

# PATRICK JEFFERSON



<b>Item</b>	A MARBLE-TOPPED SIDE TABLE ON BARLEY-TWIST LEGS AND BLOCK FEET
<b>Date</b>	Basically 17th century.
<b>Provenance</b>	Folly Farm, Sulhamstead, Berkshire, built by Edwin Lutyens (1869-1944).
<b>Dimensions</b>	Height 30 3/4" (78cm)    Width 66 1/2" (169)    Depth 33 1/2" (85)
<b>Description</b>	<i>Oak, walnut, pine; vase and ring-turned stretchers, raised on out-curved block feet repairs; adapted; the marble top replacing an earlier timber top.</i>

The vibrant barley-twist-turned base supports a massive *Sainte-Anne des Pyrénées* fossil limestone top, with its subtle appearance of entwined ribbons.

This table came from Folly Farm, near Sulhamstead, built by Edwin Lutyens for H.H. Cochrane in 1905, an early essay in the architect's classical style of the late 17th and early 18th century, which he described as 'Wrennaissance'. In 1912 the house was sold to Zachary Merton and Lutyens added another wing in an entirely different, romantic and deeply asymmetrical, manner. Lawrence Weaver commented, 'It bears his personal impress in a very marked way, and every detail has been perfected so fully that even the vegetable racks in the scullery are more interesting than the fittings of many a great library' (L. Weaver, *Houses and Gardens* by E.L. Lutyens, London 1913).

Folly Farm was subsequently described by Christopher Hussey in *Country Life*, 28 January and 4 February 1922, illustrating this table in the new dining room in the 1912 wing, after the decoration by William Nicholson had been completed in 1916.<sup>1</sup> It is entirely conceivable that Lutyens found the St Anne slab, as he particularly favoured grey marble for his own furniture designs, however it is not known when the table left the house, which has changed hands on many occasions.

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Fig. 1



Fig.2



Fig.3