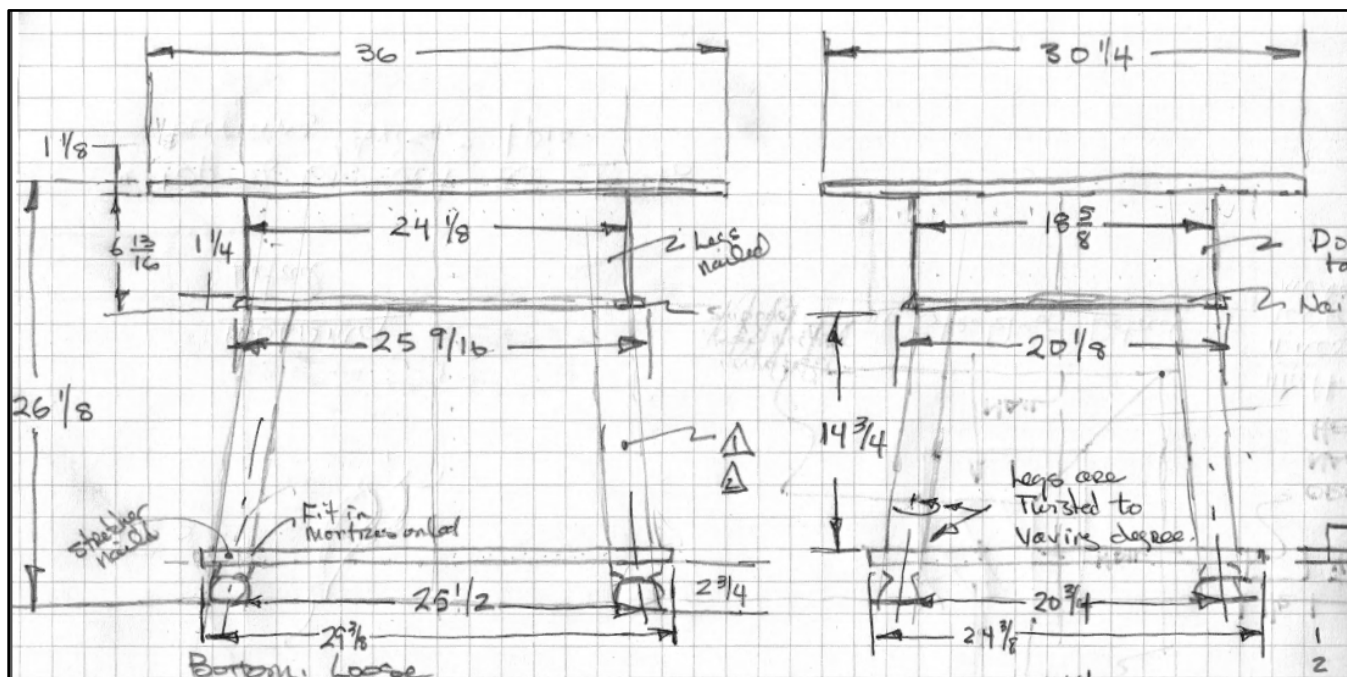
The overall dimensions of the *Salzburger Ebenezer Table* from the MESDA online information is

Dimensions: HOA: 26; WOA: 32; DOA: 27 1/2

EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT

BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

During my inspection of the table I generated the following over all sketch:



6.4 Woods Used

Based on the testing accomplished by MESDA the woods used are:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| • Legs | Sweetgum |
| • Apron | Yellow Poplar |
| • Apron Base | Yellow Pine |
| • Stretchers | Yellow Pine |
| • Top & Battens | Yellow Pine |
| • Bottom | Yellow Pine |

6.5 Top Description

The replacement top currently on the table is made of 3 boards secured by side battens that have been dovetailed from opposite sides to hold the table together. The top dimensions are 36" wide, 30 1/4" deep and 1- 1/8" thick. (Note my measurements are different from those in the online MESDA information.) The edge has a generous thumbnail profile. It is secured to the table via two pins placed through the battens and the table aprons. The pins are turned.

