MACKINNON FINE FURNITURE



In the manner of Thomas Chippendale

A Pair of George III Mahogany Chinoiserie Armchairs in the manner of Thomas Chippendale

England, circa 1760

The foliate pagoda cresting above the Chinese fretwork backs and blind fret legs relate to the designs of Robert Manwaring in his publication, *The Cabinet and Chair Maker's Real Friend and Companion* or, *The Whole System of Chair Making Made Easy* (London, 165, pl. 9-12). There are also similarities with Thomas Chippendale's 'Chinese' designs in *The Gentleman and Cabinet-Maker's Director* (1754, pl. VI-VIII).

An elbow chair from Sledmere House with similar design was exhibited at the 1985 'Treasure Houses of Britain' exhibition at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC (see p. 436, fig. 368 in the catalogue). There are also similarities between the present chairs and a set of parlour chairs from the dining room at Spencer House, London from the 1760s (see *Treasures from Althorp*, Victoria & Albert Museum, 1970, fig. 29).

A very fine pair of George III mahogany chinoiserie armchairs in the manner of Thomas Chippendale. The chairs with serpentine top rails carved with acanthus leaves over trellis backs with central palmette splats, above wide serpentine seats and scrolling arms on s-scroll supports, standing on square tapered blind fret carved legs with scrolled brackets, terminating in moulded spade feet.

Literature:

An identical pair of chairs is illustrated in L. Synge, Great English Furniture, p, 121, pl. 136.

Height: 40.55 in (103 cm) Width: 24.41 in (62 cm) Depth: 25.20 in (64 cm)

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