

Basic Detail Report

Title Roundabout Chair

Date 1780-1810

Primary Maker Captain Elizur Talcott

Medium Wood (possibly cherry), rush

Description Cherry roundabout chair in the William and Mary, or early baroque, style, with a semi-circular crest and arm rail, turned stiles, legs, and stretchers, and a square rush seat. The back of the chair is formed by a flat crest rail with a tapered, undulating end each side, atop a semi-circular arm rail with a flat scrolled handhold at each end. This is supported at the sides and back of the chair by three stiles turned with baluster and block forms over a straight, square lower leg and foot. The rush seat is square, and is supported by the three stiles at the sides and back and by a leg at the front. The front leg consists of a separate block over a turned baluster form over a straight, square lower leg and foot. Each of the four sides of the chair has two turned stretchers. The stretchers at the front are each turned with a double-baluster form. The back turned stretchers are plain. The roundabout chair has an overall brown finish.

Condition: The front foot is well scratched and worn. A few pieces of rush on the seat are broken. The frame is refinished and the rush is replaced. Design and

Construction Details: The crest rail is constructed of a single piece of wood. The flat arm rail is constructed in three sections that are butted together; a longer, curved, section ending in the handhold flanks a short, curved, center section.

The crest rail and armrest are joined with wooden pins through the underside.

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The arm rail is supported on a tenons at the top of the three stiles; the tenon at each end of the arm rail is a through tenon and is secured with a wooden pin.

The seat rails are bladelike, with a rounded outer edge and a tapered inner edge, and are tenoned into the stiles and into a block at the top of the front leg. The block has two rounded top side edges and is supported on a tenon at the top of the front leg; this joint is secured with a nail through the top. The stretchers are tenoned into the stiles and front leg.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (overall height x width x depth): 29 7/8 x 27 x 24in. (75.9 x 68.6 x 61cm)