

The Davistown Museum
 The Ancient Dominions of Maine: An Archaeology of Tools
 Historic Maritime II (1720-1800): The Second Colonial Dominion & the Early
 Republic

After the onset of the Indian wars of 1676, the Maine coast was essentially abandoned until settlers began returning to coastal Maine, starting in 1710. One of the earliest communities on the coast of Maine reoccupied after this interregnum (1676-1720) was the nearby settlement of Thomaston. What was, at first, tentative and isolated resettlement of the Maine coast east of Wells after 1710 became a flood of new immigrants after the fall of Quebec in 1759 and the Treaty of Paris in 1763. This treaty resulted in English control of Maine from the Piscataquis River to the St. Croix river opening up the previously dangerous inland environs of what was soon to become the Davistown Plantation and more distant eastern locations, such as Mount Desert Island and the Pleasant River settlements. The tools illustrated in this section of the museum collection are typical of those used by the second wave of settlers in Maine, including the early settlers of Davistown Plantation (1775). Shortly after resettlement, a vigorous timber harvesting and shipbuilding industry became the stimulus for a rapid growth in population, especially after the end of the American Revolution.

Status Location

Agricultural Implements

42801T8	Bill hook	DTM MH
<p>Forged iron, steel, and wood, 13" long, 3 5/8" cutter, signed with an unidentifiable touchmark. The nicely turned handle and early touchmark indicate this bill hook is late 18th century. It is similar to the fascines used by Revolutionary War soldiers to cut brush. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/42801t8.jpg</p>		
040103T4	Bill hook	DTM MH
<p>Forged iron and steel, wood handle with peen iron and brass rivets, 13 1/4" long including a 4" handle, signed with a cartouche of a crown and the capital letter M. This handmade tool has clear signs of forging, filing, and other handwork. It is a generic 18th century tool that appears even earlier in style than the bill hooks illustrated in the 18th century pattern book of R. Timmons & Sons (1976) "Tools for the Trades and Crafts".</p>		
41302T6	Corn dryer	DTM MH
<p>Forged iron, 19 3/4" long with 9 tangs or barbs for drying the corn, unsigned.</p>		
102409T2	Grafting froe	DTM MH
<p>Hand-forged iron and steel, 13" long, 4" wide, 2 3/4" cutting edge, unsigned. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/102409T2web1.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/102409T2web2.jpg</p>		
101400T1	Grafting froe	DTM MH
<p>Forged iron and steel, 12" long with a 3 1/2" long and 1/2" wide chisel and 2 3/8" wide block, unsigned. This primitively forged 18th century tool was used for grafting fruit trees. The cutter makes the initial slot that is then deepened by the extended chisel.</p>		
913108T47A	Grafting iron	DTM MH
<p>Hand-forged recycled file or rasp, 9 1/2" long, 2 3/4" long blade, unsigned.</p>		
31301T9	Grub hoe	DTM MH
<p>Forged iron and wood, 37" long with 11" long and 3 1/4" wide blade, unsigned. This unique grub hoe has two ferrules, is distinctly hand forged, and has a unique 18th century appearance. Maine coastal provenance.</p>		
22813LTC1	Grub hoe	DA TT (Pub)
<p>Hand-forged steel and iron, wood (hickory), 32" long handle, 13" long head, 6" wide edge, signed "6GY".</p>		

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Agricultural Implements

		Status	Location
92014T1	Hand tiller	DTM	MH
Forged iron, wood, 4 1/4 wide, 4 1/2" head, 9 3/4" long overall, unsigned.			
TCR4000	Hatchel	DTM	MH
Forged iron and wood, 25 1/2" long x 4 3/4" wide, unsigned. This flax puller has 108 combs. It is an essential component of the flax dressers' tool kit. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tcr4000.jpg			
101400T6	Hatchel	DTM	MH
Forged iron and wood, 13 3/8" long, 3 1/2" wide, unsigned. This is an unusually small hatchel. It is a key component of the tool kit of a flax dresser.			
102904T16	Hay thief	DTM	MH
Forged iron, wood handle, 34" long including 18" handle, unsigned, c. 1760 - 1820. This hay thief has a gorgeous original twisted wood handle and a single prong, rather than a double prong. This tool is also known as a hay hook and was used for testing hay. Hay thieves would characterize most any 18th century New England farmyard though most specimens would not be the spectacular sculpture object that this one is. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/102904t16.jpg			
71903T3	Mattock	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 14 3/8" long, 3 3/4" wide edge, tapered peen pole, replaced handle, unsigned. This mattock is hand-forged with a small welded forged steel cutting edge. The work of a bloomer who knew how to forge his own steel, then welded the carefully forged cutting edge to his tool. It is hard to date, 1675 - 1725?			
81801T3	Peat cutter	DTM	MH
Forged iron and wood, 28 3/4" long, 4 3/4" (replaced) wood handle, unsigned. The original handle would have been much longer to facilitate cutting the peat in coastal salt marshes prior to draining for salt hay grazing.			
102904T10	Peat cutter	DTM	MH
Hand-forged malleable iron, 16 5/8" long including 9 3/4" overlapped welded handle, 6 1/2" wide set of arms, unsigned. The wooden handle is missing. The set of arms would be ideal for supporting the feet for leverage and pushing in cutting peat. It is completely hand wrought, a tool form not commonly encountered by the museum staff. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/102904t10.jpg			
81101T22	Peat cutter	DTM	MH
Forged iron and wood, 33" long, 17" long handle, unsigned. The early colonists drained the salt marshes and bogs with tools similar to this one, cutting the ditches that can still be seen throughout coastal New England.			
TCK1001	Pitchfork	BDTM	MH
Forged iron and wood, 38" high, unsigned, 18th century. A three tined, hand forged tool with a Concord, MA provenance. This tool was in the family it was purchased from at the battle of Lexington-Concord. After the war ended and the person who used this tool died, the tool was put away and saved for over 200 years until purchased from the last descendent in the family in Wayland, MA, several years ago. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tck1001.jpg			
81801T1	Scutch knife	DTM	MH
Wood, 19" long with a 9" long and 2" wide wooden blade, unsigned. It is used for cleaning flax on a scutching board after breaking the flax on a flax breaker. After removal of the husk by the tedious task of scutching, the flax was ready for hackling on a hatchel.			
TCK1002	Shovel	BDTM	MH
Forged iron and wood, 30 1/2" in height, 7" wide, signed "O. Ames", c. 1790-1810. O. Ames is listed in DATM as working from 1779 - 1863. The Ames Shovel Co., North Easton, Mass., is still in business and has its own shovel museum in North Easton. This is a rare odd sized specimen of a small shovel and may be one of the earliest shovels produced by the Ames Co. Was this a specially made child's shovel? What was its purpose? http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/TCK1002.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioAmesShovel.html			

Blacksmith, Farrier, and Metalworking Tools

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Blacksmith, Farrier, and Metalworking Tools

		Status	Location
TBF3501	Bench vise	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 7" high, 2 1/2" wide, unsigned. The hold down is made from a recycled farriers' rasp.</p>			
TBB1002	Blacksmiths' hammer	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 3" long, 1 5/16" wide face, unsigned, c. 1790-1800.</p>			
8312T1	Bolt and nail header	DTM	TT
<p>Hand-forged natural steel, 9 3/4" long, 1" wide, 5/16" thick, 3/8" wide aperture, unsigned.</p>			
121805T2	Bolt header	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 12 1/2" long, 11/16" wide square head, and 3/8" diameter round head hole, unsigned. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/121805t2_121805t3.jpg</p>			
121805T3	Bolt header	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron (refined bog iron), 13" long, 3/16", and 9/16" diameter round head holes, unsigned. These two bolt headers (121805T2 and T3) came from a Duxbury, MA, blacksmith shop which dates back to circa 1700. They are probably made of refined bog iron and indicate the sophistication of early colonial refinery techniques. They were used for making the bolts for ship construction to hold the frame of the ship together. For example, the ribs are made up of 5 or 6 futtocks and the bolts are used to hold the futtocks together to form the rib. Photographs of these are included in the History of Hand Tools Museum publication series, vol. 7. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/121805t2_121805t3.jpg</p>			
TBG1001	Calipers	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 7 1/4" long, unsigned.</p>			
032103T2	Die stock	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 16 7/8" long, 1 1/4" wide stock, unsigned. This distinctive hand-forged die stock has 6 dies ranging in diameter from 3/4" to 1/8" cut into a narrow forged iron bar with a nicely wrought handle. It is a great example of a one-of-a-kind or very limited run blacksmith-made tool. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/032103t2_p1.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/032103t2_p2.jpg</p>			
111406T3	Dinglestock (field anvil)	DTM	MH
<p>Wrought iron with a low carbon steel anvil top, 8 1/2" long, 9/16" wide post with a 1 5/8" square anvil top, 2" footpad, unsigned. The nicely wrought footpad is used to insert the item into the ground. Shows signs of wear.</p>			
TBB1001	Double calipers	BDTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 18" long, 6 " long adjustable wings, unsigned. The generic design of this tool is characteristic of both the 18th and early 19th centuries. The initials inscribed on its handle are distinctly 18th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbf1001.jpg</p>			
43006T6	Drill bit	DTM	MH
<p>Forge-welded German steel?, 7 3/4" long with a tapered end widening from 3/4" diameter to 1 5/16", unsigned.</p>			
2713T6	End cutters	DTM	TT
<p>Forged steel, 5 1/4" long, 3/8" cutting edge, unsigned.</p>			
31501T8	Farriers' buttress	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and wood, 21 1/2" long including an 11" wood handle, unsigned. This is a typical blacksmith-made 18th or early 19th century farriers' tool for removing a horse's shoe. It has a Maine provenance.</p>			
TBD1004	Farriers' hammer	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and steel, 4 3/8" long, 5/8" wide face, unsigned, c. 1800. It is strongly beveled.</p>			

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Blacksmith, Farrier, and Metalworking Tools

TBB1004A Gunsmith tools

Status Location
DTM TT

Forged iron and steel, unsigned, c. 1740.

This collection (27) of early taps, dies, diestocks, and other tools in this 19th century toolbox are typical of those used by an 18th century blacksmith with skills in gunsmithing. The guns made by these tools predate the era of mass-produced guns with interchangeable parts. These tools have a southeastern Massachusetts origin, as does the box they were found in. (Note the Barnstable Mass notation on the lid of the box.) The blacksmith utilizing these tools may have specialized in gunsmithing, or as was more commonly the case, was skilled in a multitude of metalworking trades.

43006T2 Hacksaw

DTM MH

Blister steel, saw steel, and wood, 17" long with a 4" wood handle, signed "AOES Co" on the iron ferrule.

This is a very unusual form, the saw, with a hand-forged looped end, appears to have a later factory-turned handle and ferrule with 19th century script. The tool itself appears much earlier than the handle, with a saw steel insert in a hand-forged and filed wrought iron and/or blister steel holder. Comments are solicited. No such manufacturer is listed in DATM (Nelson 1999). The A in the mark may be preceded by another obscured letter.

61601T4 Hacksaw

DTM MH

Steel, brass, and wood, 11 3/8" long with a 5 1/4" blade, unsigned.

This saw is a classic example of a common 18th century tool probably made in Europe and brought to the U.S.

51201T5 Hacksaw

BDTM MH

Steel, brass, and wood, 11 1/2" long, unsigned, c. 1800.

This brass framed saw is too coarse for a jeweler and too small for general purpose work. It has distinctly hand-forged blade attachments and frames.

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/51201t5_p1.jpg

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/51201t5_p4.jpg

101400T16 Hand vise

DTM MHC-D

Forged iron, unsigned.

