



Antique Snooker or Billiard table Exhibition quality
Orme & Sons

£75,000

SALE £56,250



REF: 1227

Height: 83 cm (32.7")

Width: 386 cm (152")

Depth: 205 cm (80.7")

Weight: 1800 kg

Description

This exceptional exhibition-quality English billiard or snooker table, crafted by Orme and Sons of Manchester and London, stands as one of the finest available on the open market today. Constructed from solid oak, the table features beautifully detailed decorative panels, each uniquely depicting various faces and masks, showcasing remarkable craftsmanship. The cushions are adorned with stunning medullary rays of quarter-sawn oak, and the cushion edges are crisply carved with elegant, flowing acanthus leaves, set above a stepped, chamfered dentil frieze. On one end, the maker's name, "Orme," is meticulously carved into the oak body of the cushion panel. The tablet reads, "Orme & Sons, makers to HRH The Prince of Wales, London, Manchester, Glasgow." The table is fitted with handmade English cotton nets and premium leathers, completing this extraordinary piece of craftsmanship. English oak refers to a species of oak native to the British Isles, scientifically known as *Quercus robur*. It's highly valued for its durability, strength, and beautiful grain patterns. The wood has a light to medium brown color, often with a slightly reddish or golden hue, and it darkens over time, developing a rich patina. In furniture making, English oak is prized for its ability to age gracefully and its resistance to wear and tear, making it ideal for creating long-lasting, sturdy pieces like antique billiard tables. It was a popular choice in the 19th century for high-quality craftsmanship, especially for stately homes, grand furniture, and fine joinery. Orme & Sons, founded in Manchester 1845, had become highly respected billiard table makers by the 1860s, a feat which was achieved by very few provincial firms. They rapidly expanded into further premises in Manchester, Glasgow (1880) and London (1890). In 1880 they acquired the accolade of royal patronage and from this date the three Prince of Wales feathers feature prominently in their advertising. It is therefore of no surprise that they were selected to undertake the truly magnificent commission for The Queen Victoria Golden Jubilee Billiard table in 1887. NOTE : A table that we purchased, restored and sold via the world Renowned Masterpiece Fair in London, see link below <https://billiard.co.uk/antique-billiard-snooker-tables/full-size/the-queen-billiard-snooker-pool-table>

With reference to Peter Ainsworth, A Potted History - Orme & Sons