Based on my interview with Dale Couch, Ned Hipp utilized old boards that he had in his wood inventory.

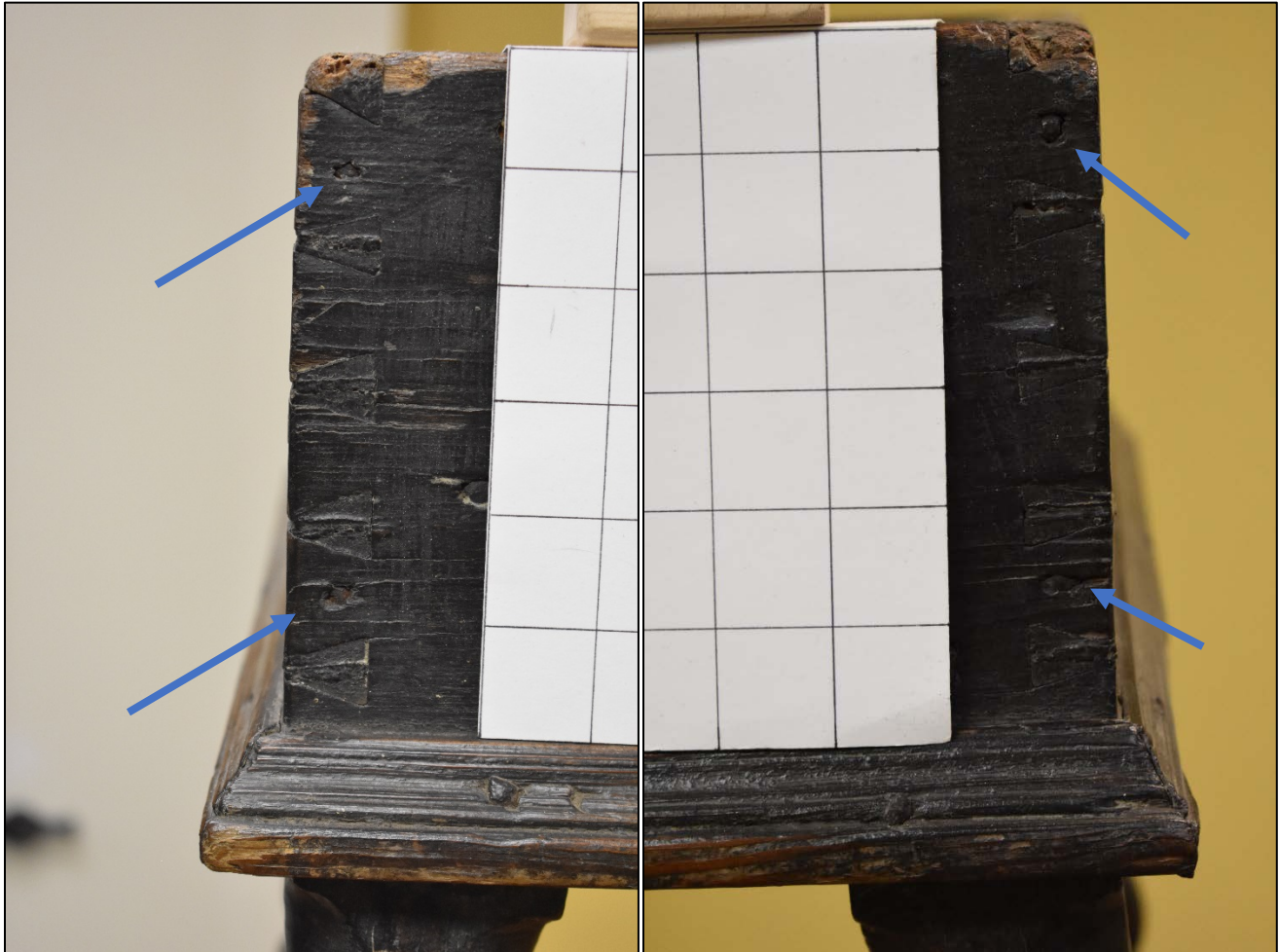
EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT
BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019



6.6 Apron Description

The table apron is 24 1/8" wide, 18-5/8" deep and 6-13/16" high. The apron thickness varies. The front (drawer side) and the shorter sides are 1-1/8" thick. The back of the table is 1-1/4" thick.

