London Auxiliary Fire Service Axe, Naval Boarding Axe

Sold

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REF: 27943

Height: 38.5 cm (15.2")

Width: 20.5 cm (8.1")

Depth: 3 cm (1.2")

Description

Vintage Fireman's Axe / Naval Boarding Axe.
A Fire Service axe from 1930-40's used on the home front by London Auxiliary Fire Service. It has the words 'London AFS 10803' stamped on to the blade. The head of this short handled hatchet has a typical 'tomahawk' shape which was found on the British Naval boarding axes in the 1800's. The original shaped wooden handle has a nice smooth surface patina and the iron head is secured onto the handle with iron straps on both sides which also protect the neck area of the handle, there is some filler around the neck of the handle.
This is a great piece of history in good condition.

The Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS) was first formed in 1938 from volunteers at the outbreak of war as part of the Civil Defence Service. Its role was to assist the regular fire brigades at local level. The name changed to The National Fire Service in August 1941 when the regional regular Fire Brigades and the AFS were merged.

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