

## Barr & Stroud Ltd Rangefinders

### How to use this list of sources

This rough guidance on rangefinder models was produced after consulting: M. Moss and I. Russell, *Range and Vision: the first hundred years of Barr & Stroud*, (Edinburgh, 1988) and the UGD295 Barr & Stroud Ltd collection (the catalogue for which is available in the searchroom and from the Duty Archivist - see the contact details at the end of this list).

See p.2 for sources of detailed information about models and customers.

Model Number	Year of First Production	Notes	Sources
FA1 FA2 FA3	1888 1895 1903	Barr & Stroud's main customers in this period were the Royal Navy and the Japanese Navy, so when Barr & Stroud developed a newer version of the FA, the earlier ones would usually be sent back to be upgraded.	
FQ1 FQ2	1903 1906	A development of the FA rangefinders, the FQs were available with a 9' or 12' base and were used in conjunction with a pedestal mounting which prevented longitudinal movement (MP3, MQ1, MQ9, MQ12). Designed for use on bridges and open platforms.	UGD295/26/1/80: Basic instructions and maintenance
FT1 FT10 FT16 FT17 FT24 (15' base) FT27 FT32 FT35 FT36 FT37 FT38 (0.5cm base)  etc	1907 1911 c.1912 c.1913	Field rangefinder. More accurate and easier to use than the FA & FQ models. 0.8 m base= infantry rangefinder. 1.0m base= artillery rangefinder. Designed for P.I.L. (position in line*) navigational and general purposes, this model continued to be made throughout WWII and after, until laser rangefinders became standard (c.1965 onwards).	UGD295/26/1/80: Basic instructions and maintenance

FR	1907-1913	15' base rangefinder, superseded by the FT24.	
FY	1916	Periscope rangefinder for submarine.	
FM, FX, UD, UK, UL, UR		Made for British naval ships.	UGD295/20/5/1: if you have the rangefinder serial no., this index will tell you the name of the ship it was made for and the date it was despatched.  UGD295/26/1/80: Basic instructions and maintenance (UK)

\* PIL (Position in Line): when several ships were concentrating their fire on the same target and were using Master Ship Control, their own range and deflection had to be adjusted for the offsets caused by their being in a different place in the battle line than the controlling ship.

### Sources for detailed information about models and customers

Source	Details
UGD295/9	Design drawings, indexes of drawings, and plans for each model of rangefinder, so it is possible to date the earliest production date of a particular model more precisely.
UGD295/19/2	Consists of a contract for each job Barr & Stroud did - rangefinders are listed by their individual numbers.  The contracts run in chronological order, so unless the date of the order is known it is difficult to access this information.