The distinctive ram's horn nut identifies this tool as 18th century.

3114T3 Hoof knife

DTM MH

Reformed steel rasp, 6" long, 1 1/4" wide, 2" edge, unsigned.

92901T2 Hot set

DTM MHC-J

Forged iron, 13" long, 1 1/2" wide and 3/8" long cutting wedge, unsigned.

A hot set is used for splitting forged iron prior to lapping and welding iron handles, strapping, or other iron hardware. This tool was once part of the tool kit of the boat builder and planemaker Abiel Walker of Alna, Maine (b. 1808) and was probably an antique when he came into possession of it.

12900T6 Nippers

DTM MH

Forged iron, 12 3/8" long, 7/8" wide cutters, unsigned, c. 1790 - 1800.

This is a typical blacksmith horseshoe nail nipper of the period.

111001T37 Pincers

DTM MHC-D

Forged iron, 7" long, unsigned.

These primitive pincers could be seventeenth or eighteenth century and are typical of the primitive forged iron tools used by the first settlers.

TBF1004 Post vise

DTM MH

Forged iron, 5 1/2" long, 3" throat, unsigned.

TBC1002A Punch

DTM MH

Forged iron with signs of bog iron, 11" long, unsigned.

Unknown use.

3213T1 Soldering iron

DTM TT

Forged iron, copper, 11 1/4" long, 2 3/8" tip, 2 3/8" wide, unsigned.

TBL5005 Stone drill

DTM MH

Forged iron, 11 3/4" long, unsigned.

What's the use of this unusual tool?

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Blacksmith, Farrier, and Metalworking Tools

	Status	Location
111406T2 Stump anvil Malleable iron and steel, 2 5/8" by 1 7/8" with a 3 3/8" tang, unsigned.	DTM	MH
072112T5 Thread cutter Forge-welded malleable iron, 7" long, 3/8" wide, unsigned.	DTM	TT
61601T5 Tin snips Forged iron, 12 3/4" long, unsigned. These are clearly reformed from a file. The first rolled tin dates to the early 18th century. This reformed smith-made tool is at least 200 years old.	DTM	MH
TBB1003 Tongs Forged iron, 15 1/2" long, 9/16" wide jaw, unsigned. This tool is difficult to date and could be late 18th century or early 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbf1001.jpg	DTM	MH

Cobbler and Saddler Tools

51100T4 Cobblers' hammer Forged iron, 3 5/8" long head, 1 7/8" diameter face, unsigned.	DTM	MH
31501T6 Curriers' slick Steel and wood, 16 3/8" long, 7 1/4" blade, unsigned. The blade is made from a recycled smith-made saw blade. It is used in the preparation of leather for shoemaking, fishermen's aprons, etc.	DTM	MH
62406T3 Curriers' slick fleshing knife Reformed steel, 6" long, 2" blade, unsigned. It is forge-welded from a recycled rasp.	DTM	MH

Coopers' Tools

62212T2 Coopers' vise Forged iron, 4 1/4" long, 1/2" diameter bore, 3 5/8" wide handle, unsigned.	DTM	MHC-F
9514T4 Croze Wood (yellow birch), steel, 20" long, 6" wide, 4" tall, signed "IS 67".	LPC	MH
62212T1 Hoop driver Forged iron, wood, 6" long, 3 1/4" wide edge, unsigned. This tool is the wooden version of the form and is also known as a hoop set.	DTM	MHC-G

Domestic Utensils

11301T1 Block knife Forged iron and wood, 20 5/7" long with 15 3/4" chopping arm and 5" wide iron blade, unsigned. The iron component of this food and/or tobacco chopper is made of a recycled farriers' file.	DTM	MH
TAB2209 Box Wood with hinge, 3 5/8" long, 2 1/4" wide, 3/4" high, unsigned. Early settlers might have used boxes similar to this one for storing flints.	DTM	MHC-D
TCR2203 Box Wood, 7" long, 4" wide, 4 3/4" high, unsigned. This is an early box with a sliding lid.	DTM	MH
52512LTC2 Candle holder stake Forged steel, 8 1/8" long, unsigned. Courtesy of Liberty Tool Co.	DA	TT (Pub)

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Domestic Utensils

		Status	Location
TBF3000	Cleaver	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 8 3/8" long with a 2 1/2" blade, unsigned. It was forged out of an old rasp.</p>			
51201T8	Document box	BDTM	MH
<p>Brass, hide, wood, and iron, 12" long, 6 1/4" wide, unsigned, c. 1785 - 1800. This domed hide document box was converted to a small tool box by Benjamin Willard or his sons and then used as a toolbox to hold the assorted tools and woodenware listed in the Simon Willard Group. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/51201t14_p3web.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioWillard.htm</p>			
072112T7	Door latch	DTM	TT
<p>Wrought iron, 9" long, 2 1/8" wide, unsigned.</p>			
TCR3502	Firkin	DTM	MH
<p>Wood with iron straps, 11 3/4" high, 9 3/4" top diameter, 12 1/2" bottom diameter, unsigned. It has old red paint.</p>			
30311T3	Food chopper	DTM	TT
<p>Forged steel, 7 1/2" long, 6" wide, unsigned. The handle is missing.</p>			
9308T37	Food chopper	DTM	MAG
<p>.</p>			
101400T12	Food chopper	DTM	MH
<p>Forged or cast steel and wood, unsigned. This is a generic late 18th or early 19th century food chopper. It needs a good trencher to accompany it.</p>			
TBG1001A	Forks (two)	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron or steel, bone, wood, 6 1/2" with bone handle, 5 1/2" with wood handle, unsigned.</p>			
TBL5006	Gudgeon	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 10 1/2" long, 1 1/2" wide blade, unsigned. It is used to hold a fireplace crane in place.</p>			
TAB1014B	Hook	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 2 1/4" height, signed with the mark "8". This is a steelyard hook for a scale with a distinctive, delicate 18th century look.</p>			
22813LTC6	Kettle crane	DA	TT (Pub)
<p>Forged iron, 33" x 23 1/2", unsigned.</p>			
41302P1	Knife box	DTM	MH
<p>Wood, 11 1/4" wide base tapered outward to 12 3/4", 6 1/2" wide tapering up to 6 7/8", unsigned. It is a typical dovetailed knife box of 18th century make with imported mahogany and several early nails used to reinforce the dovetails.</p>			
101400T7	Peel	BDTM	TT-wall
<p>Forged iron, 30 1/4" long, 6 1/2" peel, unsigned. It is used for removing bread from an oven. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/101400t7.jpg</p>			
TAB2210	Pitcher	DTM	MH
<p>Pewter or Britanniaaware, 4 5/8" high, 4 1/8" wide, unsigned. It has a hinged lid.</p>			
12801T13	Powder horn	DTM	MH
<p>Horn and wood, 13" long, unsigned. This is a typical example of an 18th century or early 19th century powder horn.</p>			

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Domestic Utensils

	Status	Location
TBF1005 Pry Forged iron, 5 1/2" long, unsigned. It is typical of the handmade tools of this period.	DTM	MH
81713T5 Scissors Forged steel, 6 3/8" long, 2 1/4" long cutting edge, unsigned.	DTM	TT
50402T0 Shoe Leather, 9" long, unsigned. This 18th century un-soled, un-sewn shoe comes from western Maine. It's an excellent example of an unfinished farm-made shoe typical of a New England backcountry frontier homestead.	DTM	MHC-D
TBF1301A Shuttle Wood, 11 1/2" long, signed "I.M." in an 18th century script. This is typical of the shuttles used on the primitive looms on Maine farms.	DTM	MH
TBF1301B Shuttle Wood, 10 1/2" long, unsigned.	DTM	MH
30202T11 Skewer Forged iron, 4 3/4" long, unsigned. An excellent example of the art of the blacksmith. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/30202t11.jpg	DTM	MH
12900T10 Wig blower (bellows) Wood, leather, and tin, 6 5/8" long, 2" wide, 2 1/4" tall, unsigned. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/12900t10.jpg	DTM	MH
7309P1 Wooden bucket Wood, 12 1/2" outside diameter, 7 1/4" high, unsigned. This is a finely crafted wood container from the late 17th or early 18th century with a 1" hole in the bottom. Its use is unknown. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/7309p1web-1.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/7309p2-web.jpg	DTM	MH

Fishing Implements

112704T5 Eel spear Forged iron, 14 5/8" long, 8 5/8" wide, unsigned. This spear has a central flat shaft and seven sharply curved tangs. One tang may have broken off. Found in an old fishing shed in Acushnet, Massachusetts, this eel spear is typical of the 18th and early 19th century implements used by the Native Americans and early settlers to catch one of the most nutritious and commonly encountered marine species of New England's coastal coves and estuaries. It's probably a colonist-forged tool or a trade item.	DTM	MH
102005T1 Fish or eel spear Hand-forged malleable iron, 13 1/2" long, 8 1/4" wide, unsigned. This spear has 4 prongs with short hooked ends and was probably used for fish as the prongs are somewhat wide for catching eels.	DTM	MH

Hammers

TBD1001 Claw hammer Forged iron, 4 1/2" with a 1" face, unsigned. It has a replaced handle. It is a generic 18th c. hammer but of particular interest because it shows signs of the layering characteristic of forged bog iron, which was the constituent of the earliest blacksmith-made tools made in the United States.	DTM	MH
TBD1002 Claw hammer Steel, 4 1/2" long, 3/4" face, unsigned, c. 1800. This steel hammer lacks the hint of layering noted in the bog iron hammer, has less distinct beveling, and an unusual infill in the socket for the handle.	DTM	MH
71114T10 Claw hammer head Steel, 5" long, 2 3/4" tall, 1 1/2" wide, signed "J.R. FOVE **".	DTM	MH

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		Hammers
		Status Location
91303T18	Stone hammer	DTM MH
Forged iron with wooden handle, 10" long, 15" long handle, unsigned. It is a primitively-forged wrought iron tool. The evidence of folded and molded wrought iron indicates it was made directly from a bloom and not drop-forged.		
TBD1005	Stone hammer	DTM MH
Forged iron, 9" long with a 3/4" square face, unsigned.		
71401T10	Tuning hammer	DTM MH
Cast steel and wood, 5 1/2" long, 4 3/4" long handle, unsigned. This is known as a tuning hammer/lever/wrench or stringing hammer. It is used to turn the tuning pins on a piano. More modern tuning hammers have a longer lever allowing greater control, so this older model would now be primarily used for stringing. This tuning hammer has a rectangular hole reflecting the shape of older tuning pins. Modern tuning pins are square. The Museum wishes to thank an anonymous visitor for this information.		

Knives

TCN1003	Bowie knife	DTM MH
Forged steel with a bone handle and small leather scabbard, 8 1/6" long, 4" blade, 3 1/4" handle, signed with a buck carved into the handle, c. 1800.		
913108T36	Crooked knife	DTM MH
Hand-forged steel, wood, and rope, 9 1/4" long with a 3 1/8" long blade, unsigned. The handle of this knife has decorative sailor knot trim made from rope and the wooden handle is carved.		
81101T14	Crooked knife	DTM MHC
Wood and forged steel, 8 1/2" long, 3" blade, unsigned. Crooked knives are especially common in northern New England where they were used by Native Americans and European settlers for many purposes including basket-making and working birch bark. This knife has been reforged from an old file or rasp, one of early American artisans' most important sources of recycled forged steel. The crosshatched carving on the nicely fashioned applewood (?) handle suggests a Native American user. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/81101t14.jpg		
TCN1004	Knife	DTM MH
Forged steel, brass, and bone, 7 1/8" long, 3" blade, 3 1/4" handle, 3 5/8" wide scabbard, unsigned. The knife has an undecorated carved bone handle with a brass scabbard.		
72801T12	Oyster knife	DTM MH
Forged iron, brass, and wood, 6 1/2" long, 4" blade, unsigned. It has a nicely turned oak (?) handle. This is probably what an 18th century oyster knife imported from England looked like.		

