

## FASCINATING FIND

### OFFICERS BAROMETER



Originally barometric pressure was measured with a column of water or mercury. In the 1800s the invention of the round aneroid (meaning without fluids) barometers with evacuated bellows and a dial mechanism enabled more portable instruments to be developed.

This military officers pocket barometer/ altimeter was made by T.A.R.S & W Ltd in London around 1940 for the British Army.

Made of brass with a gilded finish, it is about 65mm (2.75 inches) in diameter and weighs about 220 g (8 ounces). The temperature compensated mechanism reads from 21 to 31 inches of pressure, with a rotating outer altimeter scale to reference the readings from sea level up to 10,000 feet, with a readout of 50 feet.

The donor and history of this instrument is unknown. It is on display in the tank.