

The Davistown Museum
 The Ancient Dominions of Maine: An Archaeology of Tools
 The Industrial Revolution (1865f.): Patented and Transitional Planes

Status Location

Patternmakers' Tools

72002T6 **Patternmaker's plane** DTM MH-I

Wood, 7" long, signed "J. Johnson", 20th century.

DATM (Nelson 1999, 429) lists J. Johnson of New York with a working date of 1870 made wooden planes. A exquisite example of an owner-made and signed special purpose patternmaker's plane. It does not have the blade. It was probably made about 1930; recently purchased from the Johnson family of Braintree, MA.

Planes made in Maine

52408T7 **Bench Plane** DTM MH

Three hardwood types, steel, 4.75" x 1.75" x 2.75", signed L.R..

Made by Leon Robbins of Crown Plane Co. in Bath, Maine.

103102T1 **Bench plane** DTM

White bronze with rosewood handles, 6" long, 1 1/2" wide, 3 1/2" high, blade is 4 1/2" high, 1 1/4" wide, signed "LIE-NIELSEN USA" on blade and "Lie-Nielsen" "USA" "2002" "No 1" on base of plane.

This plane is modeled after a No. 1 Stanley; No. 284 of 500 produced.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/103102t1.jpg>

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

030206T1 **Circular plane** DTM MH

Cast iron, 10 " long, 4 1/8" high, 2" wide, unsigned.

This plane is identical in appearance to planes made from the Evans Patent Jan. 28, 1862 (no. 34,248) March 22, 1864 (no. 41,983), but is not marked. George F. Evans of Norway, Maine filed the patent. Most planes made with this patent were by R. H. Mitchell & Co. of Hudson, NY. Prior to them purchasing the patent, some were made by Darling & Schwartz of Bangor, Maine. The Mitchell Co. soldered a brass nameplate to the side and perhaps this is missing? Some were also sold with paper labels. (Smith, Patented Transitional & Metallic Planes in America, vol. I pg. 145-146; vol II, pg. 156).

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/030206t1_p1.jpg

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

90502T1 **Coffin plane** DTM

Hard and figured maple, steel blade, 8 1/4" long, 2 1/8" wide, 2 1/2" high, 1 3/4" wide blade, signed on the wood "J W" with a crown emblem, 2002.

This plane and its blade was made special for the Museum by Jim White of Crown Plane Co. in S. Portland, Maine. The museum's only specimen of Maine's most important contemporary tool manufacturer.

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

25408T5 **Coffin Plane** DTM MH

Etched Hardwood, 11" x 5.25" x 2.5", unsigned.

Made by Leon Robbins of Crown Plane Co. in Bath, Maine. Has stripes burned into the wood and a hand etched curly pattern.

41302T1 **Convex block plane** DTM MHC-K

Wood (type unknown) with steel blade, 4 1/2" long, 2 3/16" wide, signed "L.R." with a crown touchmark, ca. 1990.

This is the handiwork of Leon Robbins, Crown Plane Co., Bath, Maine, who adds his trademark to Jim Whites.

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

TJE1001 **Evan's circular plane** BDTM

Cast iron, 10 3/8" long, 2 3/16" wide, with a 1 5/8" wide blade, signed "Moulson Brothers cast steel" on the blade.

One of the earliest of American made circular planes, this Maine made tool pre-dates most Stanley Rule and Level Company circular planes. It is noteworthy that while this tool was produced either in Norway, ME or Hudson, NY, the blade was produced in England, reflecting the continued U.S. reliance on imported British edge tools as late as ca. 1870. Follow the bio link to the Registry of Maine Toolmakers for the entry on George F. Evans, who worked 1862 - 1864.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/TJE1001.jpg>

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

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Industrial Revolution - Planes

Planes made in Maine

DTM-LR **Molding plane**

Status Location

DTM MH

Steel and tiger maple, 9" x 5.5" x 0.75", signed "LR".

Made by the late Leon Robbins, founder of Crown Plane of Bath, Maine.

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

70701T6 **Moulding plane**

DTM

Wood with steel blade, 8" long, 1/4" diameter blade, marked "Use this tool for fitting BURROWES Patent sliding screens. E.T. BURROWES CO., MANUFACTURERS, PORTLAND MAINE".

Also on the side of the plane is printed "If screens do not run easily groove or follow groove a little with this plane". Burrowes made screens and planes for use in their installation from 1878-1928.

