



Antique Gutta Percha Golf Ball, Silvertown  
Gutta Percha Co.

Sold



REF: 28906

Diameter: 4.3 cm (1.7")

## Description

Silvertown Mesh Pattern Gutter Golf Ball.

A good example of a original moulded Silvertown mesh patterned gutta percha golf ball, manufactured by Gutta Percha Co., 100 & 106 Cannon Street, London & Wharf Road, City Road, Silvertown, London. The 1890's Gutter ball still has the remains of the original white paint within the lines and name. It is marked on one pole, 'Silver Town' on two lines within ten mesh squares in inverted lettering.

The ball is approximately 1 11/16 inch in diameter (4.3 cm).

The solid gutter golf ball replaced the feathery ball because of its cost effectiveness, as a gutter could be rolled in a matter of minutes, and slowly the game of golf became affordable to the masses. The 'Gutter' era lasted from around 1848 well into 1900's.

To make a gutter golf ball first the gutta-percha was heated and loosely rolled into a ball shape. The ball was then put into the mould and then placed into a press. The press would imprint the pattern onto the ball and the excess would squeeze out of the sides. The seams were then trimmed when cool, leaving a hard and non-brittle "Gutter" golf ball. The durability of the gutta along with its lower costs and better play rejuvenated the game of golf.

Gutta-percha is the evaporated latex produced from a tree, mostly found in Malaysia.