



E. W. Godwin Attributed, for William Watt, probably. Oak Shakespeare Armchair with Carved & Marquetry Decoration

Ref: PV003876

Price on Application

MAKER	William Watt
DESIGNER	Edward William Godwin
PERIOD	Aesthetic Movement , 1880-1889
YEAR	1881
ORIGIN	United Kingdom
MATERIALS	Oak
DIMENSIONS	H: 44.88 in (114 cm) W: 24.02 in (61 cm) D: 20.87 in (53 cm)
CONDITION	Good

About this piece

E. W. Godwin attributed, probably made by William Watt

An oak Shakespeare armchair with carved and inlaid decoration. The overall form of this Shakespeare armchair conforms with the drawing and armchair designed by E. W. Godwin and made by William Watt in 1881. (I have added an image of one of the original four known Shakespeare examples for comparison. The one available is upholstered).

In Godwin's original notebooks, there are designs that align with this inlaid model, and the superior quality of its manufacture also points to William Watt. I have added five Godwin drawings here which show remarkable similarities to the design and decoration of

this inlaid example.

The Godwin armchair design on the yellow paper is very close indeed to the Shakespearean example here. The second Godwin drawing with 1876 to the top of the page and the design coloured in yellow has a head crest in a similar vein, and shows barley twist details as in the legs of the inlaid armchair listed here.

The next two drawings show the florets below the seat of the Marquetry version, and one of those drawings also shows the feather carved decoration running up the sides of the back of the armchair. The final drawing has a floret and a curling floral decoration around it which has a similar style to the curling floral decoration on the back panel of the inlaid armchair.