

Basic Detail Report



Title Side Chair

Date 1740-1770

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Maple, rush

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Description Maple side chair in the Queen Anne, or late baroque style, with a

yoke-shaped crest rail, a vase-shaped splat, turned stretchers and cabriole front

legs, and a rush seat. The back of the chair is formed by a yoke-shaped crest rail

atop two stiles. The crest rail bows down in the center and has a beveled ridge at

each side. Centered below the crest rail is a solid, vase-shaped splat. This

attaches at the bottom to a splat shoe, or short horizontal rail, over a full-width

rectangular stay rail. The splat shoe and stay rail have molding across the front.

Each stile has a molded front, consisting of a projecting semi-circle with a bead

to either side; this molding extends from the arched sides of the crest rail down

to just below the back seat rail. Above the seat, each stile angles backward.

Below the seat, each stile forms a straight leg above a backward-slanting foot.

Each cabriole front leg has a turned baluster at the top; each front leg

terminates in a pad foot. Above the turned baluster, each front leg has a block

that supports the rails of the rush seat, which is trapezoidal in shape. Each side

of the chair has one turned stretcher, with a block in the center. The chair has a

medial stretcher, connecting the two side stretchers at the block. The back has

one plain turned stretcher. The frame is painted black overall. Condition: The

top back of the front left leg has broken off and has been reattached. The black

paint is worn from the projecting edges of the splat shoe, the stay rail, the front

seat corners, the front knees, and the medial stretcher. The frame is re-painted,

and the rush seat is replaced. Design and Construction Details: The crest rail is

supported by a tenon at the top of each stile, each of these joints is secured with

a wooden pin. The splat is tenoned into the crest rail above and into the splat

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shoe and stay rail below; the splat shoe and stay rail are formed from a solid

piece of wood. The back edges of the splat are chamfered. The stay rail is

tenoned to each stile. Each seat rail is bladelike, with a rounded outer edge and

a tapered inner edge. The seat rails have round tenons that extend into the stiles

in the back, and into the separate block at the top of each leg in the front; each

block has a wooden pin through the front. The back and side stretchers have

round tenons that extend into the front or back legs. The medial stretcher has

round tenons that extend into the side stretchers; these joints are secured with a

nail through the block.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (overall height x width x depth): 43 x 22 1/8 x 20

3/4in. (109.2 x 56.2 x 52.7cm)