Basic Detail Report



00016764

Title

Handwritten receipt for place getters in sailing events in the Commonwealth Regatta

Date

1901

Medium

Ink, pencil, paper

Dimensions

Overall: 205 x 285 mm, 0.55 kg

Name

Receipt

History

Open boating was an important part of sporting and working life on the harbour and during the late 19th and early 20th centuries the two activities were more integrated than they are today. Regattas were central to competitive boating in the 19th century and functioned as a social and sporting occasion as well as a marker of official anniversaries in a public aquatic spectacle. Civic leaders, politicians and merchants offered patronage and sponsorship. Community regattas often featured several races, including rowing, sculling and sailing events usually for professional watermen and amateurs. The regatta was not just a means for exercising competitive sport but also a focus for social and recreational entertainment in Sydney. Sites around the foreshore provided a place for spectators to gather and have picnics, while night time entertainment was organised in the form of dances and recitals.