

MINE SURVEYING TARGET LAMPS FROM GERMANY

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Three types of German mine surveying lamps have been seen by the author on this side of the Atlantic, with the most recent being found at a flea market in Pennsylvania this spring! The use of this type of lamp and the design of the carbide version is well documented.¹ The lamps were used, mostly by smaller mining companies, in conjunction with a specially built compass which had a side opening for viewing the target.

An example of the carbide version of the lamp is shown in Figure 1. This example was made by F.F.A. Schulze of Berlin and is dated 1927. A similar lamp was also made by Sartorius, who are better known for their excellent analytical balances and who made similar lamps for the German railroad industry. The surveying lamps are all brass and are completely enclosed, with removable doors

covering the glass on the sides and front. The front door has a special slit opening which can be covered and a round closing mechanism which allows the flame to be visible or obscured. The lamps have typical mining hooks attached by a chain to the wooden handle. The surveying lamps should not be confused with the railroad version of this lamp, which at one time was quite commonly found in antique shops. The railroad lamps have plain handles with *no hooks*, have only a plain front cover, are generally not brass, are painted black, and they have the "winged wheel" railroad logo and sometimes the eagle and swastika.

A second version of the carbide lamp has been examined that is made of brown plastic (probably a type of bakelite) and aluminum.

The oil version of the lamp is shown in Figures 2 and 3. The lamp has features similar to the carbide lamp except for the removable oil vessel. There is no maker's name on the example shown, which is in the author's collection.

¹Prezag, K. (1982) *Das Bergmans Geleucht*. II Band, Verlag Gluckauf.



Figure 1. Schulze carbide target lamp, dated 1927



Figure 2. Oil target lamp, no maker's name

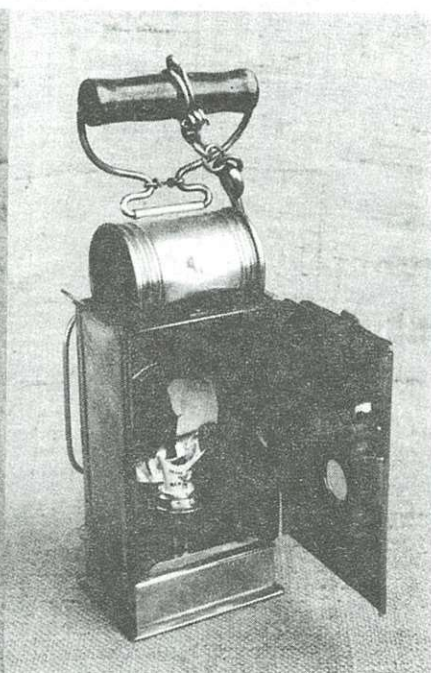


Figure 3. Oil target lamp, no maker's name