Logging Tools

1302T1	Pit saw	DTM MH
Forged saw steel, wood, 62" long, 55" long and 14 1/2" wide blade, 20 1/2" long handles at each end, unsigned, 18th century. This is a classic pit saw from the boomtown years of Maine lumbering. It is also known as a frame saw. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/1302t1_FrameSaw.jpg		
42613T1	Splitting wedge	LPC MH
Forged iron bar stock, 8 1/2" long, 2" wide, 2 1/8" edge, unsigned. This splitting wedge is on loan from Will West. It is forged from four pieces of iron bar stock and was dug up in Liberty, Maine, near the mill sites on the bank of the St. George's River.		
913108T49	Spud	DTM MH
Hand-forged iron and recycled file and rasp, 8 1/2" long, 2" wide, unsigned.		
81101T21	Spud	DTM MH
Forged iron and wood, 26" long, 17" long wood handle, unsigned. This tool is probably late 18th century. The worm eaten handle looks original.		
81713T10	Timber hooks	DTM TT
Forged iron, 3 1/2" long, 3" tall, 3/16" thick, unsigned. These hooks can be pounded into trees for a convenient hanger.		

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Measuring Tools
Status Location

Measuring Tools

TBE3500	Adjustable calipers	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 11 1/4" long, 8 1/2" wide, unsigned.			
101400T10	Calipers	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 13 1/4" long, unsigned, c. 1800.			
TBE1001	Calipers	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 5" long, signed "E. H__LEY", clearly of 18th century manufacture. It is lacking the thumb screw.			
21201T7	Carpenters' square	DTM	MH
Wood, 12" x 12", unsigned. This primitive small framing square is distinctive both in its simplicity and its mortised and pegged (wood) construction. This tool would have been owner-made anytime in the late 18th or early 19th centuries.			
TBF1002	Circle cutter	DTM	MH
Forged iron, wood, and steel, 8 " long, 2 1/2" wide, unsigned, could be late 18th century or early 19th century. The wooden thumb screws extend out another inch. It has a steel cutter and threaded wooden nuts for adjusting the diameter.			
81101T17	Compass	DTM	MH
Cast steel, 6 3/16" long, signed "William Friedrichs" with a touchmark, W in a heart with an F over it, all within a circle. DATM (Nelson 1999) lists Friedrichs as working in New York, circa 1790. If this is cast steel, was Friedrichs reworking imported English cast steel at this early date?			
111001T14	Dividers	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 4 7/8" long, signed "O. W." probably the owner's initials. These early 18th century dividers are clearly smith-made. They are a classic example of a common 18th century tool, possibly seventeenth century.			
33002T19	Dividers	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 7 1/2" long, unsigned. This is a generic example of a late 18th century factory-made tool, probably English from the Sheffield region. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/33002t19.jpg			
42801T13	Dividers	DTM	MH
Forged iron, brass, and wood, unsigned. This primitive divider comes from an 18th century Martha's Vineyard shipyard and is typical of owner-made hand tools in the era prior to the factory systems of the Industrial Revolution.			
81602T14	Framing square	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 24" x 12", signed "JBH". This is a typical smith-made, hand-stamped framing square of the 18th century.			
913108T14	Framing square	DTM	MH
Hand stamped wrought or malleable iron, 2' long and 1 1/2" wide x 1' long and 1" wide, unsigned. This was probably made in 1800 or earlier.			
TBE1001A	Framing square	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 24" long and 12" wide, signed "CUTTER", 18th century. Hand stamped; this maker is not listed in DATM (Nelson 1999).			
7800T14	Gauge	DTM	MHC-J
Forged iron and steel, signed with an obscure mark.			
TBF3500	Line reel	DTM	MH
Wood and forged iron, 8" long, unsigned.			
TBL5004	Lumbermans' scribe	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 9 7/8" long with a scribe at one end and a scribe on the side, unsigned.			

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Measuring Tools

Status Location

81101T5 **Mortise gauge**

DTM MH

Forged iron and wood, 10 1/4" long with double scribes, depth stops 13" and 9" long, signed with the mark "B" in 18th century script.

This tool is a colonial era coachmakers' instrument.

81813T1 **Outside diameter calipers**

DTM MH

Forged iron, 5 1/8" long, 2" wide closed, 7/16" thick, signed "AULT".

These early English calipers were donated by Michael Barigelli. The "AULT" mark belongs to Sam Ault of Deritend, Birmingham, worked from 1767 to 1801 after apprenticing to Thomas Moody, worked with William and Kezia Ault

70701T4 **Plumb bob**

DTM MH

Cast bronze with an iron tip, 2" high, 1 3/8" wide, unsigned.

This is a diminutive 18th century plumb bob.

111406T1 **Rule**

DTM MH

Forged iron, 24" long, 2" wide, signed "F PERKS".

The mark is hand-stamped. DATM (Nelson 1999, 614) reports F. Perks as a square-maker circa 1800.

42801T11 **Slitting gauge**

DTM MH

Wood and forged iron, 16 1/8" long, 6 1/4" wide gauge, unsigned.

This slitting gauge is probably from a late 18th century Martha's Vineyard area shipyard. A similar gauge fragment is on the hands-on display table and has a similar hand-forged gauge adjusting nut.

7602T4 **Traveler**

DTM MH

Forged iron, brass ferrule, wooden handle, 14" long, 7 5/8" diameter wheel, 4 3/4" long handle, unsigned.

It can be used as a wagon wheel measuring tool by a wheelwright.

TBE3000 **Traveler**

DTM MH

Forged iron, 13" long, 5 1/4" diameter wheel, unsigned.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbe3000.jpg>

TBW1006 **Wantage rule**

BDTM MHC-D

Boxwood and brass, 11 1/8" long box, rule is 10 1/4" long when folded and fitted into a box, signed "Made by Robert Merchant for Noah Emery, Berwick, [Maine], 1720" in script, dated 1720.

This tool, among the most historically significant pieces of Americana in any Maine or New England museum, is the earliest known signed and dated tool made in Maine. No earlier signed and dated tool has been located in the collections of the Smithsonian, Mercer, or Shelburne, VT museums. This tool is a six-fold rule and was used as a wantage rule for measuring quantities of wine, beer, and ale. The strong alcohol and tannin component of the liquids it measured has given this rule a mellow hue. Its gorgeous box is fitted so exactly to the folded rule that a ribbon is needed to remove it. Additional information about Noah Emery can be obtained by following the "bio" link. While we know something about the recipient of this tool, information about the maker of this rule, Robert Merchant, is not available. Bob Wheeler, the previous owner of this rule, speculates that Robert Merchant may have been a carpenter and toolmaker associated with the many Merchants of Portsmouth, NH. Anyone with additional information about who Robert Merchant was, please contact the Museum.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbw1006.jpg>

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEmery.htm>

913108T17 **Wire gauge**

DTM MH

Steel (possibly sheaf steel), 5" long, 1 1/8" wide, signed "STUBS".

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/913108t17.jpg>

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioStubs.htm>

Miscellaneous Forged Hardware

12801T15 **Chain**

DTM MH

Forged iron, 10' long, unsigned.

This is a typical smith-forged iron chain from the 18th century. Each component is tediously and laboriously forged, hopefully, not on a hot August day.

52603T4 **Door latch**

DTM MH

Forged iron, wood, 2 15/16" long, 2 15/16" wide, unsigned.

It is hand-forged.

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Miscellaneous Forged Hardware

22601T7 Hinge

Forged iron, 6" long, unsigned.
This is a typical blacksmith-made H hinge.

Status Location
DTM MH

913108T8 Hinges (2)

Hand-forged wrought or malleable iron, 12 3/4" long, unsigned.

DTM MH

32502T44 Keys (2)

Iron, unsigned.
These are used for steel locks on the box lids.

BDTM T

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

TBW3000 Strap hinge

Forged iron, 18" long, unsigned.

DTM MH

Miscellaneous Tools

122302T1 Anchor

Wrought iron and rope, unsigned.

Jack Schmelzer found this anchor and gave the following history: "This anchor was caught on our net 8 miles east of Boston in 1993 on a traditional cod fishing grounds. A knowledgeable anchor collector estimated its age as pre-1800 due to the shape of the stock where the wooden cross attached. Also, the ring is wrapped with rope which indicates pre-chain. Because of the location and size we surmised that it was from a fishing sloop of about 50 feet or more. Cod fishing was the major industry of Massachusetts Bay harbors and this was probably a prolific bottom then, as it is now. The area in which the anchor was caught, is now a closed area in the winter months due to its designation as a major spawning grounds."

DTM MH

TCG1002 Block

Forged iron and wood, 11 1/2" long, 4" wide, unsigned, c. 1810.
This block has hand-forged strapping, hook, and tie down, lignum vitae shiv with rosehead clinchers.

DTM MH

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tcg1001.jpg>

TK1001 Brickmakers' smoothing wheel

Wood (pine or spruce?) with leather strapping, 5 1/2" long, 22" wide with a 26" diameter smoothing wheel, unsigned, c. 1790 - 1820.

This primitive tool would be typical of that used by brickmakers during the boomtown years of the Davistown Plantation. Brickmakers closer to ports such as Belfast shipped their bricks to booming coastal cities such as Portland, Portsmouth, or Boston. Brickmakers in Davistown probably only serviced the local market for chimneys and the few brick homes in the area. For comparison, see the patent model of a brickmaking machine in The Davistown Museum main hall. This tool is on display at the Davistown Museum Liberty Tool Annex.

DTM LTC

32708T57 Clamp

Hand-forged malleable iron, 3 1/4" long, 2 1/2" wide, unsigned.

DTM MH

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/32708t57-1.jpg>

4713T3 Nail

Hand-forged iron, 3" long, 1 3/8" x 1 1/2" head., unsigned.

DTM MH

41015T1 Nail

Iron, 3" long, 1 5/8" diameter, unsigned.

DTM MH

40501T4 Pry bar

Forged iron and reformed steel, 21 3/4" long, unsigned.

Refashioned from an old rasp, this rip is a classic example of recycling a dull rasp. With a nicely forged rattail hanger, this tool is probably late 18th century.

DTM MH

102212T2 T-handle wood threading tap

Forged malleable iron, 10 1/2" long handle, 6" long, 5/8" wide bit, signed "N HARRIS".

DTM MH

32502T30 Wheels (64)

Cast steel, 1/2" to 1" in diameter, unsigned.
All the wheels have different patterns with no shaft or tooling.

BDTM T

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Miscellaneous Tools

TBF1003 Whetstone

Status Location
DTM MH

Arkansas stone and wood, 7 3/4" long, set in a 9 1/2" wood case, signed with an owner's signature "R S DAVIS".

This generic Arkansas type whetstone, too old to have come from Arkansas, has a distinctly carved 18th century owner's signature in the wood. It came from coastal Maine; is there any relationship with the Davis clan of Davistown?

Other Tools

4314T1 Mining pick

DA TT
(Pub)

Bog iron, natural steel, 11 1/2" x 2" wide, unsigned.

This mining pick was brought to the museum by Randall Harvey and was found in a Lincolnville quarry with a number of other tools. A smith was known to be operating in the area circa 1825 but the materials seem to be from an earlier era.

