Finch & Co



BISECTED ANATOMICAL SPECIMEN OF A SOUTHERN EUROPEAN HERMANNS TORTOISE

A BISECTED ANATOMICAL SPECIMEN OF A SOUTHERN EUROPEAN HERMANNS TORTOISE 'TESTUDO HERMANNI'
CONTAINED IN A GLASS CASE
CIRCA 1900 – 1920
SIZE: 13CM HIGH, 17CM DEEP, 23.5CM WIDE – 5¼ INS HIGH, 6¾ INS DEEP, 9¼ INS WIDE

LITERATURE

THE MAJORITY OF HERMANNS TORTOISES THAT WERE ONCE IMPORTED INTO BRITAIN DIED WITHIN A YEAR, THE CLIMATE BEING TOO COLD AND DAMP. HOWEVER, SPECIMENS THAT WERE ALLOWED THE RUN OF LARGE GARDENS IN SOUTHERN ENGLAND WERE OFTEN VERY LONG LIVED. ONE THAT ORIGINALLY BELONGED TO ARCHBISHOP LAUD SURVIVED FROM 1633 TO AT LEAST 1730, AND POSSIBLY TO 1753. IT'S REMAINS ARE STILL PRESERVED AT LAMBETH PALACE.