

Basic Detail Report



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Title

Menu cover from the ARCADIA

Date

c 1962

Primary Maker

P&O

Medium

Ink on paper

Dimensions

Overall: 290 x 216 mm

Name

Menu cover

History

ARCADIA was built in 1954 by John Brown and Company in Clydebank, Scotland. After completing a series of trials, ARCADIA was chartered by P&O for her maiden voyage to Australia. After touring Australia and returning to Britain, the vessel made a series of cruises from Southampton to the Mediterranean. On her return to England, ARCADIA collided with the tug CERVIA, causing the loss of five lives. Following this incident, ARCADIA embarked on a series of voyages between Britain and Australia. By 1959, P&O had expanded the tour to include voyages to San Francisco, Alaska and various locations in South America. In 1979, ARCADIA left Sydney to tour Manila, Hong Kong and Singapore before being handed to a shipbreaker's firm in Taiwan. Coinciding with the launch of ARCADIA and its tour to Australia, Strom Gould was commissioned to paint a series of dinner menus due to his reputation as a prominent illustrator and cartoonist. There are a large number of these colourful menus in the museum's collection. This series of Strom Gould menus feature detailed ink paintings of native Australian plants. Gould also designed luncheon menus including a series of famous London scenes and a series of sea shanties.