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

112508T1 **Scrub plane**

DTM

Wood, 5 7/8" long, 1 23/32" wide, 3 1/4" tall with cutter, and 1 11/32" cutting edge, .

This plane was made by Leon Robbins.

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

6405T5 **Smooth plane**

DTM

Curley maple, cast steel blade, 8 1/4" long, 1 1/2" wide, 2" wide blade, signed "L. R." with a crown hallmark, blade signed "W. Greaves & Sons warranted cast steel", ca. 1985.

This plane was made by Leon Robbins of Bath, Maine. The blade is a typical 19th century imported Sheffield blade.

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

Planes not made in Maine

100400-1 **Bailey plane**

LPC MHC-K

Cast iron and cast steel, 7 1/2" long, 2" wide, signed "BAILEY TOOL CO. Woonsocket RI DEFIANCE".

The Bailey Tool Company was in operation from 1872 to 1879 and was founded by Selden A. Bailey. Leonard Bailey of the Stanley Rule and Level Company joined Selden Bailey in Woonsocket in 1878, and introduced his own line of Defiance Metallic planes. This plane is illustrated in PTMPIA volume 2 and is identified as a number F block plane. For more information see Roger Smith's Patented Transitional and Metallic planes in America (PTMPIA) volume 1, pages 61 - 68 and volume 2 page 32. Both volumes of Smith's important references are in the visitor tool examination area and available for hands-on reference.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/100400-1.jpg>

52408T1 **Bench Plane**

DTM MH

Tiger Maple, 13.5" x 2.5" x 6.5", unsigned.

Made by Leon Robbins of Crown Plane in Bath, Maine.

TJE1002 **Birmingham smooth plane**

LPC

Cast iron, 6 3/8" long, 1 3/4" wide, blade 1 1/2" wide, unsigned.

Birmingham Plane Co. no.1 or no. 2 smooth planes are very rare. This specimen is a no. 1; the handle overlaps the bottom of the plane by 1/2". The penultimate classic cast iron plane. One of the most sculptural designs in late 19th c. patented planes.

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/TJE1002_p1.jpg

51201T2 **Blind nailing plane**

LPC

Steel, 2 1/4" long, takes a 1/4" wide blade, signed "STANLEY" on side, verso "PAT. AP'L 10-88".

The blade is missing. Very rare; the smallest of all Stanley's planes.

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

62202T2 **Block plane**

DTM

Beech with steel blade, 5 5/8" long, 2 1/8" wide, 1 3/8" wide blade, signed "Fred Craven, Sheffield" on nose and blade.

Although later than most of the planes in the Museum collection, this specimen from a New England tool chest is English-made, with the same signature on the nose and blade. The nose also has additional illegible information including a street address. Did Craven make both the blade and the plane? Craven is not listed in Goodman as a plane blade manufacturer.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/62202t2.jpg>

31808SLP13 **Block plane**

DTM

Cast iron with nickel-plating, 3 1/2" long, 1" wide cutting blade, signed "STANLEY".

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808slp13-3.jpg>

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

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Industrial Revolution - Planes Planes not made in Maine

31808SLP31 Bull nose rabbet plane

Status Location
DTM

Cast iron, Japanned, nickel-plated thumbscrew, 4" long, 1" wide blade, signed "STANLEY" and "MADE IN USA".

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808slp31-3.jpg>

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

31808SLP22 Carriagemakers' curved rabbet plane

DTM

Steel and maple, 6" long, 1" wide blade, unsigned.

31808PC3 Circular plane

DTM

Cast iron, Japanned, nickel-plated trim, 10 1/2" long, 1 3/4" wide blade, signed "STANLEY RULE & LEVEL CO." "PATENTED SEPT. 25, 1877".

Stanley model 113.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808pc3-4.jpg>

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

31808SLP9 Circular plane

DTM

Cast iron with Japanned and nickel-plated trim, 10 1/4" long, 1 3/4" wide cutting blade, signed "STANLEY" and "NO 113". The size dates this plane to after 1936. It has ornate knob decoration.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808slp9-2.jpg>

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

52408T3 Coffin Plane

DTM MH

Etched Maple, 8.75" x 2.5" x 4.75", signed Buck Brothers (blade).