Quarrying Tools

4514T1 Quarrying tool set

DA TT
(Pub)

Bog iron, 2" to 11 1/2", unsigned.

This set of primitive mining picks, rock feathers, and a drill was recovered from a lost quarry near Lincolnville by Randy Harvey. Their construction and the materials used suggests a local smelter or smith both smelting iron and forging tools.

Shipwrights', Sailmakers', and Mariners' Tools

121805T23 Caulking iron

DTM MH

Hand-forged iron and steel, 6 1/4" long, 2 1/2" wide, unsigned.

This early hand-forged iron caulking iron could be 18th century or from the Roman Empire vis a vis its forge welding, i.e. steeled forged iron.

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/121805t23_p2.jpg

7800-T2 Maritime gauge (fragment)

DTM MHC-J

Wood with a forged iron screw, 5 1/2" wide, 2" wide screw, unsigned, 1780.

This is a typical shipyard measuring tool with a hand-forged screw.

100400T14 Marlin spike

DTM MHC-K

Cast steel, 17 1/2" long, 1 1/4" diameter, unsigned.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/100400t14.jpg>

61612T5 Mast shave

DTM TT

Forged steel with welded edge, wooden handles, 21" long, 16" cutting edge, 5" and 7" long handles, signed "N: JENNINGS".

This tool was found in the central Maine region and almost certainly is a previously unlisted Maine toolmaker.

72801T10 Nail header

DTM TT

Forged iron, 14 1/2" long with a 3/4" x 3/8" pritchel or header hole, signed "LX" in 18th century script.

Was this nail header used for heading spikes for shipbuilding? It is very early -- possibly 17th century?

31212T7 Ship pulley

DTM TT

Tropical wood, 10" long, 6 1/2" wide, 4" high, unsigned.

This pulley is from a ships' block and tackle and has a rather old looking dark patina. Courtesy of Liberty Tool Co.

Unidentified Tools

71401T22 Unidentified tool

DTM MH

Forged iron, 8 1/2" long, unsigned.

This is a smith-made implement. What is its use? Is this the tip of a cant hook?

71401T15 Unidentified tool

DTM MH

Forged iron, 13" long, unsigned.

This nicely wrought tool is 18th century. What is its use?

11301T6 Unidentified tool

DTM MH

Forged iron, 19" long with a 5" hook, unsigned.

What was this tool used for?

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Unidentified Tools

Status Location

DTM MH

63001T7A Unidentified tool (plier-like)

Cast steel or German steel, unsigned, 18th century (?).

Is it imported from France? What is its use?

Watchmakers, Jewelers, and Silversmiths' Tools

32502T27 Adjustable clamp

BDTM T

Cast steel (?) and brass, 5" long, 1 1/2" wide sliding side clamp with brass screws, unsigned.

This has an unusual and uncommon form.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

32502T29 Adjustable clamp

BDTM T

Cast steel with broken forged iron wing adjustment nut, 3 3/4" long, 5/8" wide jaws, unsigned.

This is a typical model adjustable clamp.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

32502T45 Awl

BDTM T

Bone and steel, 3 1/2" long including broken 3/4" long bone handle, 1/12" diameter, unsigned.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

32502T43 Bowl pin auger handle

BDTM T

Cast steel (?), 1 13/16" long, unsigned.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

32502T39 Brush

BDTM T

Wood and hair, 8 3/4" long, most of the hair or bristles are worn off, signed "Masters Late St London".

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

32502T38 Calipers

BDTM T

Cast steel and brass, 2 3/4" long, 1 3/4" wide when closed, unsigned.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

12900T8 Draw plate

DTM MH

Cast steel, signed "Latapd" and hand stamped "1-13".

This is an early imported jewelers' tool, probably French.

32502T6 Draw plate (2)

BDTM T

Cast steel, 4" long, 1 1/2" wide, 5/16" thick and 4 9/16" long, 1 1/16" wide, 1/8" thick, signed on the larger one "B H & Co 33 - 46".

The smaller also has smaller square holes.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

32502T7 Fragments from tiny jewelers' laths (4)

BDTM T

Brass, wood, one with wood pulley 5/8" diameter, unsigned.

It has two tracks for a belt.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

32502T28 Handles

BDTM T

Bone, 3 1/16" long and 2 3/8" long, unsigned.

These bone handles have no tool with them.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

32502T26 Jewelers' _____

BDTM T

Cast steel, unsigned.

It has an adjustable slide.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

31713LTC1 Jewelers' hack saw

DA TT
(Pub)

Forged steel, wood (cocobolo), brass, 11" long, 5" long cutting edge, signed "T. MOON" "J GREEN".

Thomas Moon worked in London from around 1795 to 1821.

81101T15 Jewelers' saw

Status Location
DTM MH

Cast steel, wood, and brass, 6 1/4" long frame with an adjustable sliding handle for various blade lengths, unsigned.
This saw has no blades. It is probably an English import pre-dating American production of cast steel tools (1820 and after).

32502T8 Jig

BDTM T

Brass and steel, 1 3/4" long including adjustable steel pin, unsigned.
This is some sort of 18th century jewelers' precision measuring tool. It has finely made tiny knobs on the side and on the adjusting steel leg. A most unusual tool.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

32502T31 Tweezers (8)

BDTM T

Cast steel, 3 1/4" to 5 7/8" long, signed with unidentified touchmarks.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioEpstein.htm>

Woodworking: Axes and Hatchets

32114T17 Ax

DA TT
(Pub)

Forged steel, 6" long, 4 1/4" edge, unsigned.
Courtesy of Edwin Creaser.

91303T2 Belt ax

DTM MH

Reforged iron and steel with a wooden handle, 3" long, 2" wide head, 8 1/4" long handle, unsigned.
This tiny tomahawk or hatchet is clearly made of forged iron and steel. All surfaces show evidence of hand filing after the forged iron was bent and fashioned into a miniature edge tool and then forged again into steel. A very unusual form.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/91303t2.jpg>

61204T14 Belt ax

DTM MH

Forged iron, steel and wood, 7 1/2" long handle, 2 1/2" wide, 2 5/16" cutting edge, unsigned, c. 1700 - 1800.
This is an exquisite miniature belt (?) hatchet possibly used for hunting or light woodworking; a very unusual form.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/61204T14.jpg>

32114T11 Double bit ax

DA TT
(Pub)

Forged steel and iron, 13" long, 3 1/4" edges, unsigned.
Courtesy of Edwin Creaser.

32114T1 Goosewing trade ax

DA TT
(Pub)

Natural steel, wood (hickory), 4" x 3" edge, unsigned.
Courtesy of Edwin Creaser.

091608T1 Hatchet

DTM MH-O

German steel (?), 5" long, 2 5/8" wide blade, 1/2" square poll, unsigned.
This miniature hatchet is particularly interesting because it is completely forge-welded with file marks on all surfaces, including the cutting edge. There is a hint of a welded steel-iron interface on one side, which could also be evidence of further heat treatment rather than the welded steel-iron interface. The relatively uniform appearance of the edge tool suggests that it is probably a German steel rather than blister steel edge tool.

TBC1003 Hewing ax

BDTM MH

Forged iron and steel, 5" rounded blade, 19" handle, signed "I H", "HARRISON", and "N:4", c. 1750 (?).
This tool is made by John Harrison, Instone Mills, Dronfield, Sheffield UK
(http://swingleydev.com/archive/get.php?message_id=95422&submit_thread=1).

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbc1003.jpg>

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/TBC1003_p2.jpg

111006T2 Hewing ax

DTM MH

German or blister steel, 9" long, 5 1/2" long blade, signed with the mark "20", c. 1700 - 1800.
The ax blade shows signs of later heat treatment of the cutting edge. A large 18th century trade ax in the continental style, probably French.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/111006t2.jpg>

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/111006T2_p2.jpg

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Woodworking: Axes and Hatchets

		Status	Location
81411T1	Incomplete trade ax	DTM	TT-O
<p>Forged iron and steel, 5 1/4" long, 3 3/4" wide, 2" high, unsigned. This is a half-finished trade ax with the piece of metal intended to become a forge-welded edge attached but not yet hammered into shape.</p> <p>http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/81411t1web2.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/81411t1web3.jpg</p>			
102612T13	Mortising ax head	LPC	MH
<p>Malleable iron, 10" long, 4" wide, unsigned. There is no indication of steeling on this ax head.</p>			
33013T1	Mortising tool	DTM	HC
<p>Hand-forged natural steel, 10" long, 2 1/2" cutting edge, 1 3/4" tall, unsigned.</p>			
61204T4	Sod ax	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and wood handle, 33" long, 3" poll, curved 8 1/2" blade, unsigned. This is clearly made by a blacksmith with no signs of a weld steel cutting edge.</p> <p>http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/61204T4_p1.jpg</p>			
32708T65	Spike-shaped tomahawk	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and steel, 5 3/4" long, 7/8" wide, unsigned.</p> <p>http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/32708t65-1.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/32708t65-2.jpg</p>			
32114T7	Tomahawk	DA	TT (Pub)
<p>Forged steel, 7 3/8" long, 3 1/2" edge, signed "ERI" and touchmarks; "JTS". Courtesy of Edwin Creaser.</p>			
102613T1	Trade ax	LPC	MH
<p>Natural steel, wood, 12" long, 3" cutting edge, 5 1/4" long head, signed "L" as part of a cartouche.</p>			
62813T1	Trade ax	LPC	MH
<p>Natural steel, 8" long, 3 3/4" cutting edge, 2 1/4" wide, unsigned. This ax head is on loan from Will West. Its design is typical of the crude axes used as trade items in the American Northwest, with a round eye obviously formed by wrapping a piece of metal around a mandrel and forming it onto the rest of the bit, the shape of which is obvious on this particular specimen.</p>			
32114T10	Trade ax	DA	TT (Pub)
<p>Forge-welded steel bit on iron, 6" long, 2 3/4" edge, unsigned. Courtesy of Edwin Creaser.</p>			
41203T11	Trade ax	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and German steel, 7 5/8" long, 3 1/2" blade, signed "_M". This ax was apparently broken in two and then re-welded. This partially obscured the maker's mark on it. It has the typical form of a trade ax with its light poll. It is difficult to date, but probably 18th century. It has only a slight hint of a weld steel cutting edge.</p> <p>http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/41203t11.jpg</p>			

Woodworking: Boring Tools

TBA1002	Auger	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 14" long, 5/8" wide cutter, signed "ALDEN" and also inscribed "2 1/2" in eighteenth century script. DATM (Nelson 1999, 18) lists E. Alden as a maker of augers without a date or location.</p>			
41801T4	Augers (2)	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 9" long, 1 7/17" diameter and 8 3/4" long, 3/4" diameter, unsigned, c. 1780 - 1800?. These are typical blacksmith-made wood augers with distinctly forged shafts.</p>			

