Christopher Clarke Antiques

Dealers in Campaign Furniture
& Travel Items

Chinese Export Desk

Sold

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REF: 80167

Height: 77.5 cm (30.5")

Width: 108 cm (42.5")

Depth: 53 cm (20.9")

Description

Made for the Western market this camphor wood pedestal desk is designed in the European taste. Although plain in form it makes a useful one piece desk. The drawers are separated by a simple moulding which lifts them a little and have skeletal, flush campaign handles.

The desk is not made to dismantle but the handles to the sides make it easier to carry. It is of interest that the desk stands on feet carved to the sand box fruit design. The tree that bore this fruit grew throughout the Lesser Antilles and is found on Barbados furniture. The undersides of the drawers are each numbered in Chinese characters and it is intriguing to think that it is possible it was made specifically for a house in the West Indies. Early 19th Century.

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