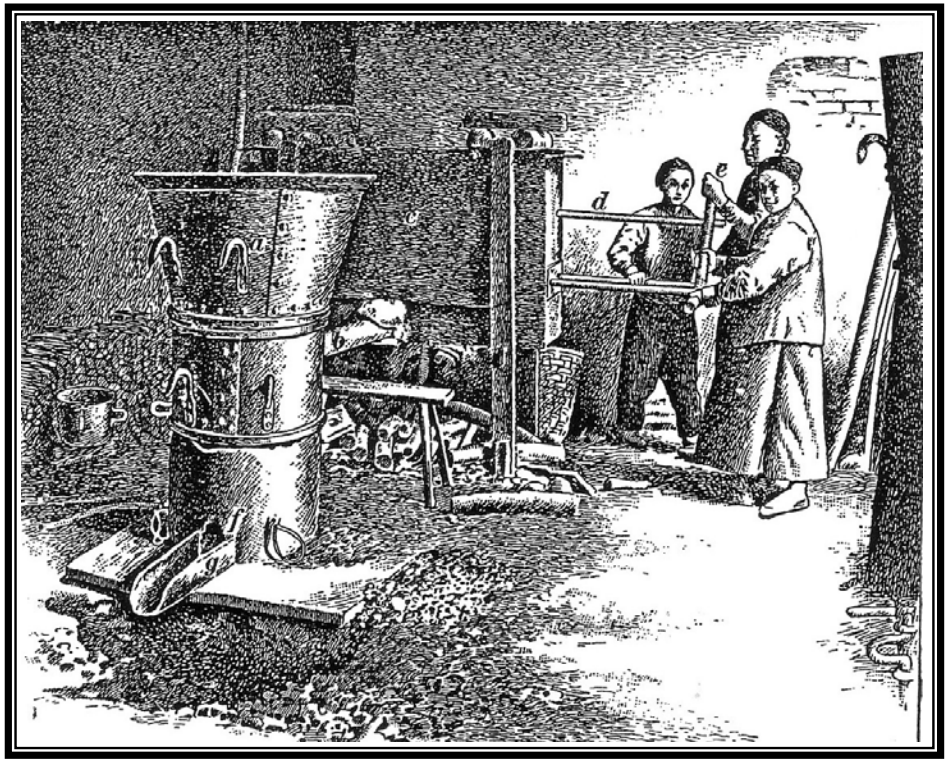

Newsletter No. 72 August 2003
The Traditional Tools Group (Inc.)
www.tttg.org.au

TTG Inc.

THE TRADITIONAL TOOLS GROUP (Inc.)

TTTG Newletter No. 72. August 2003.

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Book Review/Library News / Directory.
Cover: Chinese Cupola. I.C.S. Reference Library. London.

2003/2004 Subscriptions are due.

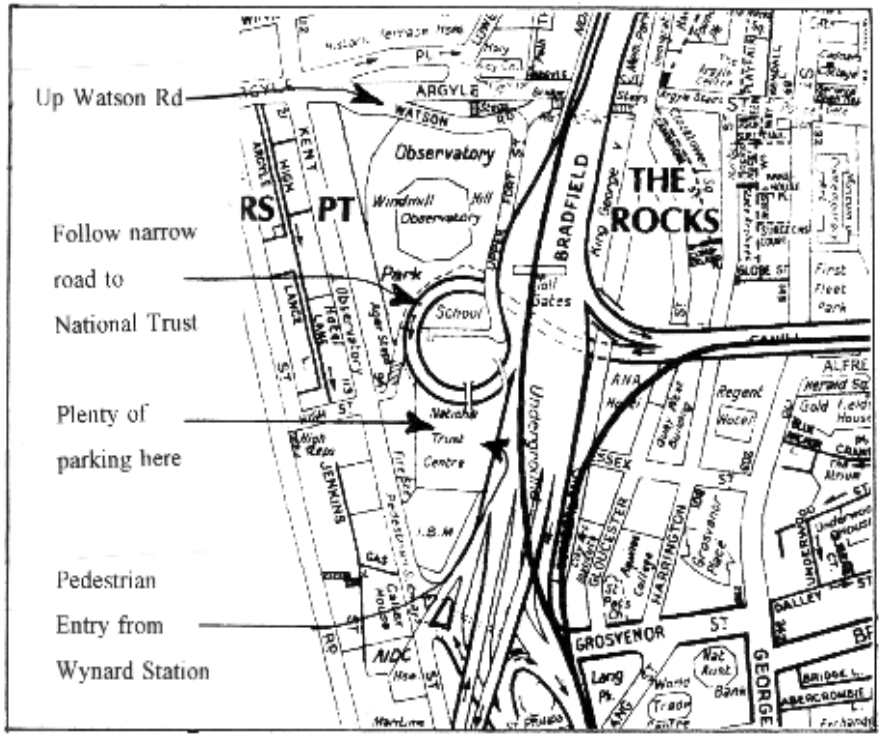
Subscription Rates :
Sydney $30. Overseas $30.
Out of Sydney, Other States and Australian Pensioners $22.50.

Postal Address.
The Secretary TTTG (Inc.)
P.O. Box 240 Grosvenor Place
Sydney N.S.W.1220.

Enquires: Mike Williams
02 9144 6356
Bob Crosbie
r.crosbie@bigpond.com

tttg.org.au

Next Meeting **Tuesday 12th August 2003**
National Trust Centre, Annie Wyatt Room
Observatory Hill. Commencing at 7:00pm



PROGRAMME

1. **PATTERN MAKING TOOLS. HENRY BLACK WILL TALK ABOUT THE PATTERN MAKER'S TOOLBOX AND MANY OF THE TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS THAT WERE ON DISPLAY AT THE TIMBER AND WORKING WITH WOOD SHOW.**
2. **THE TALK WILL BE FOLLOWED BY FRED'S WOTSIT.**
3. **OUR FUN AUCTION.**
4. **SUPPER BY MARIO DATO.**

Next Meeting.

Topic:	**TTTG Tool Makers.**
Time:	Tuesday Evening Tuesday 12th August 2003.
Location:	**National Trust Centre.** Annie Wyatt Room. Observatory Hill. The Rocks. Commencing at **7:00 pm.**
Topic:	Pattern Making Tools: The TTTG Tool Box.

Speaker. Henry Black.

The strong public interest at the 2003 Sydney Working With Wood Show in Henry Black's display of Pattern making tools and the Pattern maker's Toolbox from the TTTG Collection indicates an opportunity to examine these tools "close up" would be well received.