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Woodworking: Boring Tools

		Status	Location
21201T10	Countersink	DTM	MH
<p>Cast steel (?), 5" long, unsigned. This distinctly beveled tool has a relatively stubby and slightly bent shaft and appears to have been designed to fit in a primitive brace.</p>			
72801T11	Gimlet auger	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 1' long, unsigned. It is distinctly hand-forged.</p>			
72013T2	Hub reamer auger	DTM	TT
<p>Wood, forged iron, 18" long, 18" handle, 2" wide head, signed "---RSEVEW" (faded).</p>			
72013T3	Hub reamer auger	DTM	TT
<p>Forged iron, wood, 21 1/2" long, 14" handle, 3" wide head, unsigned.</p>			
81801T5	Lipped pod auger	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and wood, 17 1/2" long wood handle, 5 1/2" long and 1 1/2" wide pod, signed "N.° Smith I". No N. Smith is listed in DATM (Nelson 1999).</p>			
070907T3	Pod auger	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 23 3/4" long, 1 5/8" wide pod, unsigned. The typical kind of pod auger used before they invented the screw auger for cutting the holes for the trunnels. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/070907t3_3.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/070907t3_1.jpg</p>			
TBA1001	Pod auger	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 6 1/2" long, 7 3/4" long handle, unsigned, distinctly 18th century.</p>			
TBA1003	Pod auger	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 6 3/8" long, handle 4 1/4" wide, unsigned, 18th century.</p>			
TBA1004	Pod auger	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 26" long, unsigned, 18th century. This pod auger was used in the creation of wooden water pipes. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tba1004.jpg</p>			
81801T4	Pod auger	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 24 1/2" long, maximum width 11", 1 7/8" wide pod, unsigned. This auger was used in shipbuilding and post and beam construction for cleaning out mortises and trammels. Similar tools were used as axle reamers.</p>			
72712T1	Ring auger	DTM	MAG-4
<p>Hand-forged steel, wood, 21 1/2" long, 1 1/2" diameter, 12 5/8" long handle, signed "T SNELL 9". This ring or eye auger has been carefully hand-welded together from three distinct pieces of steel. T. Snell is probably Thomas Snell of Ware, Massachusetts, who worked from circa 1790 to 1854. His connection, if any, to the Snells who also made augers in Sturbridge is unknown.</p>			
81101T10	Screw auger	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and wood, 15" long, 1 1/8" diameter, 14 7/8" long handle, signed "Perkins 5" in 18th century script. It has a nice early forged and peened handle crimp. No 18th century Perkins is listed in DATM (Nelson 1999). This colonial era tool has a southern NH provenance (Portsmouth or Newburyport, MA?)</p>			
102800T4	Screw auger	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, wooden handle, 16" long, 1 1/4" diameter, 12" long handle, signed "D Bisbee Kingston". Two David Bisbee's were known to have lived in Kingston, MA, a toolmaking center and home to the famous Drew Co. This auger is also marked with a "5" in 18th century script indicating its diameter as 5/4 of an inch. In the late 18th century, screw augers began supplementing, then replacing, the forged folded-over pod augers used by shipyards since the early Iron Age.</p>			
42604T7	Screw box	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and wood, 6 5/8" long, 4 1/2" wide handle, 3" x 1 7/8" screw box, unsigned.</p>			

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Woodworking: Boring Tools

21013T1 **Screwtip auger bit**

Forged iron, 9" long, 1 1/2" diameter, unsigned.

Status Location
DTM MH

31602T2 **Turn screw**

Forged iron and steel, wood, 19 1/2" long with 15" long and 5/8" wide blade, unsigned.

It has a nicely turned handle with a recycled iron ferrule. A recycled file has been used as the turn screw. An unusual hole has been wrought and drilled in the turn screw center.

DTM MH

TJR1301 **Turn screw**

Forged iron or steel, wood, and a brass ferrule, 12 1/2" long, 3 1/2" handle, unsigned, c. 1800.
This shows the typical recycling of used rasps.

DTM MH

TBF1005A **Turn screw**

9 1/8" long, 5 1/2" blade, unsigned.

DTM MH

TBF1001 **Water pipe auger**

Forged iron, 13 1/2" long, wooden handle 16 3/4" long, unsigned, c. 1750-1800.

It was used for cleaning out the ends of a long wooden water pipe. See Goodman (1993) for an illustration of a water pipe auger that would be worked through a log to make a water pipe.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbf1001.jpg>

DTM MH

Woodworking: Edge Tools

43006T3 **Adz**

Hand-forged natural steel, 6 5/16" long, 3 1/2" wide cutting edge, 2 3/8" wide x 1 1/4" deep block end, 1" x 1 1/4" block shaft, unsigned.

It is clearly forge-welded with no sign of steeling. Almost certainly it was bloomery-derived. This adz has an unusual early form that is one-of-a-kind.

DTM MH

42604T1 **Adz**

Natural steel, 9" long, 4" wide, unsigned.
It is distinctly hand-forged.

DTM MH

90908T1 **Bowl adz**

Forged iron and steel, wood, 9 3/4" long handle, 6" long blade, 6 1/2" cutting edge, unsigned.

DTM MAG-4

TBC1004 **Clapboard slick**

Forged iron and steel, 16 1/4" long including the tang, 3 7/8" wide blade, with a 9" long distinctly beveled handle, signed "W. ROGERS".

DATM (Nelson 1999) lists a W. Rogers that is a planemaker circa 1800. This tanged slick is difficult to date and could be late 18th century or early 19th century.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/TBC1004.jpg>

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/TBC1004_sig.jpg

BDTM MH

102904T11 **Corner chisel**

Hand-forged iron and weld steel, 6 1/4" long, 1" x 1" chisel, unsigned.

This primitively wrought woodworking tool has the remains of a broken off wooden handle and an obscured maker's mark in 18th century script. It has an unusual construction with a squared-off solid socket above the corner chisel. It is clearly all handmade with a weld steel construction.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/102904t11.jpg>

DTM MH

31702T2 **Drawknife**

Forged steel, 10 1/2" wide, 5 5/8" blade, unsigned, probably late 18th century.

This is an excellent example of an edge tool made out of recycled file steel with English style handles.

DTM MH

81801T11 **Drawknife**

Forged iron and steel with wood handles, 6" long, 3 1/4" blade, unsigned.

This carefully wrought shave is made from the recycled steel of a rasp or file and predates the patternmakers' drawknives that it resembles. Its use is unknown.

DTM MHC-D

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Woodworking: Edge Tools

		Status	Location
32412T2	Drawknife	DTM	TT-32
<p>Reforged steel file, hardwood handles, brass ferrules, wood, 14" long, 8 1/2" long blade, unsigned. This drawknife is crudely welded together from a file and two separate pieces of steel. Courtesy of Liberty Tool Co.</p>			
6212LTC1	Drawknife	DA	TT (Pub)
<p>Forge-welded steel, wooden handles, 21 1/2" long, 17 1/2" long cutting edge, 4" long handles, signed "L. Rogers". This drawknife has a long, thin blade and is obviously of 18th century origin. The maker's mark belongs to an unknown maker not listed in the DATM (Nelson 1999). Courtesy of Sett Balise.</p>			
72615T2	Drawknife	LPC	TT
<p>Forged steel, wood, 17 1/2" long, 10 3/4" edge, 4 1/2" handles, signed "FAXON". The "FAXON" signature is very crude. The handles look newer than the rest of the tool and are lathe-turned.</p>			
913108T50	Drawshave	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and German steel with a wood handle, 22 1/8" long, 13 9/16" long blade, signed "VESEY" in a square in two places and "ES" in dots on the middle of the blade. This is possibly Italian in origin or made by an immigrant toolmaker. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/913108t50-1web.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/913108t50-2web.jpg</p>			
913108T39	Drawshave	DTM	MH
<p>Steel and brass, 20 3/4" long, 7 3/4" blade, unsigned. This shave is made from a recycled rasp or file.</p>			
T81700	Drawshave	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and steel, 20" long, unsigned. This tool provides a graphic illustration of a blacksmith-forged edge tool. On the back of the shave the transition from the forged iron to the forged steel component of the shave is clearly illustrated by the line running the full length of the tool. Since this tool is located outside the display cases and on the hands-on workbench, turn the tool over to see the workmanship characteristic of hand-forged edge tools. Be careful, it's sharp!</p>			
TBC1005	Drawshave	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and steel, 11 5/16" long blade, 15 1/2" wide, unsigned. It has a clearly forged blade edge characteristic of the drawshaves a blacksmith made. This is what a drawshave would look like prior to the era of cast steel tools. The 18th century appearance is typical of a tool used by the early settlers of the Davistown Plantation.</p>			
913108T41	Drawshave	DTM	MH
<p>Iron with weld steel and wooden handle, 16 3/4" long, 10" blade, signed "Wm FISS" on the blade and "_E. LAUBER" on a band on the handle. Neither mark is listed in DATM (Nelson 1999).</p>			
81700T1	Drawshave	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and steel, wood (beech), 20" long, 4 1/4" handles, unsigned. This drawshave has a clearly steeled cutting edge.</p>			
100400T11	Froe	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron or steel and wood, 17 1/4" long, unsigned. This is an extra heavy duty specimen for cutting shakes. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/100400t11.jpg</p>			
30801T3	Gouge	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and steel, 15" long with nicely wrought 6 3/4" ferrule, 1 1/2" wide gouge, unsigned. This is a typical 18th century edge tool.</p>			
61204T11	Gouge	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and steel, 8 1/4" long, 1 1/2" wide, signed "W GREAVES & SONS", c. 1720 - 1750. This is an interesting example of an imported edge tool made by an important English edge tool manufacturer just prior to the era of English cast steel edge tools. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/61204T11_p1.jpg</p>			

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Woodworking: Edge Tools

		Status	Location
10407T5	Gouge	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and natural steel, 8" long, 1 1/4" diameter, unsigned. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/10407t5.jpg</p>			
42904T8	Gouge	DTM	MH
<p>Hand-forged iron and steel, 10 3/4" long, 1 3/16" wide, unsigned. This is an early example of a blacksmith-made natural steel edge tool with no sign of a weld steel construction.</p>			
52514T1	Hammer adz	DTM	MH
<p>Forged steel, wood (hickory), 19 1/2" long overall, 10" long, 2" adz cutting edge, unsigned.</p>			
72812T4	Inside bevel gouge	DTM	MH
<p>Forged steel, wood (hickory), 14 1/2" long, 1 1/4" wide cutting edge, unsigned.</p>			
080907T1	Mortising chisel	DTM	MH
<p>Natural steel, 17 1/4" long, 4" long handle, 9/16" thick blade, 5/8" wide cutting edge, signed "KIMPTON" with a backwards N and a scalloped edge around the imprint, there is a first initial that might be "I" or "J". http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/080907t1_p1.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/080907t1_sig_Kimpton Chisel.jpg</p>			
71401T7	Mortising chisel	DTM	MH
<p>Cast steel and wood, 12" long, 6" blade, 1/8" wide, signed "W" and "P" with crossed hammers over an anvil. This c. 1800 chisel is typical of imported English tools used by American woodworkers before the domestic production of cast steel edge tools began in earnest after 1850. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/71401t7-2.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/71401t7-1.jpg</p>			
81801T12A	Shovel-makers' drawknife	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and steel, oak handles, 11 3/4" long, 1 3/4" wide deeply curved shave, unsigned. This 18th century tool is finely wrought with a New Hampshire area provenance. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/81801t12a_p2.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/81801t12a_p1.jpg</p>			
41907T1	Socket chisel	DTM	MH
<p>Natural steel, 9 1/4" long, 15/16" wide, with a 3 3/4" long handle, unsigned. The handle has been replaced. An excellent example of a direct process forged steel tool, this chisel is made entirely of natural steel with obvious slag and iron inclusions, and also shows evidence of additional steeling, with a welded steel bit on the lower half of the cutting edge, extending at least 3/4 of an inch into the body of the tool. Heavily filed, this tool has a southern New England provenance. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/41907t1_p2.jpg</p>			
42604T6	Socket chisel	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and weld steel with wooden handle, 12 1/2 " long plus a 4" long handle with an iron ferrule, 1" wide blade, signed "W. ASH&Co." William Ash is a Sheffield edge toolmaker, however the signature and the tool construction do not appear to be English, but rather the mark of an 18th century American edge toolmaker.</p>			
81713T2	Socket chisel	DTM	TT
<p>Natural steel, wood, 14" long, 2" long handle, 1 3/8" wide cutting edge, unsigned.</p>			
121805T6	Socket chisel	DTM	MH
<p>Hand-forged natural steel, iron, and wood, 6 3/4" long including a 5 3/4" handle, 1 1/2" wide, signed "C KALER" with an obscured mark. The turned wooden handle appears late 19th century, the forge-welded framing chisel looks mid- or early 18th century and appears to be steeled. This tool was once much longer yet still retains a sharp cutting edge. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/121805t6_web.jpg</p>			
TBC1001	Socket chisel	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and German steel, 12" long, 2" wide, signed with an 18 c. style touch mark "J.W." in a circle with triangles around the edge and dots in between the triangles. It has no handle. This tool has a clearly defined welded iron-steel interface.</p>			