83102T3 Combined plough and beading plane No. 45

DTM

Steel plane and blade in an oak box, 12" long, 5 7/8" wide box, 10 1/4" long plane, signed "Stanley No 45".

This plane was owned by a New Bedford, MA, shipwright and boat builder. It was never used; all the parts are like new with the blades in the original box. Other box contents: 18 blades and depth stops, adjustable cam, extra fence extension, 2 1/2" long screwdriver for adjusting the depth stops, torn directions and a small tool catalog. One of the illustrations on the catalog shows a newly designed frog on a smooth plane with a 1902 patent date. This dates the catalog to 1902 - 1908. This plane is a survivor from the twilight of New England's maritime era.

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

31808PC5 Compass plane

DTM

Cast steel, brass trim, and wood, 8 3/4" long, 1 3/4" wide blade, signed "MOULSON BROTHERS" "WARRANTED" and "CAST STEEL" trademark on the blade.

Moulson Brothers of England's working dates were 1824 - 1912.

31808SLP3 Fillester plane

DTM

Steel, brass, and wood, 9 5/8" long, signed "AUBURN TOOL CO" and "AUBURN, NY".

DATM (Nelson 1999) indicates this might be Empire Tool Co. or Owasco Tool Co. Gray and Dudley were hardware dealers who marked planes made by Auburn.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808slp3-2.jpg>

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808slp3-1.jpg>

31808SLP11 Hand beading plane

DTM

Cast iron with nickel-plating, 11 1/4" long, signed "STANLEY No 66" and "PAT. FEB. 9 86".

The patent is to Justustraut 2/9/1886. The size dates this plane to post-1909.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808SLP11.jpg>

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

TJE4002 Jointer plane

LPC

Cast iron and cast steel, 22" long x 5 1/2" high x 2 3/4" wide, signed "The Birmingham Conn Plane MFG. Co".

No. 7 size, but the size is unmarked.

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Industrial Revolution - Planes

Planes not made in Maine

Status Location

DTM MAG

112806T1 Jointer plane

Malleable iron, rosewood handle and knob, and brass adjustment nut, 23 1/2" long, 2 15/16" wide, signed on the brass adjustment nut "Patented Aug 3, 1875".

This is one of the most interesting planes in the Davistown Museum collection. The day before its purchase from a Civil War period Somerville, MA, workshop, it was dropped on a cement floor and broken in half by its owner. When purchased, this broken plane was missing its lever cap and blade. Other than its rarity, its significance lies in the fracture of the metal frame of the plane. The appearance of the metal structure of the plane is that of white cast iron, much coarser than the fracture exhibited along the cleavage lines of the many chipped and broken malleable iron planes that turn up in every tool chest. The distinctly white fracture of the iron in this plane suggests that during its manufacture, some mishap occurred in the annealing process, which resulted in a failure of transition from rapidly cooled white cast iron to correctly annealed malleable cast iron. This metallurgical failure, along with the new designs for plane frogs and adjustment mechanisms being introduced by Leonard Bailey at this time, may explain both the rarity of this tool and its failure to become widely used. Extensive discussion and illustration of the Bailey Tool Company's products (Woonsocket RI, 1872 - 1879, Seldon A. Bailey, president - no relationship to Leonard Bailey) is contained in Volume I, pg. 61 - 68 of Roger K. Smith's Patented Transitional and Metallic Planes in America, 1827 - 1927. Smith makes this comment about the recent history of the design of this particular piece: "A design variation of this plane eliminated the cap screw adjustment for the iron but incorporated the cutter adjustment as patented by David F. Williams, No. 166,240 on August 3rd, 1875... the lever clamp device [on the earlier planes] was soon replaced with a screw held cap, which was also specified in William's 1875 patent." (pg. 65). Smith notes in 1879 the Bailey Tool Company was absorbed by the Bailey Wringing Machine Company and in January of 1880 by the Stanley Rule and Level Co. The Bailey Tool Company planes manufactured in Woonsocket, MA, can often be clearly distinguished from the planes Leonard Bailey designed for the Stanley Rule and Level Co. by the large letters cast into their ornate lever caps (BAILEY TOOL CO). Bailey Tool Co. planes are now fairly uncommon and were produced in much smaller quantities than those designed by Leonard Bailey for the Stanley Rule and Lever Co. This tool is available for hands on examination in the Center for the Study of Early Tools second floor tool cataloging area (room 3).

