

A Tiny Fancy Candlestick

by Dave Johnson

Any fancy miners' candlestick is a relative rarity but what makes this candlestick even more rare than most is the fact that it is roughly a half-size miniature model. The stick measures 6 1/4" in length and 2 3/8" to the top of the hook. Some smaller candlesticks retain the standard 3/4" thimble, and could therefore be pressed into use. This thimble is 7/16" inner diameter. The detail is very finely finished and the overall workmanship is excellent, with single piece construction. I would think that a piece this size is much more difficult to manufacture than a full-size stick. The question to be answered is why was this stick made in miniature, was it a presentation piece or was it made just to demonstrate the skill of the maker?

The original owner, according to the seller, was the seller's grandfather, a Washington State Supreme Court Justice with interests in Washington mining companies prior to 1900.





Comparison to a standard candlestick.