

SA1221642

A SUBSTANTIAL ELIZABETHAN OAK BOARDED CHEST BY REPUTE FROM EDINBURGH CASTLE

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1221642****Date of manufacture: 16th Century**

Description

A substantial and fine example of an Elizabethan oak boarded chest of impressive scale. Dating from the 16th century the chest is in almost entirely original untouched condition. Constructed in the traditional manner from exceptionally heavy oak boards, the lid and ends are formed from pairs of wide boards secured by original wrought-iron straps terminating in distinctive fleur-de-lys ends, the end boards descending to characteristic M-cut feet. The single rear board in quarter sawn oak is remarkable, measuring over 16 inches (41cm) in width and more than an inch (in this case 3cm) in thickness, a testament to the availability of timber of exceptional size during the period. Quarter sawn oak is the finest cut of oak as it exposes the medullary rays. The chest retains a superb untouched surface with a fabulous deep, rich colour, particularly to the broad 15" lid, developed through centuries of age and use. Quite remarkably it remains entirely original throughout, the only loss being the lock plate, removed many years ago, with no other alterations to the structure. Decoration comprises incised channel carving, punchwork and restrained chip-carved ornament...

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