The TTTG Pattern maker's Toolbox will be on display at the meeting.
Henry Black will discuss these tools and the talk about this trade.

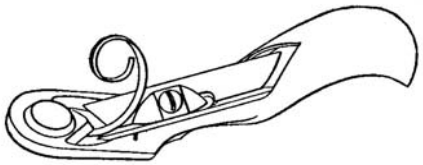
After the presentation the audience will have the opportunity to bid at the **TTTG Auction**. The items sold are knocked down at such low prices that the auctioneer strongly rejects the criticism that he will go to any lengths to secure the highest price. **For bargains do not miss this auction.**

Previous Meeting.

The prizes won by TTTG members in the recent Australian Wood Review tool making competition suggested the subject of the April Meeting.
This meeting was so successful that another chance to see the work of our members seemed appropriate.

For the June Meeting the subject was expanded to include all types of tools. Metal working and other tools were given exposure along side the "glamour" wood working tools which usually steal the lime light.
The tools on display were numerous varied.
Several speakers fielded questions from the animated audience.
Again attendance was around fifty members and guests.

The Auction saw many desirable items fall to the auctioneers' hammer.



Advertisements.

RATES.

All **WANTED** and **FOR SALE** advertisements **are free**.

Quarter Page	$10 per issue.	$50 per annum.
Half Page	$15 per issue.	$80 per annum.
Full Page	$20 per issue.	$100 per annum.

First placement is free.

WANTED

-AUGER BORING MACHINE.
Wood or steel frame. Any brand, ie. Snell Mfg. Co, Millers Falls, Ajax.
Phone 02 6771 3776.

- Heavy Firmer Chisels wanted by working carpenter.
Square edge chisels all sizes 1" and above.
Contact Mick Dowling. Phone 03 93863481 or 0407 544338.
email: itshimselfthen@bigpond.com

- Any planes made by Jas. McLaren Melbourne, even a photo.
Spiers or Mathieson Thumb, Chariot, and any Gunmetal Planes
Phone Jim Black. Phone 0351 825561.

-Australian made implement wrenches and spanners.
Anything either marked as Australian Made or known to be so.
Also ones from Railway workshops and other enterprises.
George Radion. Phone 03 9557 1178, radion@iprimus.com.au,

-Shaper/Planer tools and tooling, any condition.
Micrometers, complete or parts, all types, cash paid.
John Bates. Phone Business Hours 02 9931 1467, After Hours 02 9859 5094.
urbansystems @ big pond.com

-Blacksmiths Post and Bench Drills, hand or power, any condition, up to 1940.
Buffalo, Champion, Silver, Globe, Dawn, Goodall Pratt, Union.
Rick Mitchell. Phone 4751 4762 or 4751 9797.

SWAP

¼" Unused Pigeon Brand Hollow Mortise Chisels,
Will swap for other sizes in good condition.
Bill 69242308.

Book Review. Mike Williams

A Treatise of Mathematical Instruments by John Robertson

A reprint of the 1775 Third Edition. The Invisible College Press, Arlington Virginia. US$17.95 including postage. Website www.invispress.com

I was originally drawn to this book in my quest to discover how to use a Sector and although it covers this topic comprehensively, it offers much, much more. The Invisible College Press have reproduced the book in an inexpensive soft cover form with excellent notes by David Manthey.

Robertson was a Fellow of the Royal Society and died suddenly a year after this edition was published; it is therefore the last edition to be published in his lifetime. It would seem that the original Sectors, beside their general trigonometrical calculation function were designed for navigational and gunnery calculations although I have never found a Sector with the scales for these functions. Besides the Sector, the book explains the use of every type of instrument and rule found in a case of drawing instruments in 1775. Hundreds of worked examples are presented, from the simple use of dividers, to navigational calculations and even to drawing Corinthian columns in correct proportion! This book is a must to anyone interested in drawing and mathematical instruments.

Library News. Rick Mitchell

Periodicals Received.

-Hand Tool Preservation Society of Western Australia. (HTPSWA).
Newsletter.
-Hand Tool Preservation Association of Australia Inc. (HTPAA).
Tool Chest/Sharp Edge Vol.14 No.3. Issue 65, August 2002.
-TATHS. Tools and Trades History Society.
Newsletter 81 Summer 2003. Journal Vol. 13.

Directory.

-The Traditional Tools Group Inc. (TTTG). tttg.org.au
P.O. Box 240 Grosvenor Place. Sydney N.S.W.1220.
Enquires: Mike Williams phone 02 9144 6356
Bob Crosbie e-mail : r.crosbie@bigpond.com
-Tools and Trades History Society. (TATHS)
Membership Secretary: Jane Rees.
Barrow Mead Cottage. Rush Hill, Bath. United Kingdom.
BA2 2QP 01225 837031 (Office hours only).
-Hand Tool Preservation Association Australia. Inc.(HTPAA).
P.O.Box 1163 Carlton. Victoria. 3053.
-Hand Tool Preservation Society of Western Australia. (HTPSWA).
8 Belham Street, Bayswater. Western Australia.

Editors Notes.

The 2003 Sydney Working With Wood Show is now a blur of memories.
The TTTG presentation was well received by the public with many comments along the line of “best display in years”.

Credit for this year’s success is largely due to Henry Black’s display of pattern making tools. Some of the tools on show were from Henry’s collection while the Tool Box and smaller tools were from the TTTG collection.

Every year the Sydney Working With Wood Show brings forth classic statements from “the man in the street”.

One year the number of planes “made by hand by my grandfather” surprised the members on the TTTG Stand. A strange coincidence so many people having grandfathers named Alex Mathieson.

Remember the plane made from coconut? Or the sharp Disston tenon saw that was no good because “it will not cut straight”?

It will be hard to beat this year’s classic comment.

A man picked up an Aluminium Stanley plane. Speaking with total authority he informed everyone that there were so many of these planes because they used to be made in high school workshops. Presumably normal Stanleys were used as patterns. Hard to explain the A before the number on these “school copies”!

What will the 2004 Sydney Working With Wood Show bring forth?

Immediately before us is the TTTG Annual General Election.

Nominations are being sought for all TTTG Committee positions.
The current TTTG Committee members are all willing to stand for re-election.

Henry’s Annual Tool Sale will be at a new venue this year.
See notice in this newsletter for details.