The apron is dovetailed together with the tails on the front and back, the pins on the sides. In addition to the dovetails the front and back have been nailed to the side, through the upper and lower tails.

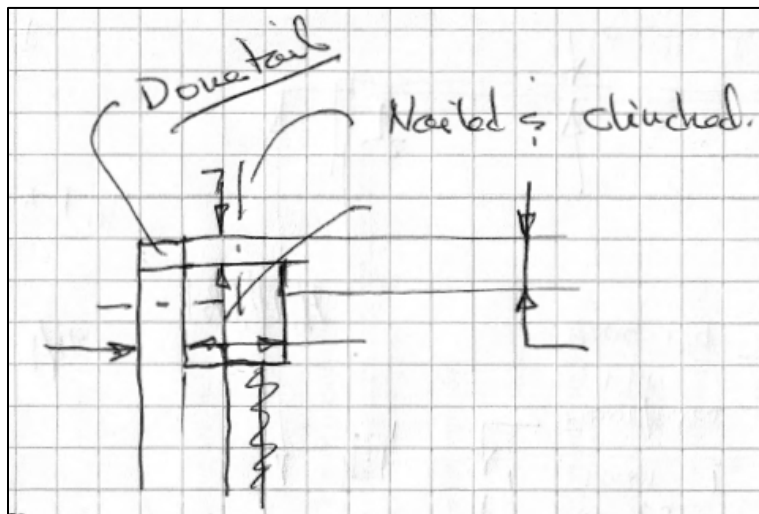


Front tails



Side Pins

The ends of the apron boards were rabbeted to house the top of the legs.



EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT

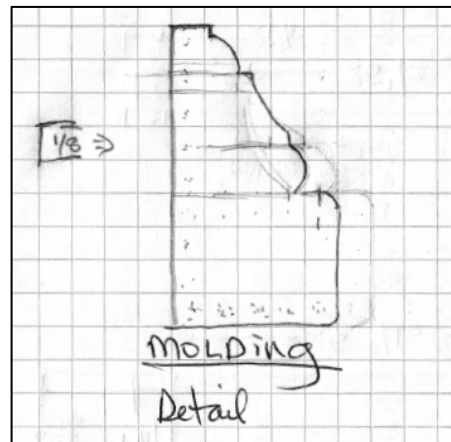
BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

The openings vary in size to account for the apron thicknesses and to fit each leg.

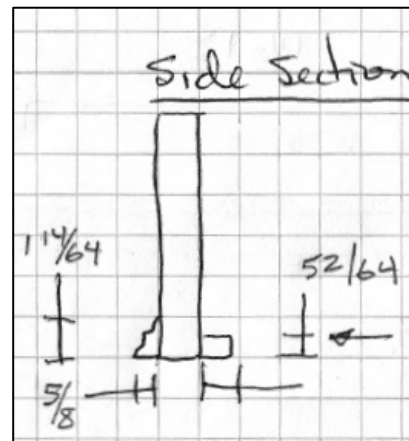


Location	Width	Depth
Front Left	1 13/16"	1 11/16"
Front Right	1 11/16"	1 5/8"
Rear Left	1 7/8"	1 5/8"
Rear Right	1 3/4"	1 3/4"

The apron is banded at the bottom with a nailed-on moulding. The moulding is 1-1/4" tall by 5/8" thick.



The inside of the apron is banded with rectangular battens nailed on to support the bottom. The battens are 13/16" thick and approximately 1/2" wide.

