

MACKINNON

FINE FURNITURE



Thomas Chippendale: A George II Mahogany Chinoiserie Armchair

England, *circa* 1755

This magnificent chair with its chinoiserie design reflects the influence of Sir William Chambers and his publication *Designs for Chinese Buildings, Furniture, Dresses, Machines and Utensils* of 1757. These ideas in turn influenced craftsmen such as Thomas Chippendale who published nine designs for exotic 'pagoda' chairs in his *The Gentleman & Cabinet-Maker's Director*, 3rd ed., London, 1762.

This chair is of almost identical pattern to the celebrated suite which had probably been commissioned by the 2nd Earl of Bessborough shortly after his purchase of Ingress Abbey in 1748. It was almost certainly Chambers who provided the design, as he is known to have carried out improvements at Ingress up until and beyond 1760.

Further related suites of chinoiserie seat furniture include that supplied to Lytham House, Lancashire, a suite supplied to Sir John Mordaunt Cope, 9th Baronet for Bramshill, Hampshire, and a suite commissioned by Christopher Griffin for Padworth House, Berkshire.

SOLD

An outstanding and important George II carved mahogany armchair of the finest quality. Designed in the chinoiserie taste, the back splat carved with a pagoda cresting and a highly detailed lattice-work back and sides, with a silk upholstered seat above turned legs.

The mahogany of exceptional colour throughout.

Exhibitions

The Loan Exhibition of English Decorative Arts, 1929.
The Loan Exhibition of Georgian Art, 1931.

Literature:

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P. Macquoid & R. Edwards, *The Dictionary of English Furniture*, vol. I, p. 246, fig. 123.

Comparative Literature:

R. Edwards & P. Macquoid, *The Dictionary of English Furniture*, rev. ed., London, 1954, vol. III, p. 84, fig. 33.

Georgian Furniture in the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, 1969, pl. 78.

H. Avray Tipping, 'Padworth House-II,' *Country Life*, 23 September 1922, pp. 372-77.

Height: 36.61 in (93 cm)

Width: 22.05 in (56 cm)

Depth: 23.62 in (60 cm)

Stock Number

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