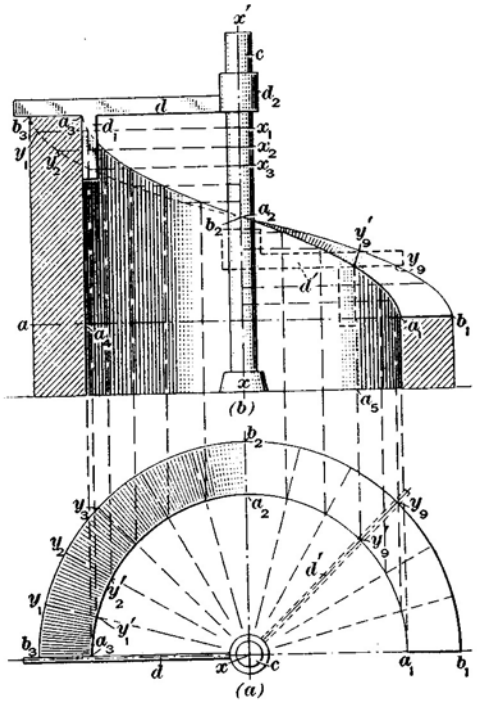
What is it?

News 71.

American patented bandsaw tooth setter.
No prizes for getting this one right.
The image is from Workingtools “Tools for Sale” http://www.workingtools.com.au

This is Malcolm’s description,
An ingenious early American patented bandsaw tooth setter. It is complete & functioning. The main upper casting (along with many of the smaller components) is cast in bronze, in the face of which is hand stamped "DL & RM" & "PAT.7336". This casting can be adjusted vertically to vary the set / allow for different size teeth. A crank of the wooden handle turns a cam which raises & drops a spring loaded hammer, the same action by means of linkages expands two arms with pivoting sprung teeth which engage & advance the blade along an adjustable table ready for the next strike & then contract holding the tooth firmly on the anvil ready for the hammer. There are also a variety of other adjustments possible. The lower casting & backbone is cast iron & japanned. It stands 9" tall by 6 1/2" wide & weighs 4lbs. It obviously worked well as some parts show a fair amount of wear.

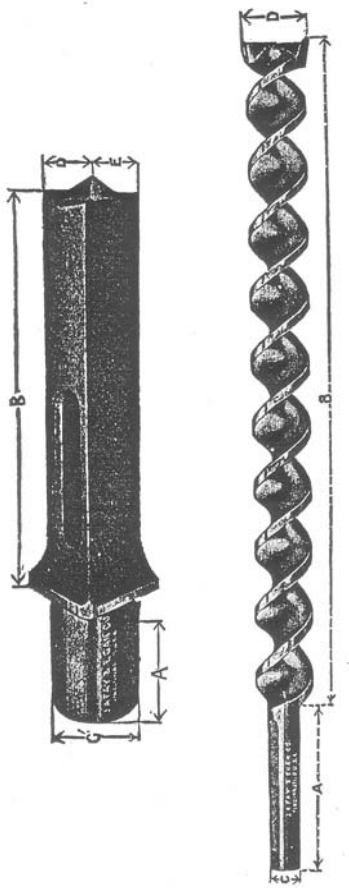
This one is a bit harder.



Machine Mortising.

Fay and Egan Hollow Chisel.

Figs. 3,703 and 3,704-Fay and Egan hollow chisel and bit for use with combined rotary and reciprocating mortisers. A length of shank; B', from shoulder to cutting edge, C', diameter of shank; D' and E', length of two adjacent edges; A, length bit shank, B, from shoulder to cutting edge; C, diameter shank; D diameter of bit. It is of importance that the hollow chisel and bit be accurately fitted to each other, hence both should be made by the same manufacturer. *In sharpening the chisel use the hand file only;* don't sharpen by grinding. Under no circumstance should a chisel be sharpened on the outside. File on the inside only and in such a manner as to leave as much stock as possible on the cutting edges, thereby keeping same sharp and short. The corners should be filed no thinner than the two bevels of the side cutting lips. The stock of a chisel tapers on the inside toward the edge, an angle of about 25 degrees, being slightly less on small chisels and greater on the larger tools with thicker walls and the actual cutting edge is filed back a very short distance to form a greater angle with the side of the chisel, viz.: 32 to 35 degrees. The edge of a chisel should start straight across at the corners for about one-eighth of the width of the chisel at each side and then taper back so as to produce a sheer cut until the two tapers unite in a gentle curve at the center. A sharp angle at this point is liable to cause breakage. The depth of this curve, measured from a straight line down from point to point, should be about 1/32 inch for each 1/8 inch of the diameter of the chisel. The bore of the chisel for receiving the bit reduces the thickness of the walls near the center of each side and a curved line is formed where the bore meets the taper which should not be filed beyond the natural angle. ***Setting of the bit.*** The bit should be set in the chisel so that the edge of the chisel will not press down on the auger, thereby ruining both. The proper set is to have the cutting point of the auger project beyond the points of the chisel about 1/16 in. ***Sharpening the bit.*** In general sharpen the bit the same way as any machine bit is sharpened. keeping the side lips on a line with the cutting edge, preserving a straight line for the cutters. The inner edge of the cutting edges should extend past the center of the bit and kept in that position for the reason that these bits have no screw point to open the wood at the center. A bit well filed will be reduced in diameter only from natural wear. When its diameter wears much smaller than the chisel diameter it is no longer serviceable. ***In ordering***, specify diameter and length of shank, also diameter and length of blade to the shoulder. Give the size and name of machine in which the chisels or augers are to be used. The illustrations show the dimensions needed in ordering.



Audels Carpenter and Builders Guide. Volume 4. New York.1946.

Machine Mortising.

Fay and Egan Hollow Chisel.

