

SA776372

Eighteenth Century Cased Surveyors Level Attributed to Benjamin Martin

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA776372****Date of manufacture: 1750**

Dimensions

Height = 4.5 cm (1.8")

Width = 20 cm (7.9")

Depth = 10 cm (3.9")

Description

For sale, an Eighteenth Century Surveyors Level attributed to Benjamin Martin of Fleet Street, London. The instrument is comprised of a brass base plate with central socket and adjustment screw for mounting. A telescope with a three quarter inch objective is mounted on two upright pillars with levelling screw provided adjacent to the eyepiece and a bubble level is suspended neatly below the telescope barrel. It also retains its original objective dust cap. The level is contained within its original black fish skin covered deal case with green silk and velvet lined fitted interior finished with distinctive red painted edges. The style of the case is key to the attribution of this instrument and although this unsigned piece is stated as Benjamin Martin it could well have been manufactured by John Cuff. Both instrument makers worked next door to one another on Fleet Street and Martin's enthusiastic competition is considered to have been partly responsible for Cuff's demise. Cuff had been trading on Fleet Street for twenty years prior to Martin's arrival but Martin's strength in marketing created difficulties for some of the more established makers. The publishing of catalo...

Seller Details

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