

Basic Detail Report

Title Child's Close Stool

Date 1750-1850

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Pine

Description Child's pine close stool. The clothes stool has a solid board forming the upper back, with separate solid boards forming each side; the back and each side extends down to the floor. The top edge of the back is arched. The front of each side of the close stool tapers with a cyma curve, or S-curve, over a peaked handhold and a vertical lower front edge. The seat is trapezoidal with a round opening in the center. A rectangular skirt, or rail, is located at the front of the close stool. The close stool has an overall red wash. Condition: A strip of molding or decorative woodwork is missing from the lower exterior sides and back of the close stool. The top back of the close stool has a minor split. The red wash is faded, and is completely worn from the front edges of the sides and the seat.

Design and Construction Details: The back of the clothes stool is constructed of two boards; the top board is tilted back slightly and located above the height of the seat while the bottom board is vertical and located below the height of the seat. The sides are each constructed of a solid board nailed to the back at an angled butt joint. The seat is constructed of a solid trapezoidal board; it slides into grooves in the sides and has a notch at the front where it extends past and around the front of each side. The front skirt is constructed of a solid board that is nailed to the front sides of the close stool. At one time, a strip of molding (now

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missing) was nailed to the exterior lower sides of the sides and back of the close stool; now only a row of nail holes and bare wood remain where the molding would have covered the wood. The close stool is constructed with cut iron nails.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (overall height x width x depth): 23 1/2 x 13 x 11 3/8in. (59.7 x 33 x 28.9cm)