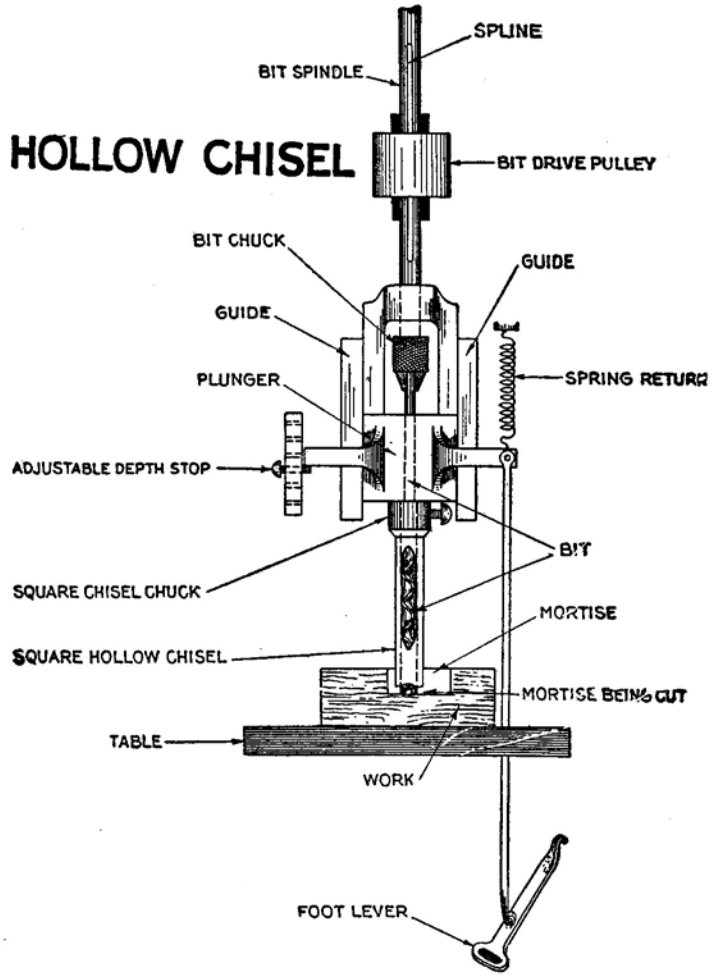


FIG. 3,705.—Elementary combined rotary and reciprocating (hollow chisel) type mortiser showing operating principles.

Audels Carpenter and Builders Guide. Volume 4. New York.1946.

Annual General Meeting

The next meeting of TTTG on 12/8/03 will be the Annual General Meeting.
This notice is to call for nominations for the committee for the forthcoming year.
Nominations must of course be for a member of TTTG, have the agreement of the nominee, be seconded by a member of TTTG and handed to the Secretary, Mike Williams before the commencement of election of the committee.
Formal proceedings are not expected to take very long, consisting as they do of:

1) Presentation of the minutes of the previous AGM,

2) Presidents Report

3) Presentation of the financial report for the year (copies of which will be available on the night).

&

4) Nomination and election of office bearers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

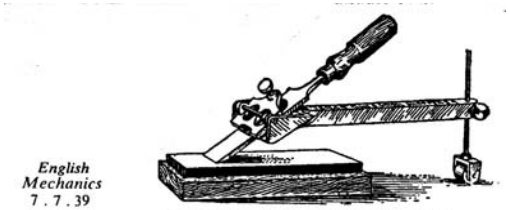
TTTG has a number of expenses, not least of which is the printing and postage of the bi-monthly newsletter. Subscription to TTTG falls due on 1st July and we need your prompt financial support to continue to produce the newsletter as well as the costs associated with our meetings, our website and other activities.
Being a non-profit organisation, members of the committee give freely of their time to ensure that TTTG continues to flourish and meet our stated objectives of keeping alive knowledge of skills and tools connected with all the trades. **Your prompt payment of your subscription is necessary to ensure that we can continue with this work.**
Please don't take for granted that we can continue without the cash injection that the subscriptions represent. Come to the next meeting and pay the treasurer on the spot or post your cheque to our postal address (you will find it at the bottom of the page on the inside of the front cover

.

Correspondence.

TTTG Plane Tuning Workshop.

Once again The Traditional Tools Group of Sydney organized a plane- tuning seminar. The Meadowbank premises of Woodwork's Book & Tool shop were again graciously made available by the owners.
Jim Davies gave a great rundown on what to do to make all those rusting Stanleys of old into tools that will cause envy to any modern maker!
Everyone had a go at flattening the sole and doing all those things that nowadays no one teaches but are essential to make tools work properly.
I remember seeing a very old Stanley 3 suddenly come to life and start taking shavings that floated in the air!
On a personal note, Jim gave me some ideas on how to make my L-N62 sing. It needed an ever so light pass on the "flattener" and the iron was starting to show some rust. After adequate cleaning and fine tuning, it went back to its usual superb manners. Not an old tool at all, but I reckon it's one of the best jack planes ever made.
Never had the luck of handling the real Stanley 62, but I suspect if it's anything like the LN, it must be a heck of a tool.
Saw some interesting tools. There was a very nice Record 66, Calvert-Stevens, with the usual problem that the adjuster won't move laterally. A dab of wax under the lever cap knee joint and bingo: it worked perfectly.
Some very nice Record carriage maker's rabbet planes, I've never seen one from this maker before. They seem slightly more solid than the Stanley No. 10, the casting feels thicker in the critical area near the blade.
There were some very nice examples of Stanley's knuckle joint
block planes, the #18 IIRC, always a nice tool to look at and to play with.
The great thing with these meetings is that everyone gets a chance of handling and using each other's watchamacallits and whatever else is brought in. Great sharing spirit, everyone has a swell time, we all meet the faces behind the e-mail addresses.
Worth every minute of it!
Well done to TTTG! Roll on the next one.
Cheers,
Nuno Souto



English Mechanics 7.7.39

The "Zyto" Tool Sharpening Device.

EMAIL THE EDITOR ON r.crosbie@bigpond.com

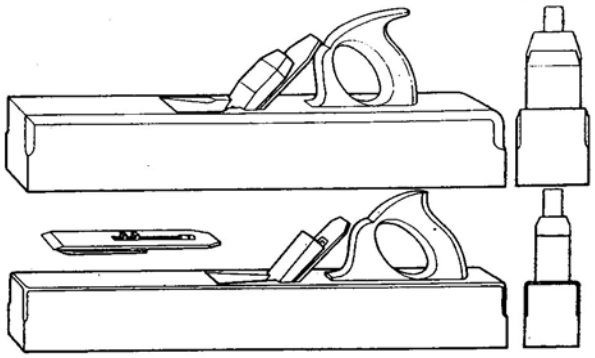
French Trying Plane.

WE recently came across a rather interesting trying plane of French make, and as it varied in several respects from the corresponding British plane, we made a measured drawing of it, together with some notes which we pass on to readers. It measures just over 22¼ ins., or somewhere in the region of 57 cm., and has a surprisingly narrow cutter-$1^{5}/_{8}$ ins. A British plane of 22 ins. length would have a 2½ in. iron. The position of the cutter and handle in relation to the general stock is, also quite different, both being set farther back so that the mouth is considerably nearer the centre of the plane. This is obvious from the two illustrations given here. The handle shape, whilst similar, has not so pronounced a tip or lift, giving a somewhat unfinished appearance, and not being quite so comfortable to grip.

One entirely different feature is the back-iron which is fitted with a screw device for regulating its position relative to the cutting edge. The inset illustration shows the idea. The projecting bosses through which the screw passes make a friction fit in the slot in the cutter, and it is necessary to tap it with the hammer to release it, When put in position the screw is turned by means of a light tommy bar to regulate it. This certainly seems an advantage over the British pattern which requires tapping if not exactly right.

