

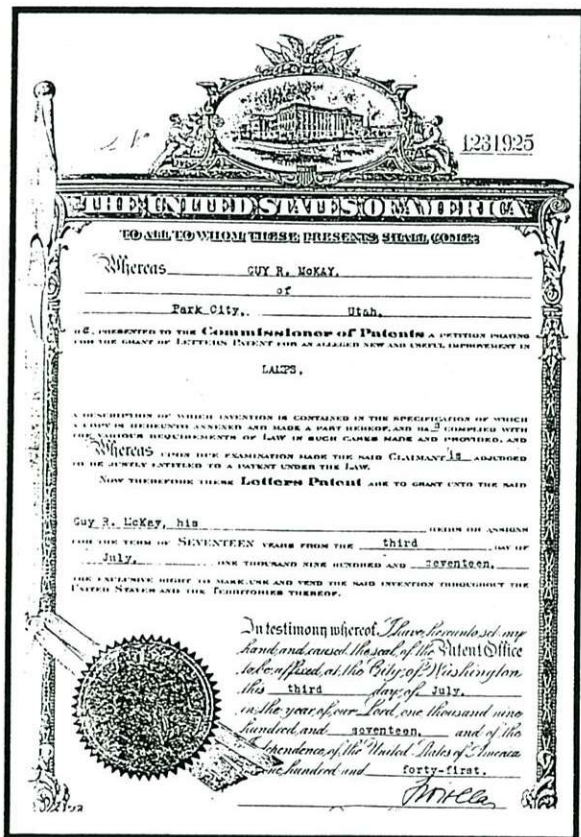
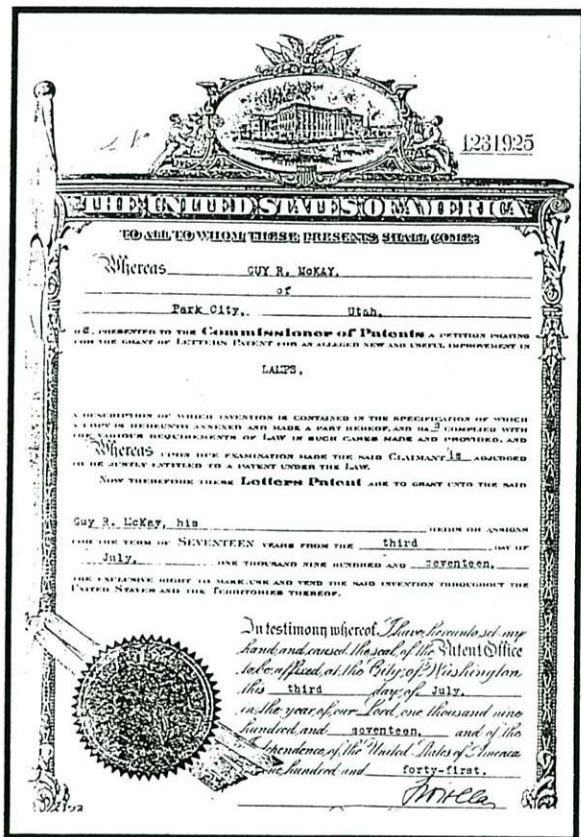
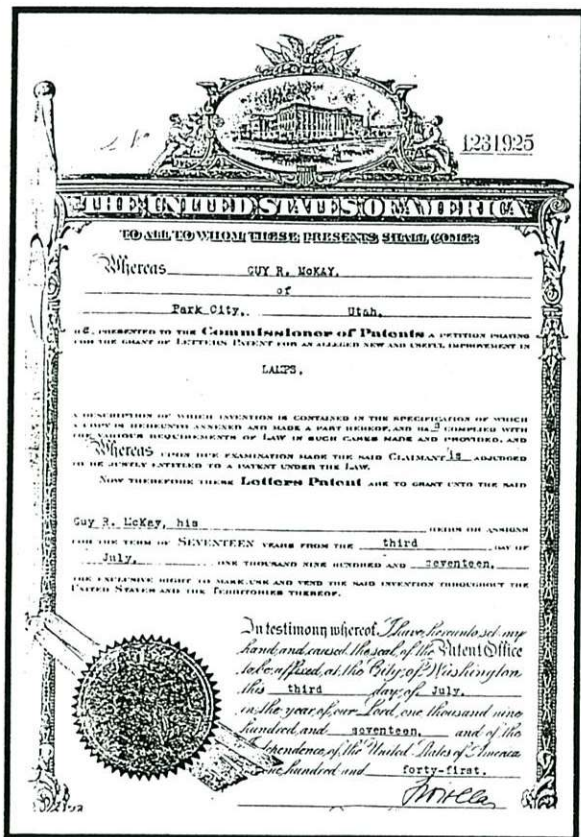
A Carbide Plummet Lamp

by Tony Moon

To my knowledge, only one style of carbide plummet lamp was ever manufactured. On July 3, 1917, Mr. Guy R. McKay of Park City, Utah was granted patent number 1,231,925 for his lamp which is shown in the accompanying photograph and patent illustration.

