

Basic Detail Report



Title Side Chair

Date 1850-1860

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Maple, cane

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Description Painted side chair in the Rococo revival style, with a carved and

pierced crest rail, turned spindles, front legs, and front stretcher, and a woven

cane seat. The back of the chair is formed by a crest rail at the top between two

round stiles, each with an acorn-shaped finial on top. The top center edge of the

crest rail is arched, and carved with an abstract spray of leaves, over a pierced

opening. The bottom edge of the crest rail is shaped with five arches, which

correspond to the shaped upper edge of the stay rail which has five inverted

arches. Between the crest rail and stay rail are four slender turned spindles, each

one located between two arches. The bottom edge of the stay rail is horizontal.

Above the seat, each stile is slanted back. Below the seat, each stile forms a back

leg that is curved back. The seat consists of woven cane with flat seat rails that

have a rounded outer edge. The front rail is serpentine, and has rounded front

corners. Each side seat rail is bowed slightly in the center toward the middle of

the seat. Each side of the front seat rail is supported on a leg is turned with

cylinder and ring forms over a tapered ankle, and small ball foot. The front of the

chair has a baluster-and-ring turned stretcher connecting the front legs. Each

side of the chair has two plain, turned stretchers. The back of the chair has a

single turned stretcher. The chair frame is made of maple and painted in brown

and black to imitate rosewood graining. Condition: The front seat rail and all

four legs are lightly scratched and scuffed. Each side seat rail has tilted slightly

down toward the center of the chair. The cane is replaced. Design and

Construction Details: The crest rail and stay rail are tenoned into the stiles; the

spindles are tenoned into the crest rail above and into the stay rail below. Tool

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marks are visible on the back of the right stile. The back seat rail is tenoned into the stiles; this joint is secured with a nail through the side of the stile. The back seat rail is deeper than the stile; the back of each side seat rail is tenoned into the front of the back seat rail. The front of each side seat rail is tenoned into the back of the front seat rail. The front seat rail is supported on a tenon at the top of each front leg. The stretchers are tenoned into the front and back legs.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (overall height x width x depth): 32 9/16 x 16 3/4 x 16in. (82.7 x 42.5 x 40.6cm)