

Name 1	RELAY - MERCURY (COLLECTION)
Name 2	/
ID number	002.398.Idrija
Manager / Administrator	Idrija Mercury Heritage Management Center, Bazoviška 2, SI-5280 Idrija
Ownership	Public
Owner	Republic of Slovenia
Local / Original ID Number	/
Type of Object	Daily life

DESCRIPTION

Short description	The collection contains 5 electromagnetic mercury switches - relays. These consist of a glass tube with mercury, metal and wire conductor. The short glass tube is equally semi-circularly fused on both ends and is filled the small amount of mercury. The middle part of the tube is narrowed, while the end parts are wider and coated with a metal conductor. Inside the tube itself (in the end part), the wire conductors (+/-) are also visible.
Measures	Length 7.5 cm, width 1.2 cm, height 0.5 cm.
Materials	Glass, mercury, steel.

Dating

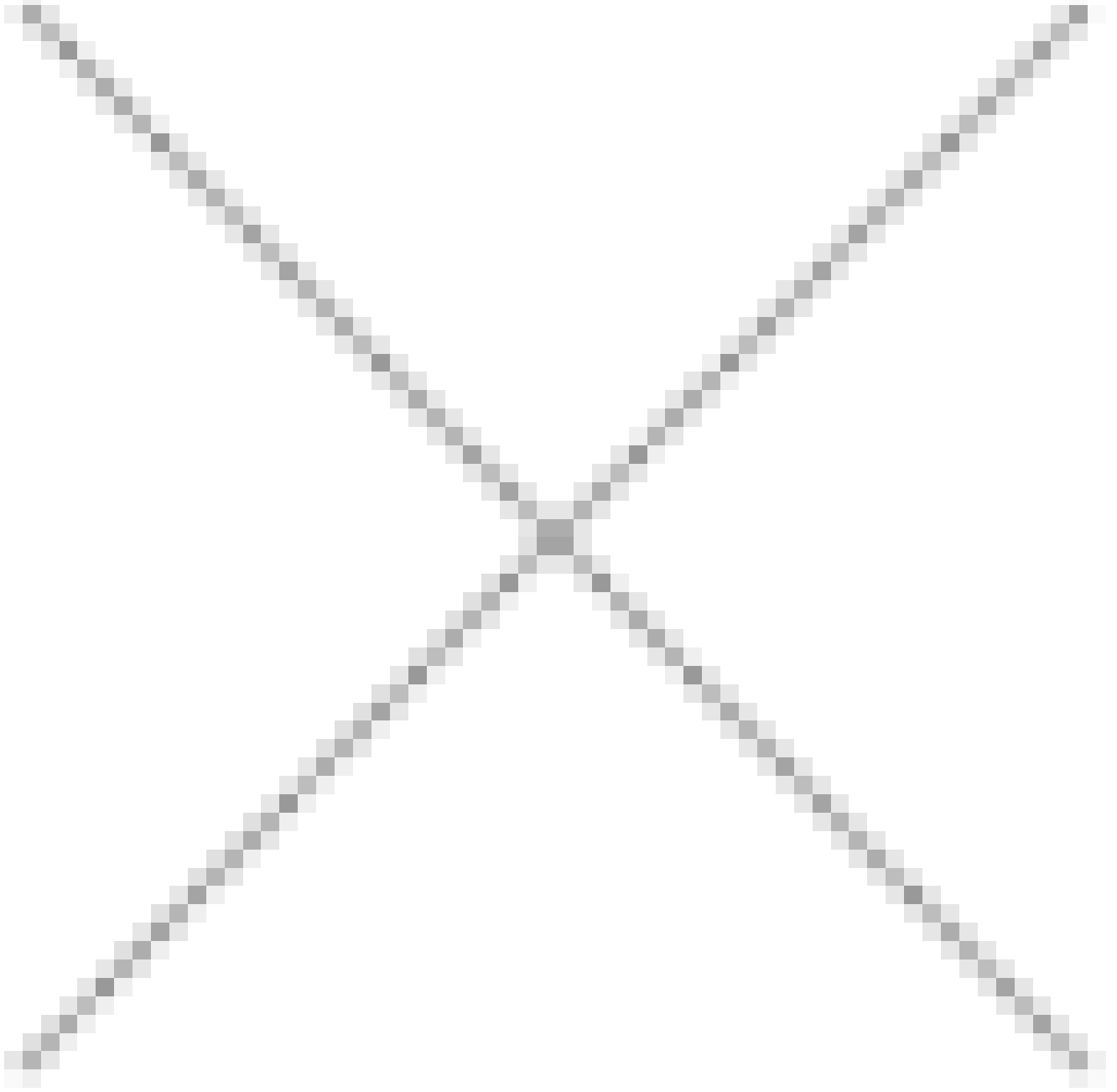
1960s

Author / Producer

Manufacturer information is not known.

Picture attachments

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/home/mcxsd05/domains/heritage-mercury.net/public_html/base/components/com_rsform/uploads/5ab1047d1b125-k



Original use The relay is an electromagnetic switch, which is controlled by the flow through a magnetic coil, where the control and power circuit are galvanically separated. At one time, mercury was used in relays, because it is liquid, thermally expandable and electrically well conductive.

Present use The mercury relays (5 in total) are being preserved, secured and presented as important mining heritage of Idrija with exceptional universal values. They are a part of the CUDHg smelting collection. Visitors can view them within the permanent museum display "From Ore to Mercury Drops" in the Hg Smelting Plant, which represents the characteristics and the versatile use of mercury in science, technology, medicine, culture and every day life. Within the exhibition the object is placed in the segment of electrical conductivity and it presents the usefulness of mercury for technical devices and practical solutions.

Original location Power plant of the Mežica mine.

Present location Hg Smelting Plant (From Ore to Mercury Drops), Arkova 50, SI-5280 Idrija

STATE OF CONSERVATION

History of conservation: The mercury relays are well preserved. Additional interventions are not necessary. Security of the premise is taken care off.

Present state good

Necessary activities: Regular seasonal maintenance.

DOCUMENTATION

Addresses / collections / links etc. where further in-depth information is accessible: - CUDHg Inventory Book.

Submitted Mestni muzej Idrija

Submitted by Miha Kosmač

Date Submitted 17. 3. 2018

Date Edited Never
