A rare and good Henry VII small oak clamped ark, circa 1500 or earlier

Sold



REF: 4089

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Height: 50 cm (19.7")

Width: 71.5 cm (28.1")

Depth: 39.5 cm (15.6")

Description

Of riven boarded construction, the 'dome' lid of three overlapping boards wedged and grooved into shaped ends, the rear of which cut into the back stile and peg hinged, the side boards clamped between the vertical stile supports.

An ark was typically used for the storage of grain (corn), meal and flour.

For a similar example see Cescinsky and Gribble, 'Early English Furniture and Woodwork', (1922) Vol. II, p.11, dated to the 15th century. See also the V&A Collection, London, acc. no. W.21-1913, on permanent loan to Towneley Hall Art Gallery and Museum, Burnley, dated to 1400-1500. A further example from the Peter Gwynn Collection (cat. ref. F67) is referred to as an 'Oak Chest-Ark Shaped', English, 14th or early 15th century, where the pin hinges are noted as originating in the 13th century and rarely found after 1500.

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