

# PATRICK JEFFERSON



**Item** A LATE REGENCY NEOCLASSICAL CARVED MAHOGANY HALL BENCH

**Date** Possibly Scotland, circa 1820.

**Dimensions** Height 34" (87cm) Width 48" (122cm) Depth 17 1/2" (44)

**Description** *The pedimented back, with a shield-shaped cresting, having a castellated top and central armorial of a lion rampant guardant, above a rectangular seat with bolster arms, supported on turned and tapering lotus-carved legs; in excellent original condition with small marks commensurate with age and use.*

This elegant carved mahogany hall bench, the rolled arms carved with *anthemeia* terminals, follows the celebrated Regency design inspired by the Roman marble seats engraved by Charles Heathcote Tatham (1772-1842) in his highly influential *Etchings ... 1799*. The architectural back, however, surmounted by a distinctive central *pelta* cresting carved with a central armorial, is a most unusual variant.

A bench of later date, the back carved with several carved armorials, is at Malahide Castle, Co. Dublin (illustrated, G Kenyon, *The Irish Furniture at Malahide Castle*, 1994, pp. 10-11) and a set of ten hall chairs, each with a shield-shaped back, carved with a coat of arms and surmounted by an Earl's coronet, possibly commissioned for Ockham Park, Surrey, was sold by the Earls of Lovelace, Torridon, Scotland.<sup>3</sup>

The full 'lion rampant guardant', presented without another device, is an armorial used by several families, including De Blois and ETTY.<sup>1</sup>

**Price** £12,500

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Fig. 1



Fig.2



Fig.3