

SA828972

William Whiteley, London, Ebonised & Gilt Faux Bamboo Folding Table, c.1880

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA828972****Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 61 cm (24.0")

Width = 71 cm (28.0")

Depth = 47.5 cm (18.7")

Description

A 19th century ebonised & gilt faux bamboo folding table by William Whiteley, London, c.1880. The original Whiteleys department store was created by William Whiteley, who started a drapery shop at 31 Westbourne Grove in 1863. By 1867 it had expanded to a row of shops containing 17 separate departments. Claiming that he could provide anything from a pin to an elephant, William Whiteley dubbed himself "The Universal Provider". Dressmaking was started in 1868, and a house agency and refreshment room, the first ventures outside drapery, opened in 1872. By then 622 people were employed on the premises and a further 1,000 outside. Whiteley's started selling food in 1875, and a building and decorating department was added in 1876. This proved to be particularly profitable, as the large stuccoed houses in the area needed regular repainting. Whiteley's met strong opposition from smaller tradesmen, and also from the local authorities over its grand building plans, and several bad fires in the 1880s may have been caused by opponents. Business nonetheless prospered, aided by a delivery service extending up to 25 miles (40 km), and in 1887 the store was described as 'an immense sy...

Internal Ref: 5080

Seller Details

Harrington Antiques

Devon United Kingdom



Tel: 07552 767190

International Tel: +44 7552 767190