

Basic Detail Report



Title Side Chair

Date 1803-1805

Primary Maker Beriah Green

Medium Maple and various other woods, reddish-brown paint

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Description Dark red painted side chair in the Windsor style, with a bow-back, a

plank seat, and bamboo turned spindles, legs, and stretchers. The bow-back

consists of a bow, or wooden loop, that is joined at either end to the plank seat

and encloses eight slender bamboo-turned spindles of varying height that

conform to the shape of the loop. The bow has a flat face and beaded edges. The

bow and spindles are slanted back; the spindles are joined to the seat in a semi-

circular arrangement. The plank seat is shield-shaped and saddled, or recessed

with a raised ridge at the front edge; the seat has a flat section at the back where

the spindles join the seat. The sides of the plank are curved and chamfered, or

cut at an angle. Below the seat are four turned legs that are raked, or slanted out

from top to bottom; each leg is turned with bamboo-style forms and a short

tapered ankle and foot. Each side of the chair has a bamboo-turned stretcher

that connects the lower legs. Between the stretchers is a single medial stretcher,

also turned with a bamboo-style form. Condition: The very top of the right-most

spindle has broken and been repaired. The top edges of the two front corners of

the seat have been chipped and gouged. There are several spots of discoloration

on the seat. There is a nail through the tenon at the top of the center spindle.

The red paint is not original; it is applied over an earlier black paint. Design and

Construction Details: The top of the three center spindles are tenoned up

through the bow; the remaining spindles are just tenoned up into the bow. The

bow and each spindle are tenoned down into the spindle platform; the ends of

the bow are tenoned through the plank. The spindle platform is outlined with a

narrow groove. The seat is constructed of a solid plank of wood and supported

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on a tenon at the top of each leg. The side stretchers are tenoned into the lower legs. The medial stretcher is tenoned into the side stretchers. All the tenons are inserted at an angle, where necessary, to give the proper slant to the bow and each of the spindles and legs. All the through tenons have a narrow wedge inserted into the end of the tenon.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (overall height x width x depth): $36 \frac{3}{4} \times 18 \frac{3}{16} \times 19 \frac{1}{16}$ in. (93.3 x 46.2 x 48.4cm)