



Globes in the Collection

Globe, by John Rowley, London, c.1700 Inventory No. 25400

Rowley, John (c.1668–1728), was an instrument maker and mechanic who established his own business opening a shop at the sign of the Globe, Fleet Street in the City of London, having been apprenticed to the London mathematical and optical instrument maker Joseph Hone in the Broderers' Company. 'Rowley worked in brass, silver, and ivory to produce some extremely fine pieces and he was recognized as the most skilled maker of mathematical instruments and models of his day. Other craftsmen emulated him, and he was praised by scientific writers. He became the principal supplier of instruments to Charles Boyle, fourth earl of Corke and Orrery, who assembled one of the finest collections of the age'. [Ref: John H. Appleby,



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This English globe, made by Rowley c.1700, is in brass and silvered brass. The globe shows the Poles, the Tropics, the Ecliptic, the Equator and the Meridian, together with lines of longitude marked with hours, and certain altitude circles between the Tropics. Altitudes can be measured on the globe by means of a moveable arc graduated from 0° to 90°, and degrees of longitude can be measured by means of the silvered scale on the stand. It stands 220 mm in height, and is 180 mm in diameter.