



A walnut/chestnut portable writing box or table cabinet, English,
circa 1580-1600

£5,250



Houlston UK Ltd

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REF: 5122

Height: 38.3 cm (15.1")

Width: 36.5 cm (14.4")

Depth: 26 cm (10.2")

Description

Having a hinged 'pediment' top with flat top formed from a removable slide, opening to reveal a vacant well, the fall front held in place with an internal stay rod, enclosing an arrangement of five drawers, concealing two 'secret' drawers, with applied geometric mouldings, working key

A comparable inlaid example, formerly in the Clive Sherwood Collection, is illustrated Victor Chinnery, 'Oak Furniture: The British Tradition' (2016), p. 334, fig. 3:429, dated to c.1560-1610. Two further examples, plain, with applied mouldings, in chestnut, are also illustrated, figs. 3:428a & 3:429a, which the author dates to circa 1675, although this slightly too late a date. A further example, dated 1570, is in the collection at Melford Hall, Suffolk (NT926575) and illustrated in Ralph Edwards, 'The Dictionary of English Furniture' (1986), Vol. I, p. 101, fig. 4.