



Iron System Pipe - Switzerland (neuchâtel), 18th Century

320 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : En l'etat



Description

Model with key bit
Pipe with wrought-iron system, characteristic of 18th-century Swiss Jura production, more specifically from the Neuchâtel and La Chaux-de-Fonds region. The furnace, of elongated ovoid shape, is fitted with a hinged lid, pierced with two vents to regulate combustion. It is topped by an elegant red copper fretel dome with gadroon decoration, providing a decorative contrast while also participating in thermal diffusion. The all-metal pipe is distinguished by a remarkable key bit-shaped termination, both a functional and symbolic element, constituting an uncommon variant within this type of production. A small side ring enabled the pipe to be suspended, typical of objects intended for everyday use by craftsmen, peasants or itinerant workers. Context and documentation This type of

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pipe is attested to in local 18th-century production. In the work *Description des Montagnes et des Vallées qui font partie de la Principauté de Neuchâtel et Valangin* published in 1761, it is mentioned: "Il se trouve aussi dans la paroisse de la Chaux-de-Fonds des faiseurs de limes, de chappes de fer pour boucles, de pipes en fer, cuivrées ou d'acier perforées au foret." Par ailleurs, des modèles comparables sont publiés dans les travaux d'A. Godet, curator of the Musée historique de Neuchâtel, confirming the existence of these typical hinged-lid shapes. Our example fits perfectly into this typology, with an interesting variant in the presence of its key bit. Condition Good overall condition. Uses and patina consistent with age. Surface oxidation marks without structural alteration. Dimensions Length: 11 cm