

A QUICK ANALYSIS OF DECORATIONS UPON “PALE” WOOD BOBBINS

INTRODUCTION

Looking through my images I noticed that a few bobbins had very pale wood. As there were so few of them I thought I would explore the possibility of them being decorated by the same decorator.

TENTATIVE FINDINGS



On immediate inspection there seems to be a similarity of the first three (from the left) of the middle group, however I think it is the pale wood that might draw our eyes not the decoration.

If we look at the birds, the right hand bobbin has bold nicely formed curves and represent a birds well. The bobbin of the middle group on the left has what I have called the “turkey” bird and one can see this bird on a few bobbins. Then on the bobbin second left of the middle group there is a nice bird, but it uses wide hatching to give it its depth. I thought that this was interesting and looked to see what other decorators used what I am calling “wide hatching”.

For a bird I found the small insert of a sort of turkey bird that uses this, then I found some leaves that used this form of wide hatching. See the two extreme end bobbins.

On the second left bobbin in the middle pale group you will see what I seen referred to as “the tree of life” (in red on the top banding of that bobbin.) I have only seen this on a hand whittled Downton bobbin. I cannot find it on any of my current images.



Conclusion.

Just an initial look at East Devon Decoration. There is a lot of work to be done for these bobbins. This is just a stab at it.

Absolutely no conclusions; Help me if you would!

Brian