

Objects Recovered from the Gowanus Canal

Brass Fire Suppressant Apparatus Component

This brass component was recovered from the Gowanus Canal during dredging in March of 2021. This component was manufactured by the Larkin Manufacturing Company of Dayton Ohio. The Larkin Mfg. Co., originally the M.D. Larkin Supply Company, specialized in fire suppression equipment and was incorporated in 1907. A 1915 article from in Fire and Water Engineering Magazine lists the types of equipment the company manufactured and distributed. Fire departments in the area would have used this type of equipment as safety technology improved.



Approximate area of discovery. The object was found in March, 2021.

Larkin Mfg. Co., Dayton, O.
This company had its usual exhibit of nearly every appliance used by fire departments.

Excerpt from a 1915 article about Larkin products in Fire and Water Engineering magazine.

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including nozzles, engine relief valves, hose expanders, hose, lanterns, etc. More than 6,000 Larkin nozzles are in use in 1,200 fire departments throughout the country. The engine relief valve for motor pumping engines and steam fire engines works on the same principle as the hydrant valve. It has no packing, springs or adjustments to get out of order. It is entirely automatic and requires no attention.

Excerpt from a 1915 article about Larkin products in Fire and Water Engineering magazine (continued)



Component manufactured by the Larkin Manufacturing Company of Dayton, Ohio.
Dimensions: Length 10" Height 9" Width 3"



Fire Suppressant Apparatus Component, front view.