

Basic Detail Report



Title Side Chair

Date 1850-1860

Primary Maker Union Chair Co.

Medium Wood, black, gold and red paint

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Description Painted black side chair in the Empire, or late neoclassical style,

with a slat-back, and a splint seat. The back of the chair is formed by two

rectangular slats between the two stiles. Above the seat, each stile is curved

back. Below the seat each stile forms a back leg that is also curved back. Each

front leg is straight, with a cylindrical body over a tapered foot. Each front leg

has a rounded top and extends slightly higher than the woven splint seat, which

is trapezoidal in shape. The front stretcher is turned with a ring in the center.

Each side of the chair has two plain, turned stretchers joining the legs. The back

of the chair has a single plain, turned stretcher joining the legs. Painted surfaces.

The chair has an overall black painted surface, with gold and bronze stenciled

designs on each slat. The top slat has a round fruit in the center flanked by

abstract floral and leaf designs. The lower slat has a geometric, semi-circular

shape in the center flanked by abstract floral and leaf designs. Condition: The

black paint is worn and scratched over all the surfaces of the chair, but

specifically at the top of the front leg posts, the front stretcher, and on the top

and middle of each stile. The stenciled decoration and mark are faded. The front

seat rail is exposed in two areas where two splints have broken off the seat.

Design and Construction Details: Both slats are tenoned into the upper stiles.

The seat rails are tenoned into the stiles at the back and into the top of the front

legs. Each stretcher is tenoned into the lower legs. Incised lines mark the

location of the seat rails and stretchers on the legs.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (overall height x width x depth): 31 3/4 x 16 3/16

x 16 1/4in. (80.6 x 41.1 x 41.3cm)