

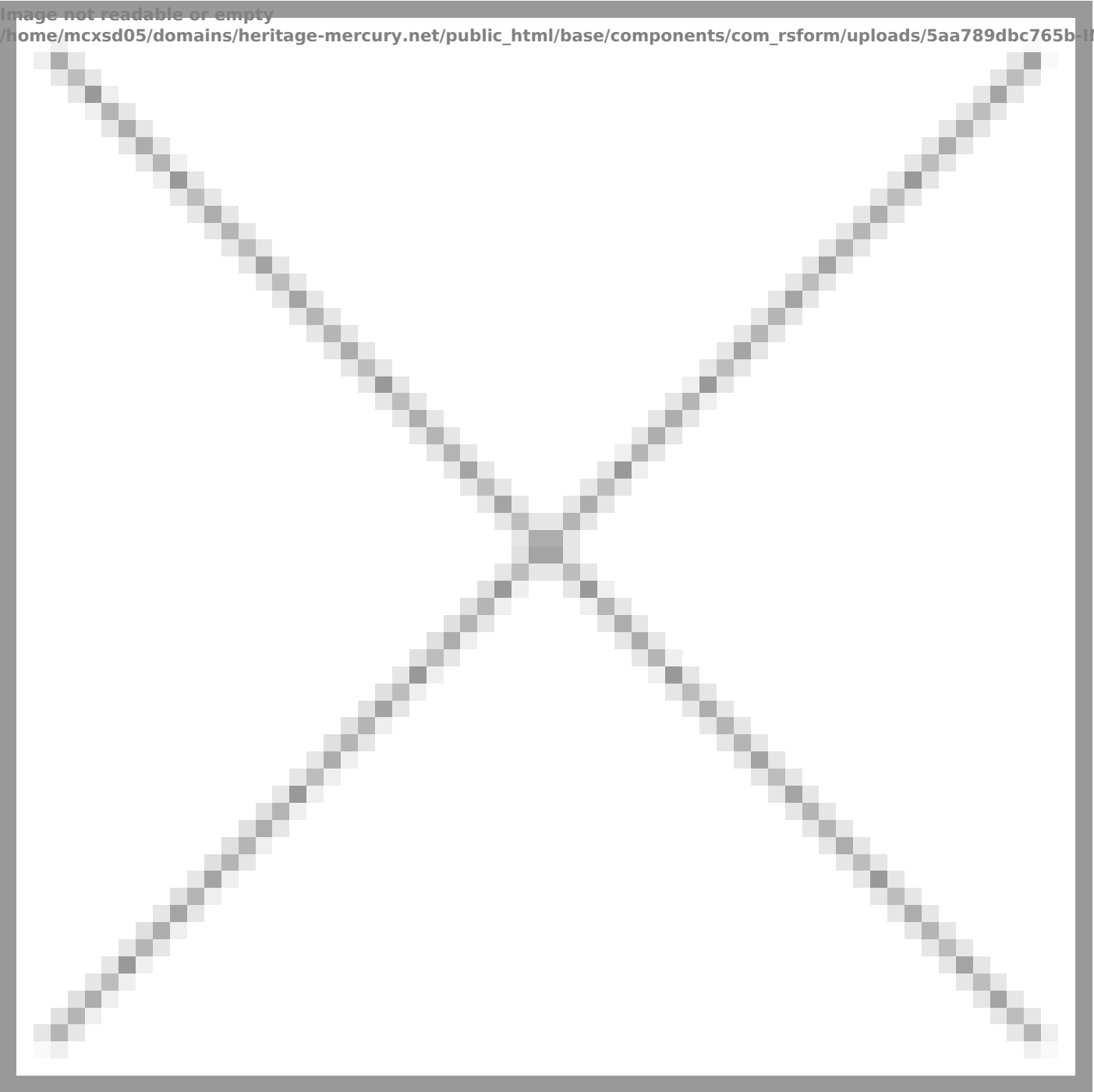
Name 1	CARBIDE LAMP 2
Name 2	/
ID number	002.197.Idrija
Manager / Administrator	Idrija Municipal Museum, Prelovčeva 9, SI-5280 Idrija
Ownership	Public
Owner	Municipality of Idrija, Mestni trg 1, SI-5280 Idrija
Local / Original ID Number	510:IDR;RZ-576
Type of Object	Mine, Daily life

DESCRIPTION

Short description	The carbide lamp is composed of two round parts. In the lower part (made out of iron pipe) the carbide is stored (10 hours of burning with a single loading of 17 dag of carbide), its loading is enabled by the bolt at the bottom of the carbide lamp. The upper part contains water. The water flow is regulated with a regulator. Burner ("brener") - conus thread, is missing. Its supporting part is attached to the surface of the bottom part of the carbide lamp, in an "L" shape. The carbide lamp does not have a handle and a light reflector in its design. It does, however, have a semicircular-shaped hook. There is a miner registration number 9 engraved on the front.
Measures	Diameter 9.5 cm, height 14 cm.

Materials	Iron, sheet metal, brass (adapter for the burner and valve for the water).
Dating	The beginning of the 20th century.
Author / Producer	Freimann und Wolf, G.m.b.H, Zwickau.

Picture
attachments





Original use

For carbide lamp operation, optimum water flow was crucial. The water dripped from the upper part of the carbide lamp onto the carbide (in the lower part), and the process was regulated. Carbide in contact with water produced the gas for the lighting – acetylene. These lamps gave off more than three to four times more light than oil lamps and were also more affordable. After 1913, the miners used the carbide lamp for going into and out of the pit and to light the area of the ore digging. They were also used for private purposes – for various tasks such as bobbin lacemaking and socialising in the evenings. They were also a good indicators of gas in the pit, as they turned off when the concentration of the gas was too strong. The handle was used for hanging the lamp on the belt. The hook was used for hanging the lamp on the beam or the rock crack. In 1960s, they started using battery lamps for working in the pit. The miners mostly sold their carbide lamps to the surrounding villages of Idrija, where there were used until electrification (1970s).

Present use

The described carbide lamp is being preserved, secured and presented as an important mining heritage of Idrija with exceptional universal values. It is a part of the mine collection of the Idrija Municipal Museum. Visitors can view it within the permanent museum exhibition “Five Centuries of the Mercury Mine and the Town of Idrija”. It can be used for different types of mercury heritage promotions.

Original location

Idrija Mercury Mine (personal, working equipment of a miner).

Present location

Idrija Municipal Museum, Gewerkenegg Castle (showroom 7).

STATE OF CONSERVATION**History of conservation:**

The carbide lamp is fully preserved, with the exception of the burner. A conservation procedure was performed on it. All

inner and outer parts of the lamp were cleaned and protected. Additional interventions are not necessary. Security of the premises is taken care of.

Present state good

Necessary activities: Regular seasonal maintenance.

DOCUMENTATION

Addresses / collections / links etc. where further in-depth information is accessible: - Inventory Book of the Idrija Municipal Museum.

Submitted Mestni muzej Idrija

Submitted by Miha Kosmač

Date Submitted 6. 3. 2018

Date Edited Never
