

Basic Detail Report

Title Child's Side Chair

Date 1830-1840

Primary Maker Laura Dibble

Medium Wood, rush

Description Black painted child's chair in the Empire, or late neoclassical, style, with a slat-back, turned front legs, and a rush seat. The back of the chair is formed by three slats between two stiles. Each slat has an arched upper edge; the lower edge is shaped with a downward-pointing peak in the center, flanked by an arch that tapers to the side. The stiles angle slightly, getting closer from top to bottom. Below the seat, the stiles extend down to form the back legs. At the top of each front leg, there is a block at the same height as the rush seat; the seat is trapezoidal in shape. Each front leg is tapered and has a recessed ring at the top. The front and back of the chair each have one plain turned stretcher joining the lower portion of the legs. Each side of the chair has two plain turned stretchers. Painted Decoration. The chair frame is painted black, with gilded decoration on the slats, upper stiles, and front legs. The decoration on the slats and upper stiles consists of a geometric leaf and vine design. The painted decoration on the front legs consists of leaves arranged in a semi-circle. The block on the top of each front leg is painted with a flower. Condition: The rush is beginning to disintegrate at the front seat rail. The lower front legs are lightly worn and scratched. An unknown white substance is adhered to the back of the top slat and to the back of the right stile. The top back of each stile has chipped

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off. The lower right stretcher separates from the mortise on the back right stile.

Design and Construction Details: The slats are tenoned into the upper stiles. The seat rails are tenoned into the stiles at the back and into the block at the top of the leg at the front. The block at the top of each front leg is supported by a tenon. Each stretcher is tenoned into the lower portion of the legs.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (overall height x width x depth): 28 1/8 x 16 1/4 x 15 1/2in. (71.4 x 41.3 x 39.4cm)