In use one has first to get used to the unusual position of the handle. Being so far back, the hand has to exert considerable leverage when holding the tool in the right hand only, but once familiar with this, the plane works sweetly enough. In any case its comparative narrowness makes its actual weight considerably less than the British plane. For shooting joints in wood no more than 1 in. thick the tool is very handy, but a wider cutter is needed for wood wider than this.

Come to think of it, the position of the cutter near the centre seems more logical than that of the British pattern, and one wonders why our planes have developed this feature. In a short plane such as the smoother it is understandable because, owing to the angle of the cutter, the latter would stick out at the back instead of emerging at the top, and would seriously weaken the plane. In a long plane, however, there seems to be no reason for the forward position. Incidentally the cutting angle is 45 deg., the same as the British plane. The wood is hornbeam.

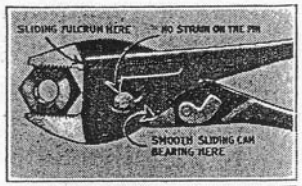


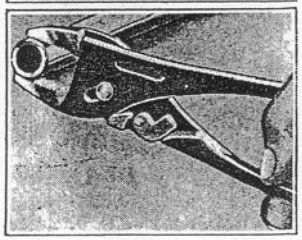
Woodworker, March, 1945

Two Universal Wrenches.

PLIERS GRIP WITHOUT SLIPPING ON ROUND SURFACE

Combining the principle of the cam, the fulcrum and the wedge, pliers that will not slip, even when gripping a round surface, now are on the market. The tool thereby performs work for which other appliances heretofore have been necessary. It eliminates the pin as a point of strain, the cam sliding the fulcrum to the correct position to wedge the work between the jaws in a viselike grip.





Popular Mechanics Magazine. Chicago. February 1930

Events.

Sharpening Workshop.

When :
Where : WOODWORKS Meadowbank Shop.
What : Emphasis will be on fettling bench planes.
The workshop will include repairs, sole flattening, sharpening and set up.
Materials, spare parts and old planes will be for sale during the workshop.
Cost:

Expressions of interest are called from TTTG members interested in attending this proposed workshop.

Saw Sharpening Workshop.

When :
Where : Asquith Boys High School.
What : Emphasis will be on hand and back saws.
Cost:

Expressions of interest are called from TTTG members interested in attending this proposed workshop.

Metal Working Skills Workshop.

When :
Where : Asquith Boys High School.
What : Bench and machine skills. Bring a tool to repair.
Cost:

Expressions of interest are called from TTTG members interested in attending this proposed workshop.

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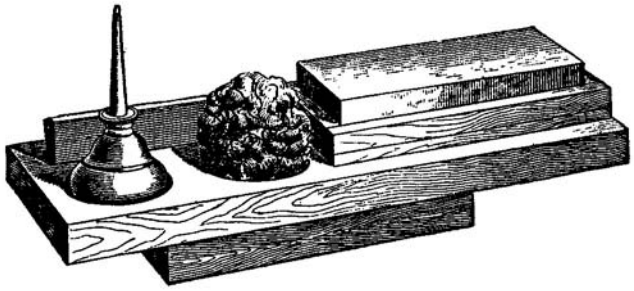


TTTG Publications.

Carter Plane Leaflet.

The Reprint of an undated Carter Tools colour Leaflet is now available.

Cost is $5 each, post extra.

Johns Pages.

Work is currently in hand on a compilation of articles by John Daniels.

The illustrations are being scanned and the layout will be presented to the Publications Committee at the September Meeting.

Anthony Hordens Catalogue.

Work is also currently in hand on a series of Extracts from an early Anthony Hordens' Catalogue.

The quality of the original presents significant technical problems.

"The Illustrated Guide to Australian Tool Manufacturers"

"The Illustrated Guide to Australian Tool Manufacturers" will be offered in printed form, probably late in 2003.

More on Rust Removal. by Ray Gurney.

Copies are available by request.
A stamped self addressed envelope would be appreciated.

TTTG Tool Makers.

The editor has a number of photographs of tools made by TTTG members
This publication seems feasible,
Examples of Vic William's work are illustrated below.

Flooring Dado Planes.

An English authority on tools has made the statement that there is no written account of how Flooring Dado planes were used. A description of trenching floor boards is reproduced below, it is from I.C.S. Reference Library, Finishings and Fittings, London undated. Grooving plane is the name given to the plane used for trenching in this description. Either the dado plane or the handled flooring dado plane could be used in this way.

7. Tonguing Skirting to Floor.--To tongue a skirting into the floor is a much more difficult matter than the method just dealt with ; this is because the nearness of the skirting to the wall makes it very awkward to form the groove in the floor. The first step is to scribe the bottom edge down to the floor, as if the skirting were a scribed one. Then, having decided on the size of the tongue, work it on the bottom edge of the skirting, by means of a fillister or a rabbet plane. The tongue, which is usually 3/8 or 1/2 inch wide by 3/8 inch deep, should always be formed on the front of the bottom edge of the skirting, the rabbet being on the back, as in Fig. 1 (c). To form the groove in the floor, the first step is to mark its position, which is done by placing the skirting in place and marking the line of its face on the floor; then a line parallel to this one is drawn at a distance from it equal to the width of the tongue. The best method of forming the groove is shown in Fig. 4. A piece of batten *a* is nailed to the floor *b* on the wall side of the groove marked out at *c*; the groove is formed by means of a grooving plane, worked against this piece. The angles and also any stops must be finished with a chisel, as a grooving plane will not work nearer than to within about 4 inches of the ends of the grooves. The groove is shown completed at *c*' ; the skirting d, which is double faced, is shown fitted into the groove at *c*". Backing pieces *e*, to which is fixed the skirting, are secured to the wall at intervals and cut to fit the back of the skirting; these are used in addition to the ordinary grounds *f*.