The only known example of this lamp is unmarked but appears to have been made exactly per the patent drawing. The workmanship indicates that the lamp was made by a machinist and all parts (except the burner tip) are made of brass. The example has seen some use.

It is unlikely that very many of these lamps were manufactured, although at least one more probably exists as plummet lamps were generally used in pairs. A carbide plummet lamp was a logical improvement over the oil plummet but McKay's design must have been inconvenient. The burner tube (part 9 in the patent illustration) also served as the water valve (part 10) and now the user is faced with the dilemma of how to adjust the water supply without burning his fingers!



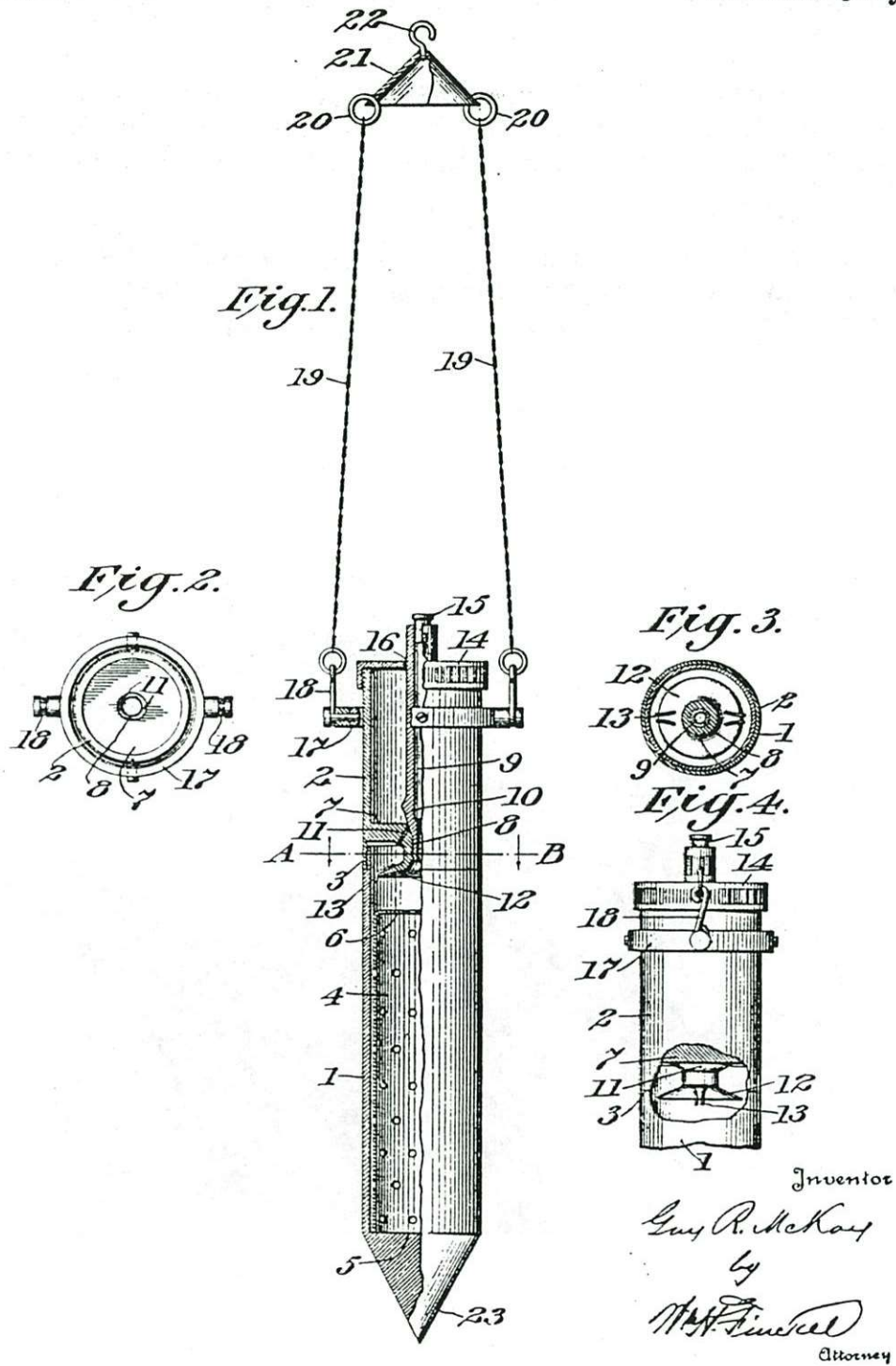
G. R. McKAY.

LAMP.

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1,231,925.

Patented July 3, 1917



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