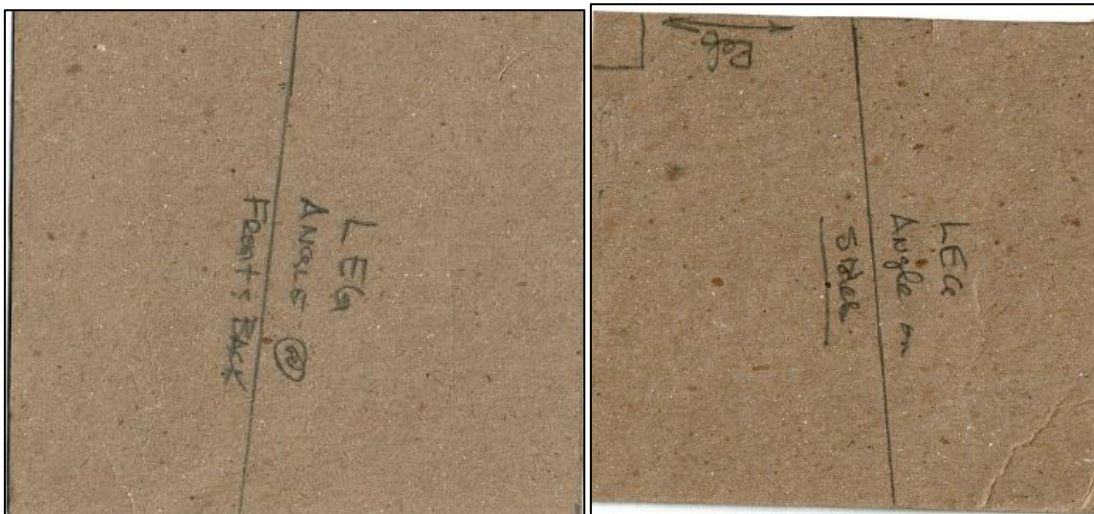


6.7 Leg Description

The 2-½" by 2-½" table legs are turned between pommels below the apron and above the stringer. Below the stretcher a pommel is turned followed by a circular foot.



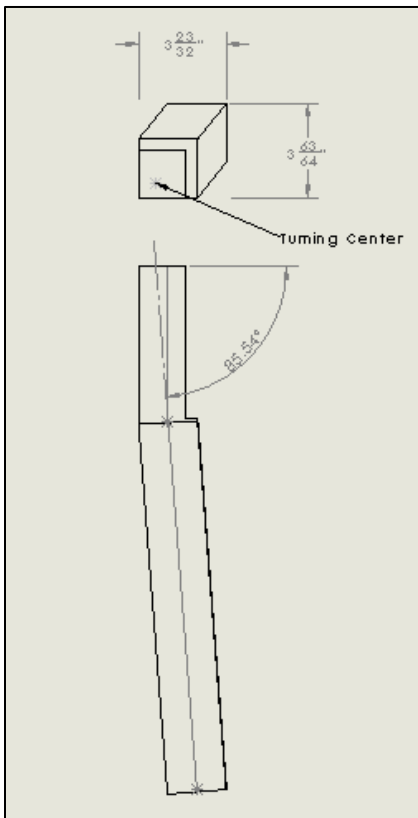
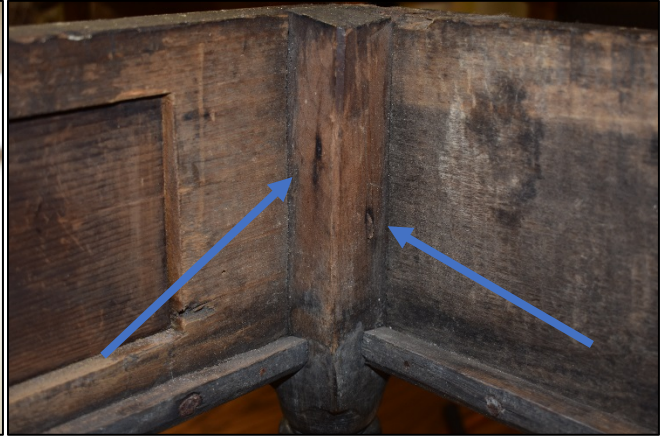
The legs are splayed outward both front to back to the side at an angle of $84\frac{1}{2}$ degrees.



The height of the top of the leg from the floor is 19-5/16".

