

Partition (Both-Ways) Lamp

Lamp, magazine, partition (Both-ways lantern)
The term “Both Ways Lantern” is the actual nomenclature used at one period. This type of lantern has two glazed sides opposite each other and two metal plated sides. The lamp was used in situations where light was required in two opposing directions such as in the lamp closets above the doorways of the expense magazines at Fort Nelson. It would have been initially placed into the closet from the lobby side and then turned through ninety degrees from the line of the handle so that it shone into the magazine chamber and back out into the lobby. The handle would have been folded down in the process. To replace the candle, which burned for eight hours, the lantern would have been turned back through ninety degrees to give access to the door. The lamp is made of sheet steel, painted black on the outside. One of its sides consists of a door whereby the candle inside can be replaced. On top of the lamp is a chimney with a conical cap which is attached to the lid of the chimney. This cap is divided into eight sectors. The lid is hinged to the front and has a catch to the back. A pierced pattern is continued around the chimney. An internal chimney is fitted as well as the external one. On top of the lamp is a roughly semi-circular shaped handle used for carrying the lamp and a raised central portion of the hook enables it to be hung from a hook in the roof of a passageway. This handle is pivoted to fittings on the left and right of the lamp body.

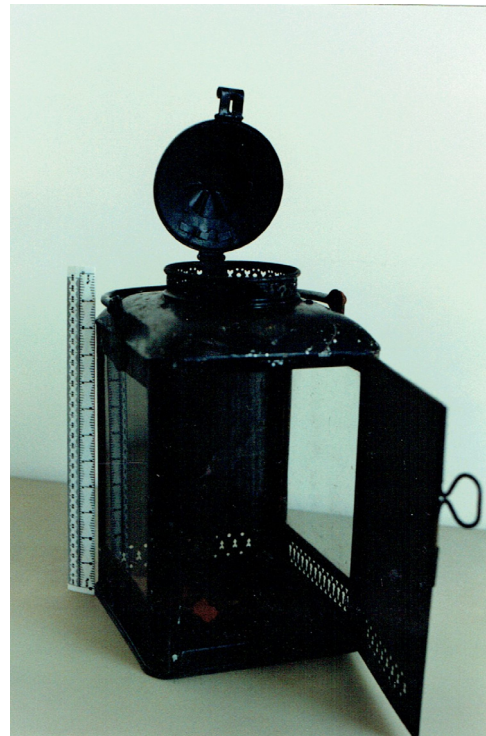
The List of Changes for 1872 records in §2573 *Lamps, magazine To light in opposite directions 6th. October 1873 (and Passage, Wall)*
Patterns of these (three) lamps have been sealed to govern future supplies. The passage and wall lamps are of an improved construction. The candle sockets and holders are interchangeable in the (three) lamps.

The list of changes for 16 June 1896 details alterations to the partition lamp thus :-
8426 *Lamps, magazine, Partition (Mark III) to burn candle to light in opposite directions*
Patterns of the above-mentioned magazine lamps have been sealed to govern future manufacture and alteration of existing store. They differ from the previous pattern in §7252, in the following particulars.
The brass movable candle sockets have been replaced by tin open sockets, supported in the different lamps as follows :-
In the Bermuda, partition and wall lamp, the socket is fixed to

a movable tray, which fits into the bottom of the lamp.
The ventilation of the partition, passage, and wall lamps has been increased as follows:- in the partition lamp, the smoke cone has been removed, and six holes have been pierced round the perforated cap.
Sockets with false bottoms for the Bermuda, partition, and wall lamps, and suspending sockets for the passage lamps will be supplied from Woolwich on demand. The alterations in the ventilation of lamps in use and in store will be carried out locally.

Extant lamps.

One can be found in the N.A.M. collection, (no. 40430-40431 with tray 40428) originating from Didcot Q.A.D. It bears the makers plate ‘George Burt M & C Birmingham. Two Mark III lamps were obtained by the Author in 2018, one of which is on display at Fort Nelson. Replicas have been made for display in reconstructed magazines at Fort Nelson, Crownhill Fort and Needles Old Battery.



Sealed pattern partition lamp: NAM collection.



Victorian mark III "Partition" or "Both Ways"
Lantern: post 1896 by George Polkey
Birmingham.



David Moore : update 18/09/2018