



19TH CENTURY FRENCH LOUIS XV CARVED OAK SECRÉTAIRE WITH FIGURAL SCENES

\$4,750

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Make a statement in a study, library, or living room with this exceptional antique French secrétaire à abattant, crafted in solid oak circa 1860.

The slant-front form is elevated on elegant cabriole legs with scrolled feet, leading to a richly carved façade that immediately sets this piece apart. Every surface is animated with deeply carved figural and landscape scenes, depicting lively moments of provincial life, including tavern gatherings, musicians, and working figures, all framed by finely detailed foliate borders. The depth and precision of the carving give the cabinet a sculptural quality rarely found in standard period case pieces.

The drop-front opens to reveal a fitted interior centered around a striking architectural arrangement of Gothic-inspired arches, flanked by six pigeonholes and small drawers, and anchored by a central tabernacle door carved with a standing figure in relief. The writing surface has been later lined in black leather, offering a clean and practical workspace while contrasting beautifully with the warm oak tones.

Below, two rows of drawers are adorned with hand-carved floral and scroll motifs, maintaining the visual rhythm and craftsmanship seen throughout the piece. The shaped apron further enhances the fluid Louis XV silhouette.

The secrétaire is in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, and showcases a rich, time-softened oak patina that highlights the remarkable carving and depth of detail.

A true conversation piece, this antique desk works beautifully in a study, entry, or library, where its artistry can be appreciated both as furniture and as narrative sculpture.

Dimensions: 46"W x 31"D x 57"H