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Woodworking: Edge Tools

		Status	Location
8312T4	Socket firmer chisel	DTM	TT
Hand forged natural steel, 9 3/4" long, 13/16" wide cutting edge, unsigned.			
8312T3	Socket framing chisel	DTM	TT
Natural steel, 10" long, 1 7/8" wide cutting edge, unsigned.			
9514T8	Socket gouge	LPC	MH
Forged iron with steel bit, 1 3/4" edge, 12 1/2" long, signed "DERKS". This obviously hand-forged chisel looks like it might be made out of natural steel or well-processed bog iron with a substantially tougher forge-welded edge.			
4105T4	Socket gouge	DTM	MH
Forged iron and steel, 9" long, 8 1/8" handle, signed but the maker's mark is not legible, c. 1780 - 1800. This is clearly forged-welded and steeled with the look of a German steel cutting edge. It is from a southeast Massachusetts barn; the iron component is probably refined bog iron.			
61204T6	Socket gouge	DTM	MH
Forged iron and weld steel with iron ferrules and wooden handle, 14 5/8" long including 3 3/4" long handle, unsigned, c. 1750 - 1800. This is a classic example of a blacksmith forge-welded steel edge tool. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/61204T6.jpg			
81713T4	Tang chisel	DTM	TT
Natural steel, brass, wood (rosewood), 11 1/2" long, 5 1/4" long handle, 1 1/2" wide cutting edge, unsigned.			
111001T21	Toothed chisel	DTM	MHC-D
Reworked forged steel, 3 7/16" long, 2" cutting head with 17 teeth, unsigned. This is an excellent example of recycling file steel. Its use is unknown; it is too delicate for stone facing.			
41015T2	Wedge	DTM	MH
Iron, 1 15/16" edge, 3 1/4" long, unsigned.			

Woodworking: Other Tools

81801T6	Gentlemen's brace	DTM	MH
Forged iron and wood, 15 1/2" long, knob is 4" long, 3" wide, unsigned. It is without any bits. This is what a blacksmith-made brace would have looked like 200 years ago.			
21201T6	Iron brace	DTM	MH
Forged iron with wooden handle, 11 3/4" by 8" with 3 1/2" wide handle, unsigned, c. 1800. This variation of a common iron brace has a hand-forged wing nut to hold in the bit. It is a typical woodworkers' brace.			
32802T12	Nail puller	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 19" long, unsigned. This is a nice example of a blacksmith-made tool of the 18th century. The large jaws suggest a shipyard use for spikes in timbers. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/32802t6a.jpg			
TBJ1001	Planemakers' float	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 8" long blade, 6" long handle, unsigned, distinctly 18th century. It is used for cutting out the throat of a plane.			
TBJ3500	Saw set	DTM	MH
Forged iron, 12 1/4" long, 2" wide, unsigned. This set has three set holes.			
62406T1	Screw box and screw	DTM	MH
Wood and forged steel, 14 1/8" long, 3" wide screw box; 11 1/2" long, 1 1/4" wide screw, unsigned. This is a typical 18th century wood screw and clamp-making tool.			
81713T19	Square nail	DTM	TT
iron, 3 3/8" long, 5/8" x 3/8" head, unsigned.			

81101T2 Threader

DTM MH

Forged steel and wood, 7 1/4" long, 10" handle, signed "N. Harris" on the handle.

This nicely wrought tool for cutting wood threads for screw clamps pre-dates any factory made screw clamps. No such toolmaker is listed in DATM (Nelson 1999).

12801T4 Wimble

DTM MH

Forged iron with brass handle, 14" high, 11" swing arm with 6 1/2" lower arm extending from outer end, unsigned.

It is distinctly forged and filed (nut etc.) An uncommon survivor from an 18th century New England shipyard. See pg. 75 of Sellens' (2002) "Dictionary of American Hand Tools" for a photograph of a much more recent wimble, also noted by Sellens as being used on large "bridge" timbers.

Woodworking: Planes

42607T1 Adjustable grooving plane

DTM MH

Birch with replaced wedge, steel blade and fence guide, forged iron screw, 5/16" wide blade, unsigned, c. 1790.

This is a special purpose (tongue) and groove plane with an adjustable steel and wood fence and three nicely decorated carved wooden adjustment screws. The steel fence and blade guide are forge-welded natural or German steel. The blade is unsigned. The plane is unsigned and is in the basic form of the adjustable plow plane. A nice late 18th century (or early 19th century) woodworking tool.

33013T3 Angled molding or jointing plane

LPC MH

Wood (beech), cast steel, 8 3/8" long, 3 3/4" and 2 3/4" wide sides, signed "L TINKHAM" "C C GRIFFITH" "F.C.S".

This unusual triangular plane cuts a curved profile. It came from the Watts boat shop and might have a function in making edges of hull planks join together in such a way that they don't come apart when the wood expands and contracts.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioTinkham.htm>

11714T2 Beading molding plane

LPC MH

Wood (beech), steel, 9 3/8" long, 1" wide, 3 3/8" tall body, signed "ROC/G* & CO WARRANTED".

This plane has chamfered edges similar to circa 1800 English planes. The name is partially obscured and could be Rock, Rocks, Rogers, etc. (does match up with one described but not pictured mark in Goodman for Rocks & Co.)

11714T3 Beading molding plane

LPC MH

Wood (beech), steel, 9 3/8" long, 1" wide, 3 1/8" tall body, signed "JO" "J E O" (owner's marks).

This plane has the same owner's mark as a few others found with it from circa 1800 makers including William Raymond and another marked with an unidentified "IO."

42801T12 Beading plane

DTM MH

Wood with steel blade, 10" long, 5/16" wide cutter, signed "H Goss".

Goss is not listed in Pollack (2001), Goodman (1993), or DATM (Nelson 1999) so is a previously unidentified planemaker of the late 18th or early 19th century. The wedge is distinctively 18th century.

33002T2L Beading plane

DTM TT

Wood, 8 9/16" long, unsigned, c. 1790 - 1800.

The bead is damaged. This plane is from the Abiel Walker hoard, Alna, Maine. It has the same wedge profile as the three other late 18th century planes in Walker's tool kit. Its length is unusually short.

81602T6 Beading plane

DTM MH

Birch with forged steel blade, 10" long, 1" wide including fence, bead is 5/16" wide, signed "S. DOGGETT DEDHAM".

Probably this is S. Doggett Jr. (b. 1751, Dedham, d. 1831). Pollak (2001, 124-5) states Samuel Doggett Sr. began making planes as early as 1747. This mark is probably that of his son.

51114LTC2 Beading plane

DA TT
(Pub)

Wood (yellow birch), steel, 10" long, 3 1/4" tall, 3/4" wide, 3/8" edge, signed "OLNEY" "N*B".

Olney is probably Stephen Olney of Providence, RI (1775-1854).

41815T1 Beading plane

DA TT
(Pub)

Wood (beech, boxwood), steel, 9 5/8" long, 3 3/8" tall, 5/8" wide, signed "J. PATERSON".

This plane appears to be British. The maker is not documented.

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Woodworking: Planes

		Status	Location
TBH1001	Beading plane	BDTM	MH
Wood (beech?), 5 1/2" long, signed "K Hornberger", 18th c.. This plane is similar in age and design to those that might have been imported to Waldoboro, Maine, by the early (c. 1750) German immigrants who settled there in the 18th century.			
51703T3	Carriage-makers' plane	LPC	MH
Cast iron, steel blade, wood wedge, 4 1/4" long, 1 7/8" wide, 6 5/8" overall length with extended handle, unsigned. This exquisite hand-forged, hand-filed plane is probably late 18th century.			
81101T12	Coachmakers' router	DTM	MH
Wood and reforged steel, 13 3/8" wide, 7/16" wide cutter, unsigned, c. 1780 - 1810. This once common 18th century tool shows indications of being refashioned from an old file or rasp.			
51814LTC1	Compass beading plane	DA	TT (Pub)
Wood (yellow birch), steel, 9 5/8" long, 2" wide, 1 5/8" wide blade, signed "A. ADAMS". A. Adams made planes circa 1780 somewhere in New England.			
112113LTC1	Complex crown molding plane	LPC	TT (Pub)
Wood (beech?), 14 1/2" long, 4 1/4" wide, 3" blade, signed "SAMUEL STETSON" "S. JOSLYN" on cutter. Samuel Stetson is probably related to the Jonah Stetsons working out of Scituate, MA and thereabouts circa 1700-early 1800s.			
80102T1	Complex molding plane	DTM	MHC-D
Wood (beech), steel blade, 9 1/4" long, 2" wide, 1/4" flat chamfers, signed "L-LITTLE" on plane. Pollack (2001, 232) states "Levi Little, 1770-1802, was a Boston, MA, housewright, tool dealer, and planemaker. Born in Newbury, MA, in 1770, son of John Little and Hannah Noyes and brother of Noah Little, he married Mary Lovering in 1794, and died in 1802. Little made planes of both beech and birch; they range from 9 1/2" to 10" long, and have 1/4" flat chamfers. They are occasionally found with irons by Sheffield makers. He was first listed in the Boston Directory in 1796 as a carpenter at S. Bennet Street; then as a carpenters' toolmaker in 1798 and 1800 on Orange Street. The house he occupied in 1798, which included his workshop, was described as two-storied, 936 sq. ft., 11 windows, and was valued at \$900."			
31102T1	Double beading plane	BDTM	MHC-E
Wood (maple), 10" long, 1 3/16" wide cutting blade, signed "JO. FULLER PROVIDENCE". This plane was made by Joseph Fuller of Providence, RI (Pollack 2001). It is one of the most important planes in the Museum collection and a classic example of the 18th century florescence of planemakers in southern New England. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31102t1_p1.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31102t1_p2.jpg			
81912T1	Fillet and cove molding plane	DTM	MH
Wood (beech), steel cutter, 9 3/4" long, 1 1/2" wide, 3 1/4" tall without cutter, 7/8" cutting edge, unsigned. The wood on this plane has a dark patina typical of beechwood lubricated with mutton grease.			
51114LTC1	Fillet plane	DA	TT (Pub)
Wood (yellow birch), steel, 10" long, 3 3/8" tall, 9/16" wide, 1/4" edge, signed "OLNEY" "N*B". Olney is probably Stephen Olney of Providence, RI (1775-1854).			
12801T3	Fillister plane	BDTM	MH
Wood with steel blade, 9 9/16" long, signed "Ar. Ritchie" also marked "Stewart" in a smaller font, probably an owner's mark. This narrow adjustable fillister is unusual in its slightly angled bottom. The Ritchie signature is not listed in Pollak (2001) or Goodman (1993).			
TBH3000	Fore plane	BDTM	MH-J
Wood (beech), cast steel blade, 16 1/4" long, 2 3/8" wide, 1 7/8" wide blade, signed on blade "W. BUTCHER CAST STEEL WARRANTED" and the plane is unsigned. This run-of-the-mill fore plane is undistinguished except for its distinctly 18th century handle, which is offset as were most plane handles up to about 1800. The blade is the typical English import made by one of the largest of the Sheffield steel manufacturers, W. Butcher. This tool is typical of those that might have been used by the early settlers of the Davistown Plantation.			