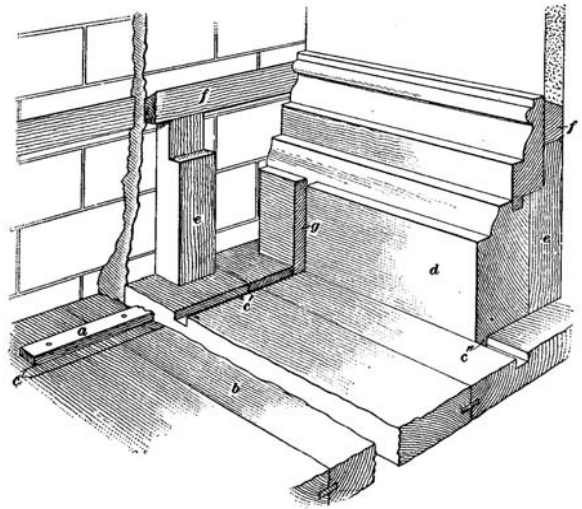
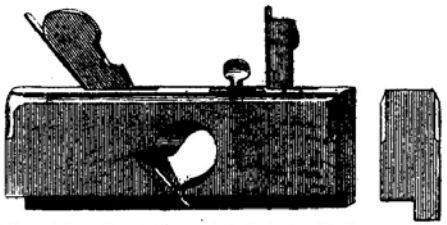


FIG. 4

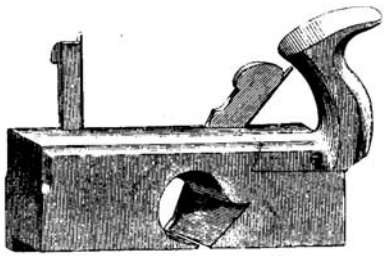
Dado Planes; Left and Right.

TATHS Newsletter 81, Summer 2003 included a request from Malcolm O Kneeshaw for information on Dado Planes. Malcolm has a Dado plane with a depth stop on the right hand side. He points out that all illustrations of these planes have the rebate and fence on the left hand side. Could his plane be a special made for a left-handed tradesman?

The editor has sent his reply to TATHS. The argument is as follows.
----Dado planes are also known as raglet, grooving, cross grooving and trenching planes. They are superb tools both in working performance and in appearance. Having used these planes for many years I can comment on the usefulness of trenching planes. But to the matter under discussion. Dados were always described as "left hand stop" in the catalogues. The illustration in Mathieson's 1899 Catalogue has an illustration of a "Raglet Plane Left Hand Screw Stop (page 5, No. 783)". With the plane's toe facing the viewer the rebate, and stop, is on the left side. This is the assumed standard version of the Dado plane. However Dados with Right Hand Stop were made and are not uncommon. Having used both Left Hand Stop and Right Hand Stop Dados I think I can solve the mystery. The Left Hand Stop version is suited to cross grooving, or trenching, carcase sides or jamb linings where the plane is used against a fence and pushed across the bench top. Wide tenons, eg. on four or six panel house door lock and bottom rails, were often made by trenching the shoulders with a dado plane. To do this using a Left hand stop is awkward if the rail is placed across the bench, ie. against the bench stop. To use the Left Hand Stop Dado plane in this position a right handed user has to stand on the left hand side of the vice, one of the trade taboos. Using a dado rebated on the right side, viewed facing the toe, means the user can both work in the "correct" position and have a comfortable grip on the plane. Dados were also used to trench louvred shutter stiles. This involves oblique cuts. The Left Hand plane cuts well in one direction while the Right Hand plane cuts well in the other direction. Note that the iron in both versions is skewed to throw the shavings out of the rebated side of the plane's sole, that is away from the fence fixed to the work piece. Illustration 784 in Mathieson's 1899 Catalogue shows a Flooring Raglet and it has a Right Hand Stop, the natural configuration for a right-handed user. Standard tools were not made for left handed tradesmen, the left hand was seen as the devil's hand!



783 Raglet Plane Left Hand Screw Stop

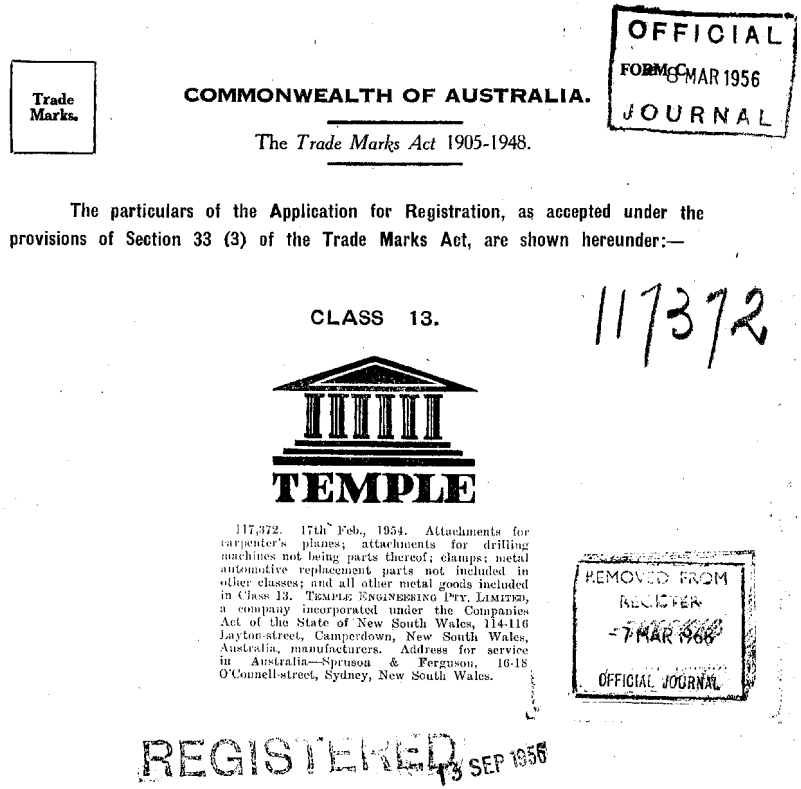


784 Flooring Raglet

Information Received.

Temple Plane Guide.

Bob,
I note your request regarding the Temple Plane Guide. I have a photostat copy of the sheet that is under the box and tool in Hans' photograph. I don't know that there was a further instruction sheet as such. If you are interested I will send you a copy of this and I believe I have a copy of the application for trade mark which I could also send. Taken out 17/02/1954, relating to: Attachments for carpenters planes and drilling machines, clamps.
Rod Thomas.



