

Finch & C^o



A RARE SCULPTURE OF SAINT DENIS

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CARVED IN HIGH RELIEF, THE DECAPITATED BISHOP HOLDING HIS HEAD TO HIS CHEST, RAISED UPON A CANTED PEDESTAL

DARK COLOUR WITH A RICH PATINA

OAK

FRANCE

14TH CENTURY

SIZE: 89CM HIGH - 35 INS HIGH

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LITERATURE

DENIS OF PARIS, A CHRISTIAN MARTYR AND SAINT, WAS APPOINTED BISHOP OF PARIS (THEN LUTETIA) IN THE THIRD CENTURY. HE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY MARTYRED FOR HIS FAITH BY DECAPITATION. THE RENOWNED STATUE OF ST DENIS, SITUATED TO THE LEFT PORTAL OF NOTRE DAME DE PARIS, COMMEMORATES HIS LIFE. THE FIRST CHAPEL CONSTRUCTED IN HIS HONOUR IS SITUATED AT THE SITE OF HIS BURIAL IN SAINT-DENIS. THIS CHAPEL WAS SUBSEQUENTLY EXPANDED INTO AN ABBEY AND BASILICA OF SAINT-DENIS.

A FURTHER LATE GOTHIC STATUE OF SAINT DENIS, CARVED IN LIMESTONE, CAN BE FOUND IN THE MUSÉE DE CLUNY.

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