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Woodworking: Planes

Status Location

TBH1003 Fore plane

DTM MH-J

Wood (apple wood or beech?), 16 " long, unsigned.

This plane has no blade, is beveled, shows early repairs, and has amazing patina. It has a characteristic 18 c. handle which is not offset. This tool shows signs of generations of use; an extraordinary testament to the stubborn persistence of the early settlers of New England.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbh1003.jpg>

42801T9 Gutter plane

DTM MH

Wood, 14 1/4" long, 2" wide throat, unsigned.

There is no blade or wedge. This strongly chamfered plane comes from Martha's Vineyard. It has a nicely wood pinned 18th century style handle, c. 1720 - 1750. It is a great hands-on tool for the children visiting the Museum.

33013T5 Hollow plane

DTM MH

Wood (beech), cast steel, 12 3/4" long, 2" wide, 5 1/2" tall, signed "G D" "C C GRIFFITH".

The G D mark belongs to Gideon Davenport, who worked in Newport, RI in the late 1700's.

6405T3 Jack plane

DTM MH

Wood with a steel blade, 12 1/2" long, 2 1/4" wide, 1 5/8" wide blade, 4 1/2" long rear handle, unsigned, c. 1720.

This is a typical 17th or 18th century imported Dutch or French plane with a characteristic curved design on the front of the plane and a trunneled rear handle in lieu of a rear tote. The wedge is replaced, the steel blade is probably not original, and the blade holder is a trunneled peg. It was found in the Bath, Maine, area.

101801T7 Molding plane

BDTM MH

Mahogany, 9 1/2" long, signed "AFW" for Abiel F. Walker, owner.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/publications/volume10.html>

7800T9 Molding plane

BDTM MH-D

Wood with steel blade, 9 5/8" long, unsigned, c. 1790 - 1810.

The heavily chamfered sides and distinctive wedge are characteristic of the late 18th century planes. Possibly it was used for door moldings.

51014LTC1 Molding plane

DA TT
(Pub)

Yellow birch wood, steel, 10 3/8" long, 1" wide, 3 1/8" tall, 3/4" edge, signed "F NICHOLSON".

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bionicholson.html>

12801T2 Molding plane (Ogee bead)

BDTM MH

Wood with steel blade, 9 11/16" long, signed "London".

It is strongly beveled. London appears to be a manufacturer's signature rather than the location of manufacture. No London, however, is listed in Goodman (1993), Pollak (2001), or DATM (Nelson 1999) as a planemaker. This is probably another imported plane of the late 18th century.

12801T1 Molding plane (reverse Ogee)

BDTM MH

Wood with steel blade, 9 7/16" long, signed "WATSONS Leeds".

Watsons was an English maker, 1792-1798 (Goodman 1993). This plane also has multiple owner's marks: "J FAIRBANK" over stamped "I. WILSON". It is a good example of the typical imported molding planes of a c. 1800 southern New England carpenters' tool kit. It is only slightly, not strongly beveled. Perhaps Watson's working dates extended into the early 19th century?

51713LTC1 Moving filletster plane

DA DA

Wood (beech), cast steel, 15" long, 2 1/4" wide, 1 15/16" wide blade, 6 3/4" tall, signed "J. DARLING" "J GREAVES & SONS WARRANTED CAST STEEL" on blade.

4613T1 Panel raising plane

DTM MH

Wood (rosewood), cast steel, 14" long, 2 1/4" wide, 6 1/2" tall, signed "C.C. GRIFFITH" "L*T; E*CLARK MIDDLEBORO" and "BENNET" on blade.

The L*T signature is probably Levi Tinkham. E. Clark is Elisha Clark. The Bennet mark is probably N. Bennet, a smith in Middleboro, MA. Pollack (2001) notes some connection between Clark and Tinkham; the DATM (Nelson 1999) notes that Bennett is known to have made irons for Clark.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioTinkham.htm>

4106T8 Panel raze plane

DTM MH

Wood, forged iron and steel blade, 14" long, 2 1/4" wide, signed with obscured initials.

This 18th century plane was found in Maine. It has the traditional offset handle and pegged wood handle of an early plane. It is slightly beveled at the front, rear, and on one side of the body with a primitive iron and steel blade, probably made by a local blacksmith. The handle may be beech or birch.

40501T3 Plow plane

DTM MH

Wood (beech), steel blade, iron rivets, brass depth stop, 9" long, unsigned.

This is the prototypical Yankee plow plane with wooden screws for the fence slide stops. English plow planes of the same period and design use wooden wedges for the fence stops. This is probably an owner-made plane. It is slightly damaged and dates from either the end of the 18th or beginning of the 19th century.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/toolPloughPlane.html>

101900T1 Plow plane

DTM MHC-D

Birch with an ash wedge, forged steel blade, and forged iron fence and bolts, 9 1/2" long, 8 1/2" arms, 3/16" wide blade, signed "H. R. WEBB" on the side of the plane.

This plane was possibly made by a cooper; coopers often signed their tools with large letters on the sides. The chamfering, wooden arm wedges, and hand-forged ironwork clearly indicate this is an 18th century tool. It was found in Maine and donated to the Museum by Bob Wheeler, Oct. 18, 2000. See our essay in the Hand Tools in History section for more photographs and a discussion of this type of plane (click the info link).

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/101900T1_p5.jpg

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/toolPloughPlane.html>

81602T1 Rabbet plane

DTM MH

Birch with oak wedge and cast steel blade, 12" long, 1 3/8" wide, unsigned, c. 1780.

TBW1008 Rabbet plane

DTM MHC-D

Wood (beech), steel blade, 10 7/8" long, 1" wide, signed but the signature is obscured.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbw1008.jpg>

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbw1008p2.jpg>

1302T4 Rabbet plane

BDTM MH

Wood with steel blade, 10" long, signed "Darbey".

Goodman (1993) lists the Darbey family as making planes in Birmingham, England, 1750 - 1794. This is a typical example of a plane found in a late 18th century carpenters' tool kit.

TBH1004 Rounding plane

DTM MH

Birch with a very distinctive mahogany wedge, 9 1/2" long, 5/8" diameter, signed "H-S", early 18th c., probably c. 1720.

There is no blade. This maker is not listed in Pollak (2001). H-S may be an owner's mark; the owner may also have made this plane.

81602T15 Rounding plane

DTM MH

Wood, no blade, 10 1/8" long, 1 1/2" wide, unsigned.

This generic molding plane with its heavy chamfers and robust shoulder moldings is probably a late 18th century European import that would typify the working tool kit of a c. 1820 woodworker.

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/81602t15_p1.jpg

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/81602t15_p4.jpg

100400T4 Sash plane

BDTM MHC-D

Birch with a cast steel blade, 10" long, 1 3/4" wide with a 7 1/2" blade, signed "I: B: WALTONS IN READING" on the wood.

Pollack (2001, 391) has this comment on I B Walton: "John Walton (1744-1823) of Reading, MA, until 1771 and Cambridge, MA, thereafter; and Benjamin Walton, his brother. Planes signed I:B:Waltons were probably made before 1771, when John Walton moved to Cambridge to work as a housewright. Some of the brothers' planes are fruitwood, others birch. Though they had their own name stamp, they used their father's location stamp IN READING.". This is another treasure of the Museum's tool collection.

42801T10 Sash plane

DTM MH

Curly maple with iron spline, no blade or wedge, 10 3/4" long, unsigned.

This is a beautiful and unusual specimen of an early 18th century plane. It has a Martha's Vineyard provenance. Another great specimen for hands-on inspection.

33013T2 Sliding fence plow plane

LPC MH

Wood (beech), cast steel, 9 3/4" long, 9" tall, 7 1/2" wide, signed "L. TINKHAM" "C.C. GRIFFITH" "F C S".

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioTinkham.htm>

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Woodworking: Planes

9514T5 Standing filletster plane

Status Location
DA TT
(Pub)

Wood (Birch, beech), steel, 9 1/4" long, 5/8" wide, 3/8" wide blade, signed "D. DAY".

The signature and style appear to be 18th century. The peg does not appear to be original and is beech while the body of the plane is birch. Pollack (2001) doesn't mention a D. Day.

83114LTC1 Steel spline round plane

DA TT
(Pub)

Beech wood, steel, brass, 4 7/8" long, 5/8" wide, 1/4" blade, 2" tall body, signed A H.

11714T1 Table hollow plane

DA TT
(Pub)

wood (beech), steel, 9 3/8" long, 1 3/8" wide, 3 1/2" tall body, signed IO; J E O.

This plane has chamfered edges and looks to be from the late 18th to early 19th century. The "IO" is the maker's mark.

81602T5 Tongue and groove plane

DTM MH

Wood, no blade, 9 1/2" long, 1 3/4" wide with a 5/16" wide groove, signed "J TABER".

Pollack (2001, 403-4) reports three other J. Taber planes: a crown molder, a boxed complex molder, and a 1/4" halving plane. How was J. Taber related to the Taber family and, especially, to N. Taber who made planes in New Bedford and Falmouth, MA, 1785 - 1820, and was the father of the prolific G. M. Taber?

81606T3 Tongue and groove plane

DTM MH

Wood (beech), 11 1/4" long, 1 3/8" wide, 3 3/8" tall without peg, unsigned.

This plane has no cutter.

81602T3 Tongue and groove plane

DTM MH

Wood, no blade, 11 3/8" long, 7/16" wide groove, unsigned.

This plane is European in origin and completely different in style from American and English planes of the 18th century. Is it German, French, or Dutch?

111001T7 Tongue and groove plane

DTM MH

Wood with steel blade, forged iron fence screws, 10 1/4" long, 1 3/16" wide including a 3/8" wide fence, 3/8" wide groove, unsigned.

This is a typical owner-made 18th century plane.

32313T5 Toted match plane

LPC MH

Wood (maple), steel, 10 3/8" long, 2 1/8" wide, 7" tall, signed "W" "I HATCH" on blade and "C.C. GRIFFITH".

The "W" appears to be the maker's mark.

51213T1 Wheelwrights' outside compass plane

LPC MH

Wood (beech), cast steel, 7 1/2" long, 2 5/8" wide, 2" wide blade, signed "NEWBOULD" on blade "L TINKHAM" "C C GRIFFITH CCG" on body.

The blade was probably made by Thomas Newbould or Samuel Newbould and Co. of Sheffield, England (http://www.gracesguide.co.uk/Samuel_Newbould_and_Co).

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioTinkham.htm>

Woodworking: Planes Made in Maine

71504T3 Complex molding plane

LPC MHC-D

Wood (yellow birch), steel blade, 9 1/2" long, 1 1/2" wide, signed "JOHNFLYN".

Could John Flynn be Maine's earliest known planemaker? He worked in Warren, Maine circa 1780 - 1800.

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/71504T3_p3.jpg

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/publications/volume10.html>

TBW1002 Panel raising plane with adjustable fence

BDTM MHC-L

Wood (beech), steel blade, 14" long, 3 1/2" wide including the adjustable fence, 2" wide blade, signed "T. WATERMAN" on plane and "JAMES CAM SHEFFIELD WARRANTED CAST STEEL" on blade.

