

Basic Detail Report



00054740

Title

Lens attachment for sextant

Date

1925

Medium

Bronze, glass

Dimensions

Overall: 5 × 22 × 22 mm, 9 g

Name

Lens

History

This White Pattern pattern sextant relates to the career of John Smyth McBryde (1896 - 1987) who, after serving an apprenticeship in sail, served on active service during both the First and Second World Wars, returning to the merchant service after 1945. The sextant was possibly acquired by McBryde during his work with the Straits Steamship Company and later the Federated States of Malaya Customs Service in the 1920s. McBryde served as Fourth Officer on KANIMBLA as a merchant vessel, then later as 1st Lieutenant when the vessel was requisitioned into the Royal Navy (1939-43). After WW II McBryde was Chief Officer of the KANIMBLA 1950-57 and then Master 1957- 61. He retired in 1963. Originally based in London, instrument makers Lawrence and Mayo opened offices in Egypt, Spain, Portugal, India, Ceylon [Sri Lanka] and Singapore during the 19th century. The company opened its first Indian office in Calcutta in 1877. The company became wholly Indian owned in 1967.