

Preparing Plans Pt. 4

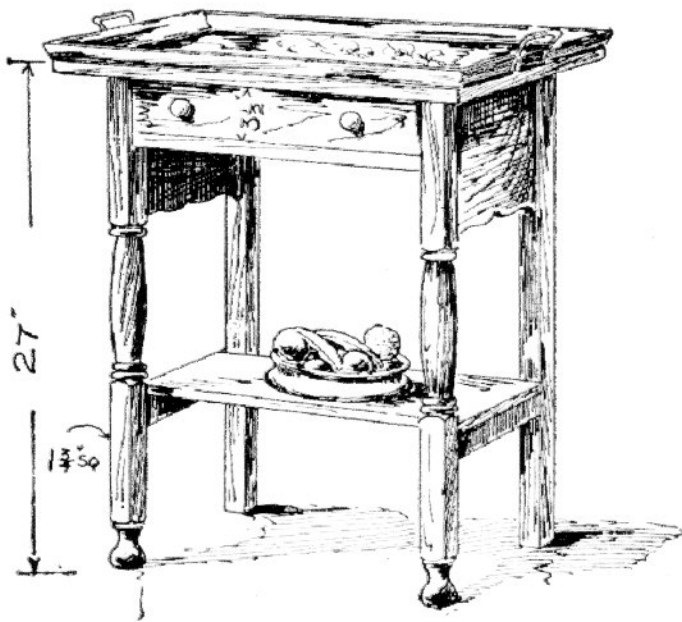


FIG. 56.

Attached to this sheet is the elevation drawings I created based on the work we have done so far.

The first parts to be drawn are obviously the front legs, so this is when you need to lay out the turned sections. The top and lower sections are obviously left square as shown in the original isometric view at left.

The table is 27 inches tall, so the legs divide into three basic sections of 9 inches each. But there are bun feet turned at the very bottom, and the top takes up three quarters of an inch as well, so starting with three equal sections, adjustments were made to each to balance out the overall leg. Again, this is where a mock up will help figure out the dimensions.

Having a full scale mock up of the leg will also be useful when it comes time to turn the legs on the lathe.

Although I want to create a piece that closely matches the original sketch, I did alter the lower shelf. The original shows the shelf sitting on top of the lower stretchers. It is OK to do, and avoids having to cut a couple of mortise and tenon joints, but looks less finished and is inferior in strength. Setting the lower shelf into the stretchers makes the shelf another stretcher, bracing the legs from side to side. It also traps the shelf top and bottom, which will prevent it from cupping over time.

Another change I made was to turn the rear legs the same as the front. It is very common among antique tables to have much greater detailing on the front legs. The backs could be left more plain since in most tables they remain against a wall and are mostly unseen. But this is actually a serving stand, not a typical table. It is likely that the stand will be moved to arrange the home for a party, and may not always be against a wall. If the legs were fluted, reeded, or carved, I may well have chosen to keep the rears more plain, but the turning is fairly simple, so why not make them all match.

For next week, we will create a materials list. Although the stand could be built from the work we have done already, a materials list forces you to examine the entire project and will likely show bits you had not yet thought about, like drawer runners.

