

SA1230552

George III Mahogany Gainsborough Armchair

Price

GBP 3,850

| USD \$5,249 | EUR 4,493

Item Reference: SA1230552

Date of manufacture: Georgian

Dimensions

Height = 102 cm (40.2")

Width = 68.5 cm (27.0")

Depth = 68.5 cm (27.0")

Description

This George III mahogany Gainsborough armchair dates to circa 1770 and has a high back, open sides and a camel back top rail, with the broad proportions associated with library armchairs of this type. The padded arms are supported on crisply carved mahogany uprights which rake back towards the chair. Each support terminates in a C scroll, with carved trailing foliage set between fluted borders. The stuff over 'saddle seat' provides a generous and comfortable sitting position. Beneath, a mahogany H stretcher supports the frame and legs, which remain free from breaks or splits. The chair stands on shallow fluted front legs and outstretched rear legs, terminating on the original leather and brass castors. In Chippendale's Director of 1753, chairs of this form were described as French chairs. Their frequent use in libraries soon led to the term library chair, which is how they are often recorded in eighteenth century inventories and the term generally preferred by Freshfords. The name Gainsborough chair nevertheless remains widely used within the antiques trade and early furniture literature. The name derives from the English painter Thomas Gainsborough, whose portraits o...

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