



Walford & Donkin. A High Gothic Revival Oak Armchair with Carved & Fretwork Sides

Ref: PV004695

£3,600

MAKER	The Art Furniture Company
DESIGNER	Walford & Donkin
PERIOD	Gothic Revival , 1860-1869
YEAR	1868
STYLE	Gothic Revival
ORIGIN	United Kingdom
MATERIALS	Oak
DIMENSIONS	H: 37.01 in (94 cm) W: 18.5 in (47 cm) D: 18.9 in (48 cm)
CONDITION	Good

About this piece

Walford & Donkin

A high Gothic Revival oak armchair with carved and fretwork sides for **The Art Furniture Company**, who were an architectural interior and furniture design partnership at 25 Garrick Street.

Seat height: 42.5 cm, arm height: 62 cm. *The Illustrated London News* on the 17th June 1867 wrote: **The Art Furniture Company** was 'prepared to supply at ordinary trade prices, domestic furniture of an artistic and picturesque character, designs by **C. L. Eastlake**, **A. W. Blomfield**, and **E. W. Godwin** and other architects'.

Eastlake's *Hints on Household Taste* of 1868 featured a cabinet designed by him and exhibited by Heaton, Butler & Bayne, but probably made by **The Art Furniture Co.**. Godwin designed 16 pieces of furniture for the firm in Japanese and Gothic Revival styles. His Anglo-Japanese buffet (illus. Soros (1999), C R 304-a) was executed by **A FC**, as were some of his Gothic revival chairs for Dromore Castle, including the eagle chair (Soros (1999), C R 114).

The firm's work was illustrated in the *Building News* (24 December 1868) in a feature on the furniture designed by architects **Walford and Donkin**, which showed items with ebonized timbers, fretwork, and stencilling. The *Building News*, (29 December 1871), illustrated Godwin's design of The Florence Cabinet, dated 1867, for **The Art Furniture Company** (Edwards, (2022), p. 22). The company only lasted two years 1867/68.