Trade Marks.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

The *Trade Marks Act* 1905-1948.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL FORM C 8 MAR 1956

The particulars of the Application for Registration, as accepted under the provisions of Section 33 (3) of the Trade Marks Act, are shown hereunder:—

CLASS 13. 117372

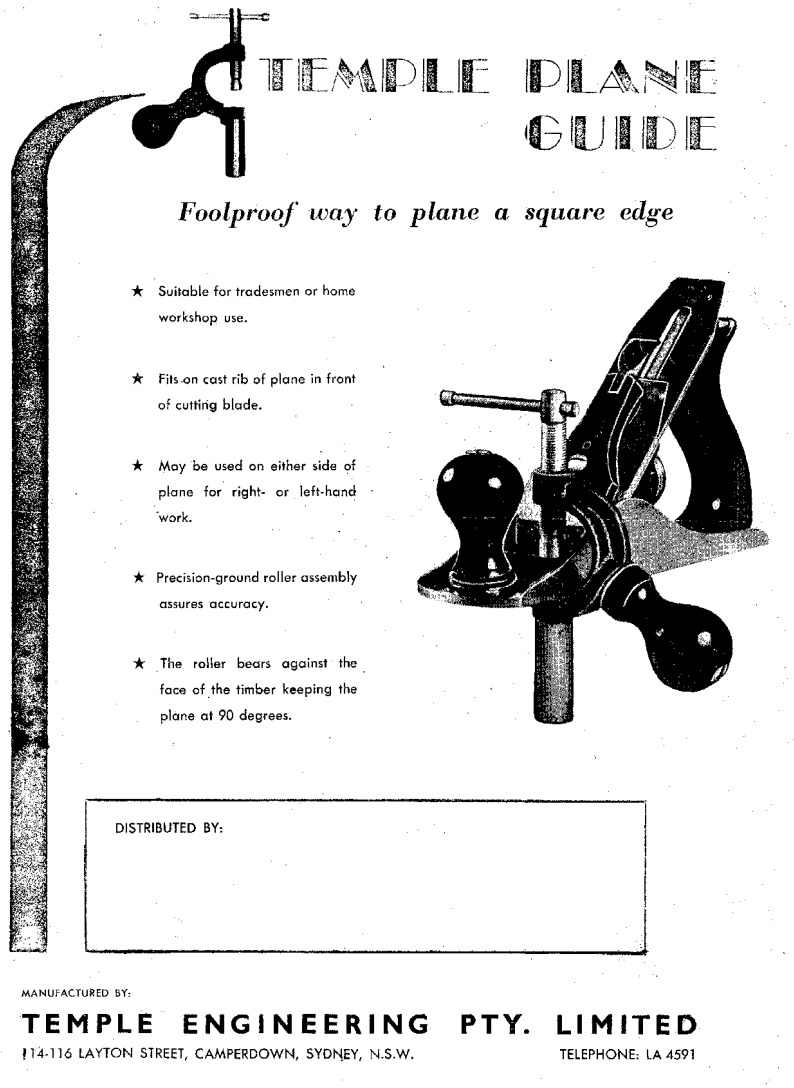
TEMPLE

117,372. 17th Feb., 1954. Attachments for carpenter's planes; attachments for drilling machines not being parts thereof; clamps; metal automotive replacement parts not included in other classes; and all other metal goods included in Class 13. TEMPLE ENGINEERING PTY. LIMITED, a company incorporated under the Companies Act of the State of New South Wales, 114-116 Layton-street, Camperdown, New South Wales, Australia, manufacturers. Address for service in Australia—Spruson & Ferguson, 16-18 O'Connell-street, Sydney, New South Wales.

REMOVED FROM REGISTER 7 MAR 1966 OFFICIAL JOURNAL

REGISTERED 13 SEP 1956

Temple Plane Guide.



Information Wanted.

Austrex Mitre Trimmer.

Does anyone have any information on Austrex Mitre Trimmers?

The Multi Tool.

Keith McCarthy.

NOT ANOTHER PLANE ARTICLE.

A tool often overlooked by collectors and catalogues alike is the multi-tool. Perhaps it is because rather than being a tool for construction or maintenance, it is a tool used for destruction or dismantling.
A relic of a bygone age when merchandise of all kinds was conveyed and stored in wooden boxes and packing cases, it can be of interest simply because of this, as well as the ingenuity exercised by the various designers in incorporating so many functions in one tool, and the fact that the designs varied so widely in size and form in spite of a basic commonality of purpose, as evidenced by the illustrations. Tools incorporated might include a hammer, small hatchet; nail puller, pliers, wire cutter, screwdriver, and a spanner, (often of basic “alligator” pattern).
Don’t ignore the packing crate itself. Still used for transporting glass, heavy hardware, engineering and electrical components, it is usually available, for the asking from suppliers of these products. Sanded or planed to remove the “whisker” the boards are adequate for building cubbyhouses, dog kennels, workshop shelving, compost boxes, etc; in fact to reuse the crate in this way is “traditional”.
Straightening and reusing the nails, as I do, states that you are truly “ lean, green, and mean”.

LUFKIN

Summary of Lufkin Company History. John Bates.

Milestones of the Lufkin Rule Company:

-1869 Founded by E T Lufkin in Cleveland, Ohio.
Known as the E T Lufkin Board & Log Rule Company.
The company manufactured tapes, rules and precision tools.
-1885 The company was bought by a group of Saginaw Businessmen headed by Alfred F Marshall, general manager of Morley Brothers (a major hardware distributor in Michigan) and Fred Buck. The two men took over the E T Lufkin Board & Log Rule Company with Alfred Marshal as financial director, Fred Buck as general manager and Theodore Huss as secretary-treasurer. Fred Buck remained in that position until his death on 12 August 1938 at the age of 80.
-1887 Started manufacturing steel tapes.
-1890 The headquarters was moved to Saginaw and a small factory was built on Hess Street. The factory manufactured Board and Log Rules.
-1892 The Cleveland operation was moved to Saginaw.
-1915 Lufkin introduces spring-joint rules.
-1920 After World War I Lufkin start manufacturing small precision tools.
-1955 Lufkin Rule grows to 1,400 employees at the height of operation.
-1966 Lufkin discontinues making precision tools in November.
Pratt & Whitney Machine Tools Division of Colt Industries Inc purchases the precision tool business in November of that year.
-1967 The Lufkin Rule Co and Cooper Industries jointly announce their merger on 1 June. Consequently the Lufkin Rule Company is sold to Cooper Industries Inc of Houston Texas, and moved to a new facility in Apex, North Carolina. Lufkin also has plants in Middletown, NY; Cleveland, OH; Madison, ME; Jackson, TN; Ponce, PR; Guadalajara, Mexico; and Barrie, Ont.
-1968 The company is closed after a short union strike.
-1969 The Lufkin Building is sold to Erwin and Max Myers.
-1997 12 September the site is now a vacant lot.

References.

Website: www.coopertools.com/brands/lufkin/index.htm

Catalogues issued eg 'Lufkin' brand rules, levels, micrometers & gauges

Pattern maker's Shooting Board.

