



France

Late 18th century

Painted wood

Dimensions:

H. 91 cm – L. 40 cm ($35^{13/16}$ in – $15^{11/16}$ in)

The pair of athéniennes is made of a richly carved and painted wood. The belt is decorated with a frieze of flutes in asparagus shape with roses and underlined by a frieze of pearls. They rest on a tripod base in deer legs shape topped and terminated with large acanthus and lotus leaves and linked together by a ring. Both rest on a plinth. Garnished with metal basins.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art of New York City keeps in its collections a similar pair of athéniennes in gilded carved wood, Louis XVI period, whose design is attributed to Jean-Henri Eberts, who according to the description of the MET would probably have invented this type of small furniture in 1773.