

SA285261

Oak wainscot chair c.1660 and later.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA285261

Date of manufacture: Before 1700

Description

A mid 17th century oak armchair of Yorkshire Dales origins. "The most distinctive 'signature' of the Dales armchair is the broad curly profile of the double-scrolled pediment crest, in which the scrolled earpieces are an integral part of the design. The diamond panel with fluttering pennant-like terminals is highly characteristic of the Dales area". ('Oak Furniture: The British Tradition' by Victor Chinnery). An example of a chair so similar to this one as to suggest that they came from the same workshop is shown in Chinnery's book; page 470, Figure 4:116. This chair is of excellent quality but constant use over the centuries has inevitably left its marks. As these once high status chairs became unfashionable in the 18th century they moved down from gentry houses to farmers and small merchants then into cottages. This example shows all the signs of constant use, being used almost to the point of extinction and needing considerable repair. From the late 18th into the 19th century a fashion for mediaevalism and antiquarianism started and flourished, started by 'The Castle of Otranto' and encouraged by Sir Walter Scott's hugely successful writings. Furniture that had been d...

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