The legs are attached to the table using clinched nails into tenons that issue from the top of the angled leg in a vertical direction. Using a model developed in SolidWorks I determined that the legs were probably turned from a solid piece of stock that was approximately 4" by 4". I feel that this is confirmed by noting that the upper surface of the leg was cut perpendicular to the original stock centerline, as the angles match.

EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT
BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

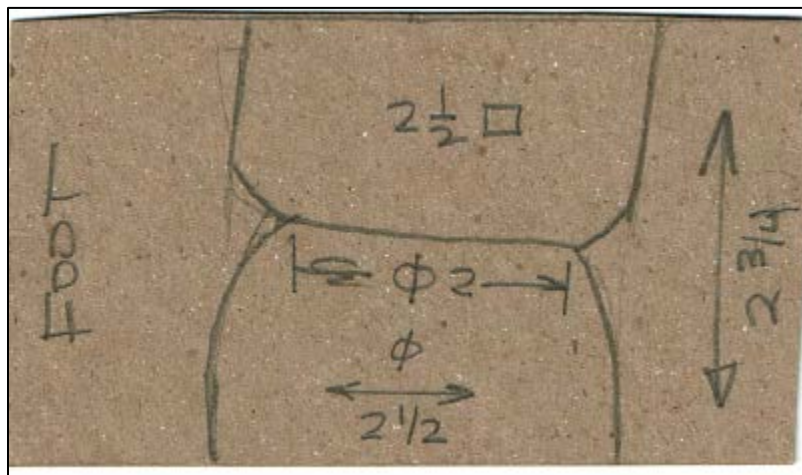


EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT
BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

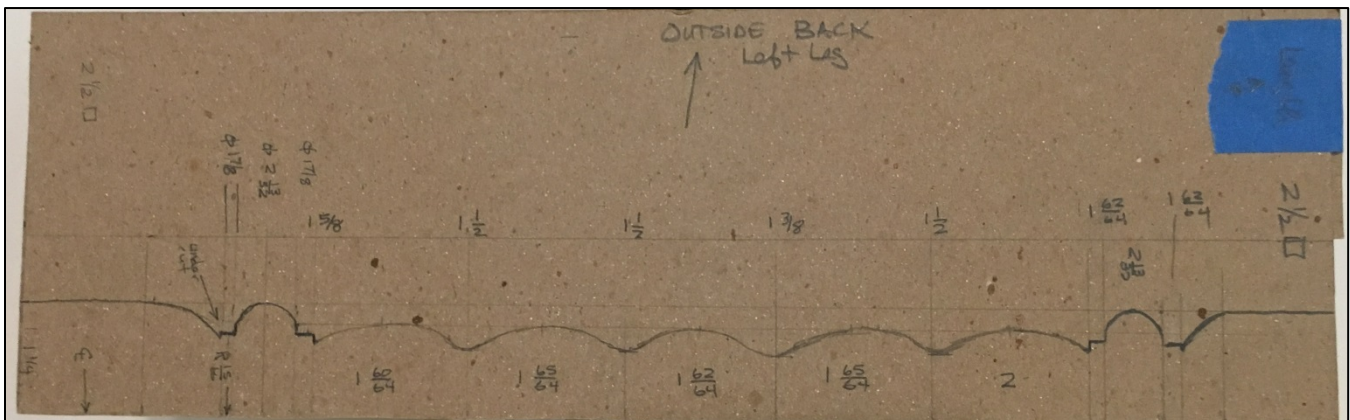
The legs attach to the stretchers via dados that are cut on the outside of each leg.



The feet extend 2- $\frac{3}{4}$ " up from the floor to the stretchers. The foot diameter is 2- $\frac{1}{2}$ ".



A half pattern was generated that document the turned elements on the leg between the apron and stretchers.

