

SA1097892

19th Century Jamaican Specimen Wood Box by Ralph Turnbull

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1097892****Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 13 cm (5.1")

Width = 33.5 cm (13.2")

Depth = 27 cm (10.6")

Description

A rare Jamaican specimen wood box, by Ralph Turnbull, circa 1840, unlabelled, the interior tray with nine compartments each with a different specimen solid wood lid and each with pen inscribed paper identification label, including Juniper Ceader, Jamaica Mahogany, Ebony, Yacca, Mahoe, Grey Sanders. Provenance: Private Collection, Scotland. Identical (externally) boxes sold Christie's London 26th October 2010, and John Howkins Antiques, both with a Ralph Turnbull printed paper label. Ralph Turnbull (1788-1865) was born in Scotland and emigrated to Jamaica with his brothers in around 1815; the Kingston Chronicle of 1819 includes an advert of their work. Kingston was a thriving city built on the success of the sugar trade, and English merchants and officials were a receptive market for locally made furniture, albeit influenced by current English prototypes. Ralph Turnbull became the most recognised and important of 19th century Jamaican furniture makers; using indigenous woods of Jamaica, he is credited with the development of the genre of furniture that is synonymous with colonial Jamaica.

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Seller Details

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