

SA1061763

William IV Dry Card Marine Sighting Compass by Hemsley of Tower Hill London

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1061763****Date of manufacture: 1800**

Dimensions

Height = 26 cm (10.2")

Width = 27 cm (10.6")

Depth = 27 cm (10.6")

Description

For sale, a large William IV period dry card marine sighting compass by Hemsley of 4 King Street, Tower Hill London. Comprised of an eight-inch diameter graduated brass compass bowl suspended on a robust brass gimbal mount. This instrument sports a superbly detailed sixteen-point, green card compass rose under glass, with Fleur de Lys motif to the North point and a brass rim surround which is further graduated with a minute 360 degree scale. The centre of the dial provides the maker's name, Hemsley, 4 King Street, Tower Hill, London" around a jewel and brass mount. To the rim of the compass bowl are placed two sights which are similar in design to the original Kater/Schmalcalder patent prismatic design of 1812 albeit that was largely reserved for pocket compasses. His design was marketed widely by the famous London instrument maker Thomas Jones initially and was largely copied throughout the Victorian period. The compass mount is affixed to the base of mahogany case with lift off lid which is secured by hook and eye fastenings to either side. The lid is also fitted with extended corner supports which allow it to act as a base for the compass and provide some height whe...

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