BILLIARD ROOM
+44 (0)7779 333 321

Antique snooker table or billiard table with ornate decoration
Thurston

£18,500



Billiard Room Ltd
The Old School, Chilcompton, Bath, BA3 4HP
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REF: 1004

Description

An extraordinary, museum-grade masterpiece of late-Victorian craftsmanship, this full-size (12ft x 6ft) Billiard Table is arguably one of the finest and most thoroughly documented Thurston & Co. table remaining in private hands. Built in London in 1894, it is accompanied by its incredibly rare, original handwritten Thurston ledger invoice (Order No. 14097), establishing flawless, ironclad provenance.

The table features an Imperial-style cushion configuration in highly figured Cuban Mahogany, intricately carved to the grandest Louis XVI classical taste.The Original Commission: Ordered on 7th June 1894 through the prestigious firm Messrs. W. Williamson & Sons of Guildford (Furniture Makers & Antique Dealers to Queen Victoria), acting as the procurement agents for Ellis Duncombe Gosling, Esq.The Destination: Custom-built to serve as the crowning centerpiece for the billiard room of the newly completed country mansion, Busbridge Hall in Godalming, Surrey.Gilded Age Economics: The total invoice for the table and its associated fittings amounted to a staggering £286 10s 6d (net £257 14s 3d). In 1894, a master carpenter or skilled construction artisan earned roughly £75 to £85 a year, meaning this table originally commanded the equivalent of over three years of a master craftsman's full-time wages
True Cuban Mahogany: Crafted out of exceptionally scarce, dense, and heavily figured solid Cuban Mahogany. The wood boasts a rich, deep luster and monumental weight, reserved solely for the most elite royal and aristocratic commissions of the period.Louis XVI Detailing: Supported by 8 massive, heavily turned and fluted solid legs. The knees are adorned with high-relief raised, molded, and beautifully carved classical panels.Ornamental Splendor: The frame features deeply carved solid sides and ends decorated with classical swags, central rosettes, and finely detailed corbels. A meticulous egg-and-dart bead molding runs cleanly along the top and bottom borders of the mahogany cushion friezes, punctuated by beautifully carved matching wooden bosses.
This is a singular opportunity for a discerning collector, luxury interior designer, or historic estate to acquire an authenticated, elite piece of British billiard histor, It transcends ordinary antique furniture, standing as a fully documented, exhibition-quality monument to the peak of the late-Victorian Gilded Age.

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