

SA702384

A carved James II chair c.1685.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA702384

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 124 cm (48.8")

Width = 46 cm (18.1")

Depth = 48 cm (18.9")

Description

An elegant chair of the James II period, c.1685, of good colour and patina; tall and graceful, this was an important new stage in English chair design. This style of cane backed and seated chairs had represented a revolution in seating comfort, but with the disadvantage of fragility. A surprising number of these chairs still exist (they were made in their thousands) but many are now suitable only for decorative purposes as woodworm, frequent re-caning, and damage to the joints and the tall backs have rendered them virtually unusable. This is not the case with this one. This chair, over 300 years old, with its glorious sculptural quality, is not just a joy to look at but also to use, the previous owners having had it re-caned. As usual with these chairs there are signs of old woodworm, but now defunct. The crest rail is carved with then highly fashionable royal crown. This, and the front rail, are deftly executed with bold cuts of the chisel. This is typical of the sort of carving performed by London chairmakers at this period. DIMENSIONS: 48.5 inches tall, 17.5 inches wide, 18.5 inches seat height. PROVENANCE: Lowfold Hall, Roberttown, Yorkshire. (see image 6)

Internal Ref: 9173

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