Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Early 18th-Century French Château Carved Wood Armorial

£1,250

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REF: 7226

Description

An unusual and impressive early 18th-century French carved wooden armorial, formed in five sections and displaying two coats of arms. Originally made for a château or substantial country residence, this richly decorative piece is a striking survival of the heraldic tradition that proclaimed family identity, lineage, and status within the architecture of the French aristocratic home.

The composition centres on the paired armorial devices, each carved in relief and arranged within an elaborate framework of scrolling ornament and architectural detailing. Divided into five pieces, the construction lends the work an imposing scale and formal symmetry, while the hand-carved surface retains the warmth, variation, and individuality that distinguish early carved wood from later reproduction work.

Armorial carvings of this kind would have occupied a prominent position within a château-perhaps above a fireplace, doorway, stair, or principal interior wall-where they acted as both decoration and a visual statement of the household's ancestry. The inclusion of two coats of arms may commemorate a marriage, the joining of two families, or a shared line of inheritance, giving the piece an especially evocative social and historical dimension.

Now equally compelling as a decorative object, the piece has the scale and presence to form a dramatic focal point in an entrance hall, library, dining room, or period interior. It would also be a remarkable addition to a collection of French architectural antiques, heraldic objects, château furnishings, or early European carved woodwork.

French, carved wood, early 18th century; constructed in five pieces with two armorial shields.

Please refer to the last image for the dimensions below:

1. H 15 cm W 14 cm D 15 cm
2. H 18 cm W 47 cm D 16 cm
3. H 17 cm W 32 cm D 17 cm
4. H 51 cm W 37 cm D 11 cm
5. H 49 cm W 37 cm D 13 cm

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