Shooting Board.—Many portions of a stove pattern have to be joined on an angle, and as the pattern wood is very thin, it is extremely difficult to plane the edges of the

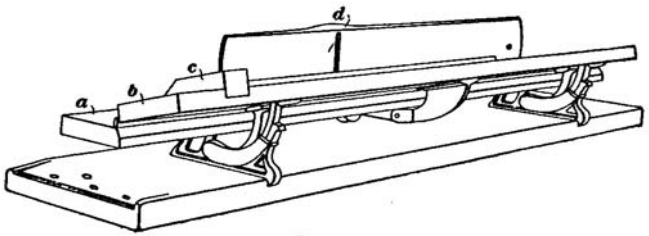
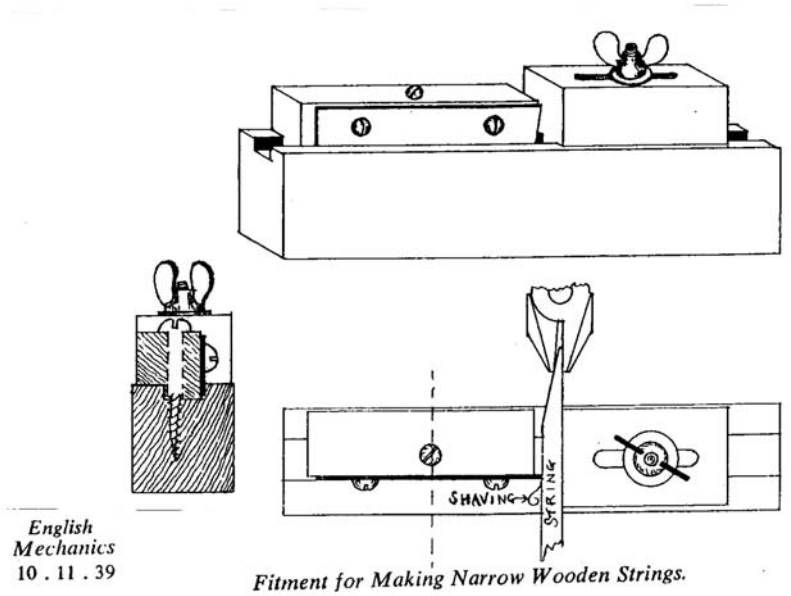


FIG. 10

pieces to the proper angles without some special device for holding the work. To accomplish this, the shooting board, one form of which is illustrated in fig 10, is usually employed.

I.C.S. Reference Library. Pattern making. London. undated.

Home Made Tools.



English Mechanics
10 . 11 . 39

Fitment for Making Narrow Wooden Strings.

John's Page. John Daniel

A Tradesman's Ingenuity

In Newsletter No. 68 I drew attention to a plough plane fabricated by a man with a good eye for design. The actual mechanisms on that plane (such as the depth stop, the fence and the screw lever securing the blade) were influenced by the commercial ploughs.

The plane photographed for this article shows more the approach of a fitter and machinist than a designer. The body of the plane is shaped from a sheet of 1/8 inch steel plate and forms the profile of the plane. The attachment of the extension arms for the fence, the blade holder and the depth adjustment are evidence of original thinking, and their fabrication is evidence of a fitter's skill.

The two extension arms for the fence are located on cylindrical extensions (bosses) both on the body of the plane and the fence.

The blade holder, which is pinned and screwed to the body, is unique. A square headed set-screw locks the blade in place by bearing down on a "key" (for the want of a better name). A return foot on the key prevents it falling out and also keeps it parallel to the frog (face) of the blade holder.

The blade depth adjustment, although it bears resemblance to some commercial planes, is unique in its attachment to the body. Both the depth adjustment and the blade holder have been machined, then hand fitted from solid blocks of steel.

As with the plane illustrated in Newsletter No. 68, function was the main objective, with little attention paid to final finish, evidenced by the coarse file marks left on the handles and the use of countersunk head screws throughout. The square headed set-screw also is a bit of an insight into the man himself.

The maker of this plane may not have had an eye for design, however he understood function and had a fitter's approach to achieving his goal. It may not win a design award, however, it is a work of art and is the result of innovative thinking.

"Where does he find them?" you might ask. Well, it was found on the South Coast, the home of many a retired steelworker. I would suggest that it is an example of another steelworks "foreign order", especially with the use of countersunk machine screws and the square headed set-screw, however, I can only guess as I acquired the plane third hand.

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Photo 1. Note the unconventional "blade holder", also the method of attaching the depth adjustment assembly to the body of the plane.

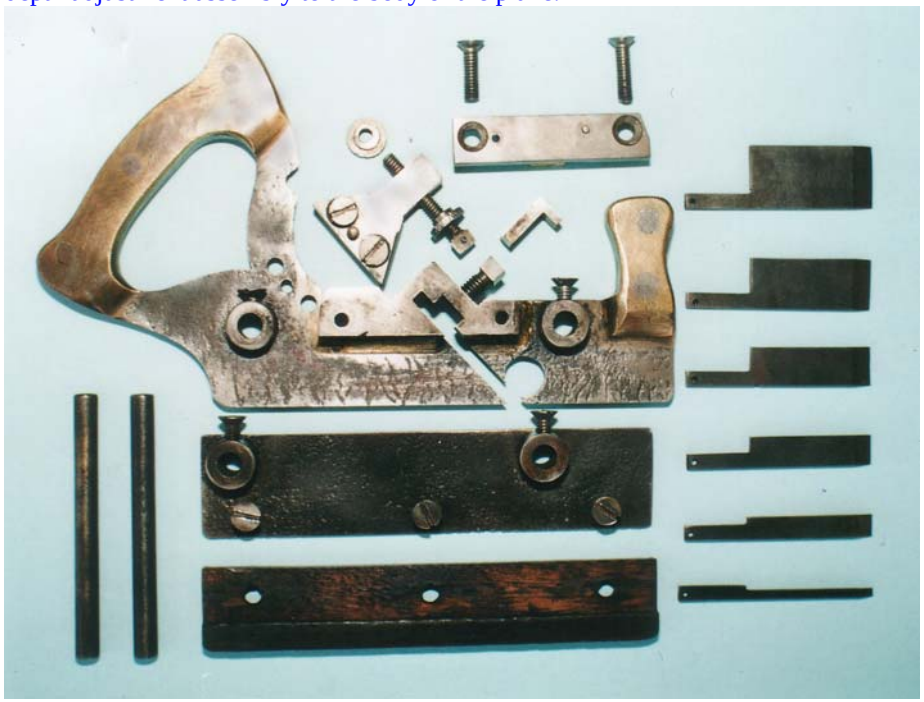

Photo 2. Disassembled layout of the plane. The six blades indicate that the plane was intended for much use.