FOSTER & GANE

A Reformed Gothic oak upholstered side chair covered in the original red leather

£1,850



REF: 5462

Height: 96 cm (37.8")

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Width: 51 cm (20.1")

Depth: 63 cm (24.8")

Description

The red leather upholstery with gilt family crests of the Stafford family, on a chamfered and carved oak frame. On champhered Cope castors.

England, circa 1845

Stamped 'C. HILL' to the inside back legs.

Provenance: The Clive and Jane Wainwright Collection.

Costessey Hall, Norfolk. The chair was almost certainly commissioned for Costessey Hall by the Hon. Valentine Stafford Jerningham (1802-1884), prior to his succession as the 9th Baron Stafford and the 8th Baronet Costessey in 1851.

Costessey, four miles west of Norwich, was gifted, in 1066, to Alan Rufus, Earl of Richmond, by William 1. In 1555, Mary 1 awarded it to Sir Henry Jerningham for his support of Lady Jane Grey, and Jerningham built a new manor to the south of the river Tud. Between 1826 and 1836, J C Buckler built a large and extraordinary neo-Gothic castle for Lord Stafford Jerningham. The contents of the hall, presumably including this chair, were sold in 1913 and the hall left empty. At the start of the Second World War, it was commandeered by the War Office, finally being demolished in 1925. The belfry block - the only survival - now stands next to the 18th hole of Costessey Park Golf Club. The loss of Buckler's 'pinnacle and towered' hall, which was one of the finest examples of scholarly and romantic Regency Tudor revivals, is considered a notable loss amongst many 20th century house demolitions.

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