This is currently the earliest signed hand plane known to have been made in the state of Maine. The Waterman signature is distinctly 18th century. The plane was probably made in the last years of the 18th century. James Cam, the prolific Sheffield, England edge tool manufacturer made the blade for this plane. Many Cam blades and tools were imported to America during this time. The biography links for Waterman and Cam go to pages that include photographs of this plane.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioJamesCam.htm>

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/publications/volume10.html>

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Woodworking: Planes Made in Maine

71504T1 **Plow plane**

Status Location
LPC MHC-D

Wood (beech), steel blade, rosewood fence, and one rosewood thumbscrew, 9" long with a 9 5/8" fence, 5/16" flat chamfers, signed "C.GOVE".

The plane was found in Eliot, Maine. It was originally in the collection of Ben Blumenberg. It is possibly made by Charles C. Gove of Kittery, Maine.

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/71504T1_p1.jpg

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/publications/volume10.html>

TBW1009 **Rabbet plane**

DTM MHC-D

Wood (beech), steel, 10 13/16" long, 5/8" wide, signed "J. METCALF".

This plane was made by Joseph Metcalf of Winthrop, ME. The style and the wedge is distinctly 18th century. Joseph Metcalf was Maine's earliest documented planemaker, working slightly earlier than Thomas Waterman. This late 18th century example may have been made in Massachusetts before Metcalf moved to Winthrop, Maine, in 1789. The style and wedges are distinctly 18th century. Joseph was born in Medway, MA, in 1756, and apprenticed to his brother Luther. He went to Hallowell, Maine, by oxcart, for reasons unknown in 1789, and in the same year went to Winthrop, Maine, where he immediately began to build a workshop, finishing it that same year. His simple center chimney Georgian home was completed in 1792.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbw1009.jpg>

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioMetcalf.htm>

71504T2 **Rounding plane**

LPC MHC-D

Birch with a steel blade, 11" long, 3/4" wide, signed "J. METCALF".

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioMetcalf.htm>

50402T2 **Skew plane**

LPC MH

Wood, no blade, 13 1/4" long, 2 3/8" wide, signed "J. C. Larrabee" with owner's initials "C.J.S." over stamped on the mark, partially obscuring it.

Larrabee is an up-to-now unlisted Brunswick-area Maine planemaker. The plane is heavily chamfered with the offset handle and handle profile characteristic of 18th century planes. This tool may predate the Waterman and Metcalf planes in the Museum collection. His working dates are as yet unknown. This plane was formerly in the Bob Wheeler collection and is now loaned to the Museum by the current owner.

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/50402t2_p1.jpg

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/publications/volume10.html>

111104T1 **Yankee plow plane**

DTM MH

Birch, 9 1/2" long, 8" wide, 6" high, 1/4" wide cutting edge, signed "S.KING" and also "A H" owner's mark.

The plane has a wedge arm lock, wood depth stop, flat chamfers, and is screw locked. S. King is possibly one of Maine's earliest planemakers.

Woodworking: Saws

TCB3000 **Backsaw**

BDTM MH

Sheaf steel, wood, and brass, 23 1/4" long with a 9 1/4" long blade, signed "S*J", "LLOYD DAVIES" with a crown touchmark. It is also stamped "GERMAN STEEL", c. 1800.

This small backsaw has a crown touchmark, a distinctly 18th century style handle, solid brass nuts, and is typical of the tools imported into the United States from England in the late 18th century and early 19th century. This saw is unusual in being stamped "German Steel." The mark indicates this was made by Spear and Jackson of Sheffield, England, from refined and reformed cementation steel. For a detailed explanation of sheaf steel as refined cementation steel and not German steel (despite the mark), see the chapter "Sheaf Steel and the Search for Quality" in "Steel- and Toolmaking Techniques and Strategies Before 1870 (Brack 2008, 68-70).

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/TCB3000-2.jpg>

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/TCB3000-1.jpg>

83102T6 **Buck saw**

DTM MH

Forged iron, forged steel blades, and wood frame, 31" wide, 27" height, unsigned.

The exquisitely formed ram's horn adjustment screws date this primitive blacksmith-made buck saw to the 17th or early 18th century. With a southern New England provenance, this saw is a rare survivor from the colonial era.

111206T3 **Hand saw**

DTM MH

Cast steel, brass, and wood, 21 1/2" long, signed "G. Biggin & Co. S.B. Sheffield cast steel" with a crown touchmark, c. 1780-1840.

The saw has three solid brasses. The center brass replicates the signature and has a more ornate crown to signify licensed production permission from the king.

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Woodworking: Saws

	Status	Location
<p>101400T8 Hand saw</p> <p>Forged steel, wood, and brass, 20 1/2" long, unsigned. Probably a tool used in a shipyard, this saw is distinguished by its 18th century handle and shape.</p>	DTM	MH
<p>71401T1 Hand saw</p> <p>Forged steel, iron, and wood, 17" long, 13" blade, unsigned. This is a typical late 18th century or early 19th century smith-made rip saw.</p>	DTM	MH
<p>032203T1 Hand saw</p> <p>Steel, wood, and brass, 30" long, 25 7/8" blade, unsigned. This is a typical late 18th century or early 19th century hand saw with peened brass rivets on the handle and the characteristic horizontal design of the lower handle grip of 18th century hand saws. By 1820, this saw was probably 25 or 50 years old -- a typical used tool found in any tool box of the era.</p> <p>http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/032203t1_p1.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/032203t1_p2.jpg</p>	DTM	MH
<p>TBJ1002 Keyhole saw</p> <p>Saw steel, wood, 12 1/2" long with a 6 1/4" blade, unsigned, c. 1780 - 1800.</p>	DTM	MH
<p>72002T3 Keyhole saw</p> <p>Steel, wood, brass, 11" long, 5 1/2" blade, signed "MAWSALL", c. 1800. This keyhole saw has all the characteristics of a late 18th century tool. DATM (Nelson 1999) lists a John Mawsall as a rule-maker working in Philadelphia c. 1813, who also made umbrellas. Could he also have been one of Philadelphia's early saw makers?</p>	DTM	MH-E
<p>121805T22 Keyhole saw</p> <p>Saw steel, brass, and wood, 20 1/8" long, unsigned. Primitive saw brasses, handle, and saw steel suggest this saw dates from the late 18th or early 19th century.</p> <p>http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/121805t22_p2.jpg</p>	DTM	MH
<p>TBF1007 Pad saw</p> <p>Forged iron, 9 1/4" long, unsigned. It has three unidentified touchmarks.</p>	DTM	MH
<p>51201T7 Rip saw</p> <p>Sheaf steel, wood, 27 13/16" long, signed "Browne German Steel", c. 1690 - 1740. No Browne is listed in DATM (Nelson 1999). This is a perfect example of an 18th century saw: It has forged iron rivets instead of brasses in the handle, a distinctly 18th century style handle with flattened lower grip, and the mark German steel, which indicates that the steel is carefully reformed blister steel, which was a significant source of saw steel for a few decades before and after 1700. At this time, a few German ironmongers were living in Newcastle and Sheffield and had perfected the art of re-forming blister steel before the advent of Benjamin Huntsman's cast steel. The use of the mark German Steel (in English) is confusing in that German steel made from partially decarburized cast iron was the main source of imported steel for Sheffield toolmakers in the 16th to early 18th centuries. Any English-made tool marked "German steel" is almost certainly made from sheaf steel; tools made from the more commonplace German steel are not labeled as such. This saw is a classic tool from the Ancient Dominions of Maine.</p>	DTM	MH
<p>31602T11 Tenon saw</p> <p>Steel, wood, and brass nuts, 14 7/8" long, blade 9 7/8" long, signed "____ & Sellars & Grayson's improved Sheffield CAST STEEL". This is a typical imported late 18th century tenon saw with solid brass mats.</p>	DTM	MH
<p>31012NOM2 Two-man crosscut saw</p> <p>Saw steel, 50" long, 6" wide, unsigned. Courtesy of Mike Nelson.</p>	NOM	UNK

Wrenches

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Wrenches

Status Location

32103T4	Adjustable wrench	DTM	MH-O
<p>Forged iron, 13 1/4" long, 3 1/4" wide, unsigned.</p> <p>Allegedly an English-made coach wrench, c. 1825, the Davistown Museum believes this is a late colonial era or early Republic all-purpose axle wrench, possibly blacksmith-made in or near Boston. This wrench lacks the beveled handle and sophisticated workmanship of the typical English coach wrench and its primitive forged construction suggests an 18th century origin. It is the fourth in our series of Boston wrenches (follow the bio link for more discussion).</p> <p>http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/32103t4_p2.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioBostonWrench.htm</p>			
TBK1001	Adjustable wrench	BDTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 11 1/8" long, unsigned, 18th c..</p> <p>It is a member of the Boston wrench group and has a beveled handle.</p> <p>http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbk1001.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioBostonWrench.htm</p>			
TBK1002	Adjustable wrench	BDTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 8 1/2" long, signed "Mathieson Glasgow".</p> <p>One of four unusual early wrenches of similar design, it has a strongly beveled handle and is part of the Boston wrench group.</p> <p>http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbk1001.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioBostonWrench.htm</p>			
TBK1003	Adjustable wrench	BDTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 13 1/4" long, unsigned.</p> <p>It has a slightly beveled handle. These late eighteenth or early nineteenth century wrenches keep turning up in the Boston area. Use the biography link to see our information file on the Boston wrenches.</p> <p>http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tbk1001.jpg http://www.davistownmuseum.org/bioBostonWrench.htm</p>			
102100T21	Auger wrench	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 6 1/2" long, unsigned, c. 1800?.</p> <p>What was this distinctly smith-made socket-tool used for?</p>			
TBK1004	Open ended wrench	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 15" long, 1 1/2" and 1 7/16" wide ends, unsigned, c. 1780 - 1800.</p>			
8912T4	S-curve open box wrench	DTM	TT
<p>Cast iron, 6" long, 3/16" thick, 1 3/16" and 1 1/8" ends, unsigned.</p>			
8912T3	S-curve open box wrench	DTM	TT
<p>Natural steel, 7 1/8" long, 3/16" thick, 11/16" and 1/2" ends, unsigned.</p> <p>This wrench is made to fit square nuts.</p>			
121805T10	Tap wrench	DTM	MH
<p>Forged natural steel and/or iron with a natural steel insert, 9 5/8" long, 3/8" square tap hole, unsigned.</p> <p>This is a nice example of a primitive 18th century American forge-welded natural steel tool made directly from a bloom of natural steel.</p> <p>http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/121805t10.jpg</p>			
71401T6	Tap wrench	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, wrought iron screws, and wood, 5 7/8" long, 6" handle, unsigned.</p> <p>This is a typical 18th century tool for threading wood for small wood screw clamps.</p>			
42801T15	Wagon wrench	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron, 9 5/8" long, unsigned.</p> <p>This is a very early wagon wrench from the mid-18th century.</p>			
43006T4	Wagon wrench	DTM	MH
<p>Forged iron and/or natural steel, 3/4" and 13/16" wide wrench openings, unsigned.</p> <p>It is a curved wrench, forge-welded and hand-filed from a handmade rasp. It is a nice example of an 18th century wagon wrench.</p>			

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Maritime II

Wrenches
Status Location
DTM MH

71401T23 **Wrench**

Forged iron, wood, and brass, 4" long, 2 1/4" wood handle, signed with the initials "F. W." in 18th century script.
What was this simple wrench used for?