

SA737250

Victorian Clockwork Heliostat by Archer & Sons of Liverpool

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA737250****Date of manufacture: 1880**

Dimensions

Height = 23 cm (9.1")

Width = 33 cm (13.0")

Depth = 19 cm (7.5")

Description

For sale, a hugely rare Victorian clockwork heliostat by Archer & Sons of Lord Street Liverpool. Comprised of a wooden base with three screw feet for levelling and a bubble level, the heliostat's clockwork mechanism is contained within a wooden case hinged to the base at one end with an arc scale to one side to allow for fixing and fine adjustment of its angle. The top of the case has a brass lacquered plate with a twenty four hour dial and central axis that holds a pivoted mirror. The mirror also has an arc scale for adjustment of the mirror. An ivory plaque to the base states the makers, "Archer & Sons of 43 Lord Street, Liverpool. Semi-automatic heliostats such as this example have a mounted mirror rotated by a clockwork mechanism about an axis that is set parallel with the earth's axis of rotation. The mechanism turns the mirror once every 24 hours in the direction opposite to the earth's rotation. The mirror is oriented so it reflects sunlight along the same polar axis as its axis of rotation and the beam of light that is reflected along the polar axis by the rotating mirror was usually intercepted by a second, stationary mirror, which reflects the light in an...

Seller Details

Jason Clarke Antiques

Newbury Berkshire United Kingdom

Tel: 07815 046645

International Tel: +44 7815 046645

