



E. W. Godwin Attributed, Made by William Watt, Aesthetic Cane Seat Side Chair

Ref: PV005078

Price on Application

MAKER	William Watt
DESIGNER	Edward William Godwin
PERIOD	Aesthetic Movement , 1880-1889
YEAR	1880
STYLE	Anglo-Japanese
ORIGIN	United Kingdom
MATERIALS	Oak, Cane
DIMENSIONS	H: 32.91 in (83.6 cm) W: 15.59 in (39.6 cm) D: 16.61 in (42.2 cm)
CONDITION	Good

About this piece

Attributed to **E. W. Godwin** and probably made by **William Watt**, this side chair in **oak and cane** aligns to the *Aesthetic Movement* (c.1860 to c.1900), **c.1880**.

The chair has a square cane seat set within a moulded wooden frame, above turned front legs with ringed collars, rounded knobs and tapered lower sections. The side construction is unusually lively, with turned cross stretchers forming bold X-shaped bracing, each

side centred by a turned boss. The shaped rear legs rise into the back uprights and are united at the rear by an upper turned stretcher and a lower flat stretcher.

The angular backrest is inset with radiating turned spokes, each meeting a central circular disc carved with a spiral detail. This gives the chair a strong wheel-like rhythm, balancing geometric structure with decorative movement. The turned front legs are similar to those on a Godwin smoking chair illustrated by Soros.* The radiating theme of the backrest is also reminiscent of Godwin's side tables, where radiating stretchers unite around a central upright.**

There is also a sketch for a side chair with a semi-circular splat and radiating spokes to the back, illustrated by Soros.***

REFERENCES / PROVENANCE

* Susan Weber Soros, *The Secular Furniture of E. W. Godwin*, page 120, illustration 152.

** Susan Weber Soros, *The Secular Furniture of E. W. Godwin*, pages 148, 149, 150, 151, 152 and 153.

*** Susan Weber Soros, *The Secular Furniture of E. W. Godwin*, page 109, illustration 131.

Additional Measurements

Seat Height: 43cm / 16.93"