

Basic Detail Report



Title Side Chair

Date 1740-1780

Primary Maker State of Connecticut

Medium Maple, leather, linen, grass stuffing, brass nails

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Description Maple side chair in the William and Mary, or early baroque, style,

with a horizontal crest rail, a leather upholstered back panel, and over-the-rails

leather upholstery on the seat. The back of the chair is formed by a flat crest rail

atop two stiles. The top front edge of the crest rail is chamfered. Centered below

the crest rail are two vertical supports that extend from the crest rail down to

the stay rail. Between these supports, the back of the seat is upholstered with

brown leather. The leather is joined to the chair with two rows of brass nails on

the crest rail, and a single row of brass nails on each support and on the stay rail.

Above the seat, each stile is slanted back. Below the seat, each stile extends

down to form a straight back leg. The seat is trapezoidal, with over-the-rails

leather upholstery that is joined to the chair frame with a row of brass tacks

along the side and front seat rails. The front legs are straight. All four sides of the

chair have one rectangular stretcher connecting the legs. Condition: The brown

leather upholstery is original, but it is cracked and worn on both the back and

the seat. Two large areas of the seat have been patched with additional leather

that is sewn in place. Portions of the leather, the undercover, and the sacking

are missing from the front edge of the seat. Five brass tacks are missing from the

front and left seat rail. The non-leather portions of the upholstery on the seat

have been repaired; the webbing was sewn in place, and the sacking and

undercover were sewn together. The underside of each seat rail has a row of

tack holes. The lower portion of the legs and the stretchers are scratched and

worn. Design and Construction Details: The crest rail is supported by a tenon at

the top of each stile. The vertical supports are tenoned into the crest rail above

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and into the stay rail below. The stay rail is joined to each stile with a rectangular tenon. The upholstery on the back of the seat consists of brown leather secured with brass nails, over a linen undercover, stuffing, and sacking that is tacked directly to the chair frame. The seat rails are tenoned and pinned into the stiles and front legs. The upholstery on the seat consists of over-the-rails brown leather (patched in two areas) that is secured with brass nails, over a linen undercover that is nailed to the seat frame, grass stuffing, sackcloth, and webbing that is also nailed to the seat frame. The stretchers are each tenoned and pinned into the lower portion of the legs.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (overall height x width x depth): 40 1/4 x 21 7/8 x 21 3/4in. (102.2 x 55.6 x 55.2cm)