

15" stone mortar by  
Verbruggen

### Lot 32 description

A visitor to TFAAG website has sent the following enquiry.

dept: Donnington Priory

Sale Date: 06 July 2011

Lot No: 32

Lot Description: A Dutch East India Company bronze mortar cannon, 18th century, the domed cascabel cast with trunnions, the breech with scallop shell vent guard and struck JANVER.. at the first reinforce, the large-bore bell-shaped barrel with lifting loop at the second reinforce and astragal moulded muzzle revealing 15 inch bore, 90cm long, maximum diameter 53cm. Provenance: The property of a private collector. Recovered from the wreck of an early 19th century Dutch East Indiaman off the west coast of Africa which was lost on a return trip from Batavia with a cargo including redundant cannon for smelting. Purchased directly from the salvors circa 1980. Mortar cannon were designed to lob hollow explosive-filled projectiles over obstacles such as the wall of a

Lot 32 cond rpt

Lot 32

Top 40% of the chase has moderate shade erosion resulting in loss of definition of mouldings and of the dolphin handle. Otherwise piece is intact but with overall light moderate wear/pitting.

Finish suggests that the cannon was cleaned back to raw bronze and has now taken light brown coloration with green verdigris spots.

Weight: guess at 400-500 kilos