

Basic Detail Report



Title Armchair

Date 1730-1770

Primary Maker Churchill family

Medium Oak and various woods, rush

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Description Armchair in the William and Mary, or early baroque, style, with a slat-

back, turned stiles, front legs, and stretchers, and a rush seat. The back of the

armchair is formed by five horizontal slats between two turned stiles. Each stile

has a ball and ring form finial at the top, over alternating cylinder and ring

forms. The slats are curved back in the center and are of slightly varying heights.

Each slat has a shaped top edge that is horizontal in the center and tapers down

at the sides. Below the seat, each stile forms a cylindrical back leg. Each arm

bows down in the center and has a scrolled handhold that extends past the top

of the front leg. Each front leg is turned with two balusters separated by a ring,

over three cylindrical forms, each separated by a ring, over a plain foot. Above

the seat, each front leg supports the arm. The chair has a trapezoidal rush seat.

Each side of the chair has a turned stretcher below the arm and above the rush

seat, that connects the upper portion of the front leg to the stile at the back.

Each of these stretchers is turned with narrow ball and ring forms. The front and

the sides of the chair each have two stretchers; these are turned with ovoid

forms. The back of the chair has a plain turned stretcher. Condition: The two

front stretchers are replaced; the top front stretcher has a gouge missing from

the wood to the right of center. The stiles and front leg posts have multiple small

insect holes. All four feet are replaced. Small portions of the rush at the front and

left side have broken off of the seat rails. The frame is refinished, and the rush is

replaced. Design and Construction Details: The top slat is tenoned and pinned

into the top of each stile; the square wooden pins extend only through the back

of the stile. The slats below are tenoned into each stile. The back of each arm is

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tenoned and pinned into the stile; the pins are wooden and square. Each front

leg is tenoned and pinned through the handhold above. The seat rails are

probably cylindrical and are tenoned into the stiles at the back and into the legs

at the front. The seat rails and stretchers have round tenons that extend into the

front or back legs. Faint grooves circling the stiles and legs mark the placement

of the slats, seat rails, and stretchers.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (overall height x width x depth): 48 1/2 x 22 1/4

x 18 1/2in. (123.2 x 56.5 x 47cm)