52408T4 Level

DTM MH

Wood, glass, brass, 2 9/16" x 1 1/2" x 3", unsigned.

A small circular level.

TAL1001 No. 2 smooth plane

LPC

Drop forged steel and wood, 2" long, marked "STANLEY NO. 2".

Loaned to the Museum by Thom McKee.

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

31808SLP5 Plane

DTM

Steel and wood, 9 1/4" long, 1/4" wide cutting edge, unsigned.

This plane has two double bead curved cutters.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808slp5-1.jpg>

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808slp5-2.jpg>

32708T54 Plow plane

DTM

Metal, brass trim, and wood, 8 1/2" wide with 1 1/4" and 1/4" wide blades, signed "HILDICK" on the wide blade and "DICK" on the small blade.

DATM (Nelson 1999, 382) reports on a family of Hildicks working from 1860-1879 (Aaron, I & H, John, and R)

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/32708t54-1.jpg>

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/32708t54-2.jpg>

31808SLP10 Plow plane

DTM

Steel, brass, and wood, 8 3/4" long, 1/4" wide cutting blade, signed "3" "WARRANTED" "CAST STEEL" and on the wood "C.F.W".

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808slp10-2.jpg>

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808slp10-3.jpg>

42607T7 Plow plane blade

DTM

Cast steel, 8 1/2" long, 5/8" wide, signed "Humphreysville Mfg. Co. Warrented Cast Steel".

Humphreysville Mfg. Co. is listed as being in Seymour, CT (1852 - 1904). This is probably a Civil War period blade. Is this cast steel imported from England or made in the USA (Pittsburg)?

31808SLP4 Rabbet plane

DTM

Cast iron, nickel-plated, 5 1/2" long, 1" wide cutting edge, signed "STANLEY" "MADE IN USA" and "92".

Cabinet-makers plane.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808slp4-2.jpg>

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

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Industrial Revolution - Planes

Planes not made in Maine

Status Location

LPC MH

7602T1 **Razee Plane**

Ebony with cast steel blade, 22" long, 2 5/8" wide, 1 7/8" wide blade, signed "Made by P Marshall" on the toe and "Buck Brothers Warranted Cast Steel" on the blade.

This plane was one of three in a collection of tools formerly owned by a ship caulker who worked in the 19th century in the shipyards of Boston and Chelsea. It was found with associated caulking tools in a dark corner of 3 Derber, Chelsea, June 2002 by the Liberty Tool Co.

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

31808SLP12 **Side rabbet plane**

DTM

Cast iron with nickel-plating, 5 1/4" long, 1/2" wide cutting blade, signed "NO 79" "STANLEY" and "MADE IN USA".

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/31808slp12-2.jpg>

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

42904T9 **Smooth plane**

DTM

Cast iron, steel blade, rosewood handles and knobs, brass adjustment knob, 9 1/2" long, 2 1/2" wide, 5" high, signed "BAILEY" "No 4" "PAT'D" "MAR-25-02" "AUG-19-02".

A nice example of a Stanley smooth plane at their peak of production.

101400T4 **Smooth plane**

LPC

Rosewood and cast steel, 4 5/8" long, 1 1/2" wide, with a 15/16" wide blade, blade signed "Jacob Reisser New York".

The blade maker is not listed in DATM (Nelson 1999). An exquisite late 19th century plane.

TJE4001 **Smooth plane**

LPC

Cast iron, cast steel, and wood, 8" long, 4 3/4" high, 2 1/8" deep, signed "The Standard Rule Co. Patented Oct. 30, 1883
__ntonville, Conn".

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/TJE4001.jpg>

100400-2 **Stanley no. 2 bedrock smooth plane**

LPC MHC-K

Cast steel and wood, 7 1/2" long, 1 15/16" wide with a 1 9/16" blade, signed "BEDROCK" on the cap iron and the casing, "3 607" also on the casing, "STANLEY MADE IN USA" and "PATENDED APR 2, 85 APR 19, 10".

This plane illustrates the Stanley Tool Company at the height of its plane-making artistry.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/100400-2.jpg>

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

52408T2 **Tiger Maple Moulding Plane**

DTM MH

Tiger Maple, Steel, 9.75" x 6" x 1.25", unsigned.

Made by Leon Robbins of Crown Plane in Bath, Maine.