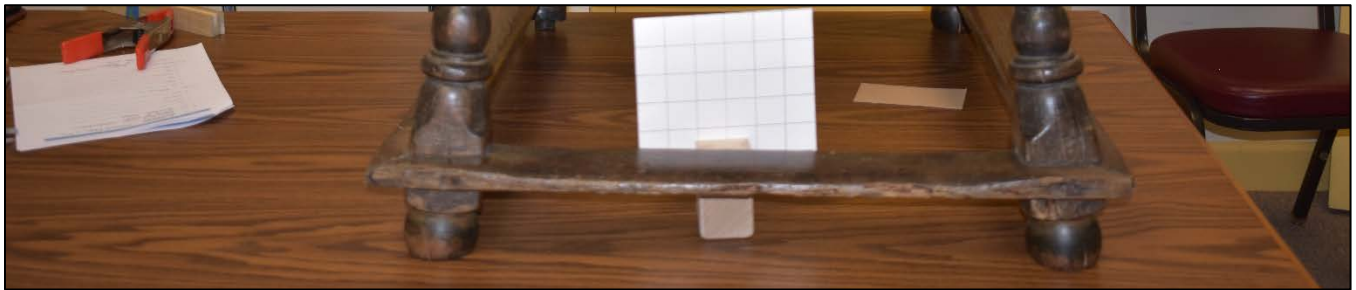
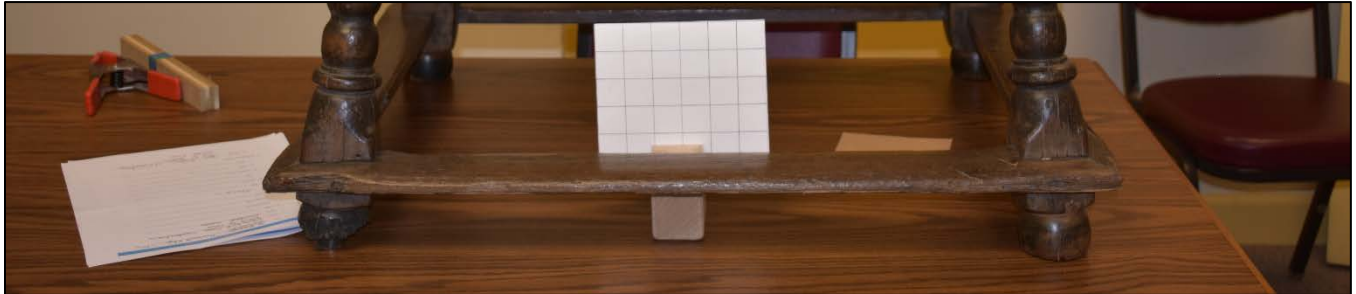


EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT

BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

6.8 Stretcher Description

The stretchers are 2-½" wide by ¾" thick. The outside dimension of the table at the stringer is 25-½" wide by 24-3/8" deep.



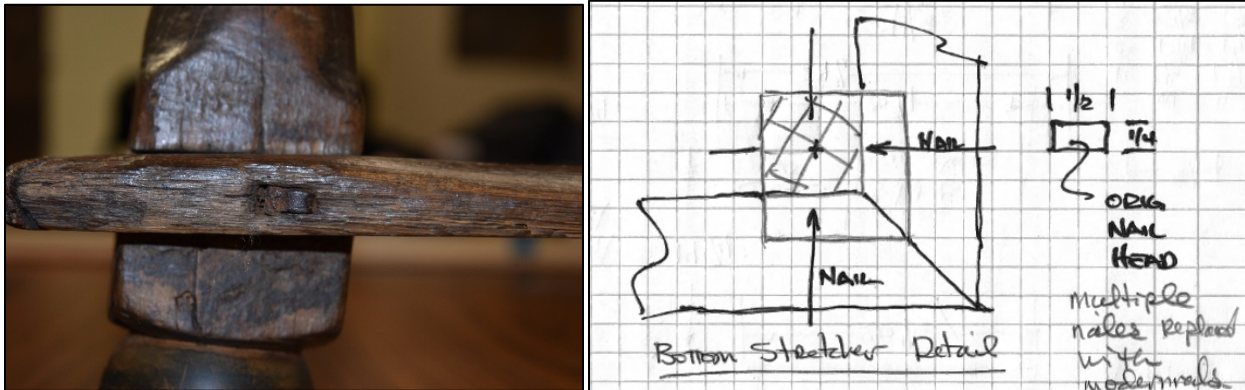
They are fitted to dados in the legs and mitered at the corners.



EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT

BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

They are attached to the legs via large cut nails/spikes into the remaining section of the leg.

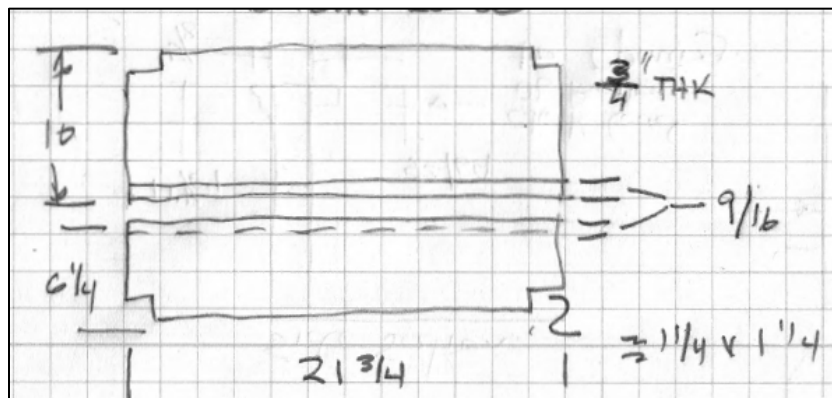


You can see where modern nails have been used to secure the stretchers in past repairs.



6.9 Bottom Description

The bottom is made of two boards that have a half lap joint.



EBENEZER STRETCHER TABLE REVIEW REPORT
BILL MARKERT - SEPTEMBER 25, 2019



The bottom was cut to fit accounting for the irregularities in the leg tenons. It will only fit in one orientation.



I verified that the bottom aligned with the drawer opening and that the nail holes line up in the center of past drawer guides.



7 Questions Remaining

Was the drawer original or not? – The consistent nail staining on the bottom, alignment of the nail holes for drawer guides and the level of the cutout relative to the bottom leads me to think that it may have been original. These same things, as well as the bottom showing no attachment to the apron batten, would lead me to think it was later. I need to study similar tables with drawers to see how typical drawer construction compares.

What was the original finish? – While it looks to me that the apron may have been painted without a detailed finish analysis, I can't be certain. However, a piece this old could have been refinished multiple times so what it looks like today may have no connection to its original finish.

Who was Hans Krusy? – In the online information MESDA supposes that Hans Krusy may be the maker. I found reference to an old Swiss carpenter from Appenzell in the journal excerpts in the accession file. His name was not listed, and I cannot find him in the MESDA Craftsman Database. I would like to locate the research that links Krusy to the "old Swiss".

Why was the intermediate replacement top replaced? – It appears from the photographs and the MESDA dimensional information the top on the table was replaced after MESDA acquired it. There are no notes concerning the conservation decisions taken when Ned Hipp worked on the table.

Is leg attachment typical? – Need to look at other tables or talk to those who have.

Is top attachment typical? – Need to look at other tables or talk to those who have.

8 Reproduction

8.1 Potential

The *Salzburger Ebenezer Table* is an interesting table that I would enjoy reproducing. I already have a request to make another at the same time, so it is likely I will make several, when time permits.

8.2 Challenges

Finding the wood needed. - Specifically, the 4" by 4" sweetgum stock. Sweetgum is not readily available and finding it in this thickness will be very difficult. If I insist on staying accurate to wood used in the original, then this may be a major challenge. I have some 130-year-old pine that I can use for the top and stretchers. I have some 30-year-old poplar for the aprons.

Wood for the top – If I had sweetgum lumber available, which at this point I don't, the most attractive option would be to use sweetgum, with a clear finish. If the table is to be painted, poplar or pine would be a good choice. All these woods would have been available to the original maker.

Turning the legs – This challenge is due to my inexperience in turning. I have the tools, but I am a beginner. So, this will require much practice or getting a friend who is experienced to turn the legs for me. I'll need to have generous numbers of extra parts to end up with acceptable quality legs.