

PATRICK JEFFERSON



Item A SHERATON PERIOD ROSEWOOD, SATINWOOD & MAHOGANY CABINET

Date England, circa 1800, in the manner of Seddon & Co., London.

Provenance An historic family collection, County Durham; and by descent.

Dimensions Height 35 3/4" (91cm) Width 42 1/4" (107.7) Depth 18 1/2" (47)

Description *The strung and cross-banded D-form top with curved corners, over a faux bronze acanthus frieze, above a pair of gilt-brass wire-inset doors and matching curved side panels, divided by cross-banded curved column uprights; in good original condition with only small marks and repairs commensurate with age and use.*

This sophisticated display cabinet, veneered in the most expensive and fashionable imported hardwoods and mounted with a contrasting *faux* bronze neoclassical acanthus frieze, was clearly envisaged to display a collection of precious objects, given the depth of vision enabled by the curved sides and the extraordinarily luxurious use of the same specimen timbers for the interior. The shelves are veneered in satinwood, as are the insides of the door-frames, and the backboard is a piece of richly figured mahogany, which invites close inspection of the contents, whether porcelain, antiquities, shells or bronzes. Several idiosyncratic design details provide a plausible clue to authorship, notably the Louis XVI influenced Sheraton pattern D-profile, plinth base, contrasting frieze and the accomplished use of exotic hardwoods, variously seen on examples by Seddons, one of London's leading cabinet-makers from the last quarter of the 18th century into the Regency. Despite a notable list of clients including the Empress of Russia, the 5th Duke of Bedford, Lord Howard of Audley End and Lord Mansfield of Kenwood House, few pieces survive that can be associated with commissions; indeed, apart from patent desks, labelled or signed furniture by Seddon's is rare before 1815.

Price £27,000

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A SHERATON PERIOD ROSEWOOD AND SATINWOOD DISPLAY CABINET



Fig. 1



Fig.2

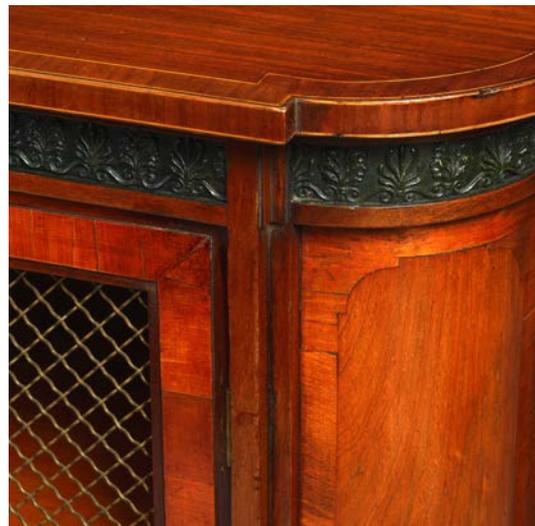


Fig.3