

Eric's Heritage tips of the month

Tip #2: Paint stripping previously varnished wood



- The pictures show a fully painted plinth with multiple coats of paint
- Paint has chipped to a varnished base coat on the edges
- Paint likely contains lead – assume all un-tested old-house paint contains lead



- Strip the principle areas with a single edge razor blade held at a shallow angle
- Scrape remaining paint with a draw scraper (gently, please!)
- Pick off residual paint with dental pics
- Colour deeply embedded paint with furniture touch-up pens
- Re-varnish



Cautions:

- Strip outside over a tarp
- Wear a lead-rated respirator and gloves
- Use a HEPA shop-vac for final cleanup

