

The Typical Oil Wick Lamp of the Skanska Colliery in Sweden

by Werner Horning

Years ago I got a little brochure of the museum in Bjuv from a Swedish collector friend, and therein I found some photographs with colliers wearing a very unique oil wick lamp. First it looks similar to the well-known lenticular lamps but at the second view it differs very much. Since I strive to find very uncommon miners lamps for my collection, I asked my friend if it is possible to get one of these. He then explained that this type of lamp was indeed used only in the Skanska Coal Mine in Höganas, Sweden, and there are, for sure, only a few left. He told me he had been looking for this type of lamp for years and he had never even seen one, except in museums.

It took years, and at the last international meeting in Wilnsdorf, Germany, he brought one of these very rare lamps for me. I was happy indeed.

Here are some photographs showing the typical colliers of the Skanska Colliery with their oil wick lamps, and a description of this type of lamp.





Class of Lamp: Oil Wick Lamp

Place and Country of Origin:

Hogands, Sweden

Manufacturer: Skanska Mine

Material: Cast Iron

Dimensions: Small Height: 65 mm

Large Height: 145 mm Diameter: 105

mm Length of Hook: 180 mm

Year of Production: ~ 1880

Features of Construction: Container hard soldered of two pieces. Hard soldered nozzle with female thread for the wick holder. Riveted cross plate with cast eyebolt. Simple hook.



