

## **Bibliography of Early American Tools and Trades with their European Antecedents**

This list is intended to provide helpful guidance particularly to newcomers into the field of early tools and trades who want to develop a personal reference library. These are not the only good books in our areas of interest, but we consider those listed to be among the best on their subjects, or in some cases perhaps the only monograph on a specific subject such as saw sets or anvils. A comprehensive bibliography would be unmanageable.

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The greatest collection of information on early tools and trades is the DVD containing the first 60 volumes of *The Chronicle*. It is searchable and has at least something on virtually anything one might think of. You may order that on the publications page of our web site. The best deal is to become a member and buy our three publications: *The Chronicle* DVD, *The Directory of American Toolmakers* CD, and *A Pattern Book of Tools and Household Goods*.

The following list was compiled by the Executive Director, with the assistance of a few colleagues, as a service to those who share our interests. Inclusion of a book does not constitute an endorsement by the Early American Industries Association, nor does omission of a book in any way indicate an adverse opinion by the EAIA.

Most of the books listed are still in print. Used copies of those titles not in print may be readily found on the internet.

### **Agriculture**

*300 Years of Farm Implements and Machinery, 1630-1930* by Ronald Stokes Barlow, 208 pp., 2003

*American Farm Tools from Hand-Power to Steam-Power* by R. Douglas Hurt, 121 pp. 1982

*Barn: The Art of a Working Building* by Elric Endersby, Alexander Greenwood, and David Larkin, 256 pp. 1992

*Encyclopedia of American Farm Implements & Antiques* by C. H. Wendel, 395 pp., 1997

*Standard Catalog of Farm Tractors, 1890 to 1960* by C. H. Wendel, 511 pp., 2000

*Turn-of-the-Century Farm Tools and Implements*, reprint of 1898 Peter Henderson & Co. Catalog, 69 pp., 2002

### **Architecture and Building**

*Building Early America, Contributions toward the History of a Great Industry*, edited by Charles E. Peterson, 407 pp., 1976

*The Builder's Dictionary or Gentleman and Architect's Companion* by A. Bettesworth and C. Hitch, 2 Volumes, 1734, reprinted 1981.

*Building History of Northern New England*, James L. Garvin, 199 pp., 2001

*Building the Georgian City* by James Ayres, 280 pp., 1998

*Domestic Architecture of the American Colonies and Early Republic* by Fiske Kimball, 334 pp., 1922, reprinted 2001

*Early American Architecture* by Hugh Morrison, 619 pp., 1952

*The Framed Houses of Massachusetts Bay, 1625-1725*, by Abbott Lowell Cummings, 261 pp., 1979

*Illustrated Dictionary of Architecture and Building* by Russell Sturgis, 3 Vols., 1901, reprinted 1989

*Thatchers and Thatching* by Judy Nash, 192 pp., 1991

### **Catalogs**

Manufacturer's catalogs are an excellent primary source on a wide variety of products. A considerable number of toolmaker's catalogs are available as reprints. Astragal Press has a wide selection currently in print. See their on-line catalog: [www.astragalpress.com](http://www.astragalpress.com)

The Mid-West Tool Collectors Association has since 1975 published almost sixty reprints of tool catalogs. They are not kept in stock by M-WTCA, but you can see a list on their web site [www.mwtca.org](http://www.mwtca.org) then look for them on the second-hand market.

### **Household Arts**

*300 Years of Kitchen Collectibles*, Linda C. Franklin, 672 pp. 2003

*300 Years of Housekeeping Collectibles*, Linda C. Franklin, 212 pp., 1992

*Antique Garden Tools and Accessories* by Myra Yellin Outwater, 192 pp., 2002

*Colonial Living* by Edwin Tunis, 156 pp., 1965, reprinted 1999

*Corkscrews of the Eighteenth Century, Artistry in Iron and Steel* by Bertrand B. Giulian, 236 pp., 1995

*Every Day Life in the Massachusetts Bay Colony* by George Francis Dow, 293 pp., 1935, reprinted 1988

*Frontier Living* by Edwin Tunis, 166 pp., 1976, reprinted 2000

*Home Life in Colonial Days* by Alice Morse Earle, 468 pp. 1898, reprinted 1993

*Kitchen Collectibles: An Identification Guide* by Kenneth L. Cope, 208 pp., 2000

*Our Own Snug Fireside, Images of the New England Home, 1760-1860* by Jane Nylander, 317 pp., 1993

*Old-Time Tools and Toys of Needlework* by Gertrude Whiting, 357 pp., 1928, reprinted 1971

### **Industrial History**

*America's Wooden Age, Aspects of its Early Technology*, edited by Brooke Hindle, 218 pp., 1975

*A History of American Manufactures from 1608-1860* by J. Leander Bishop, 3 Volumes, 1868, reprinted 1967

*The History of Joanna Furnace, 1791-1999* by Suzanne Fellman Jacob, 360 pp. 1999

*History of Manufactures in the United States, 1607-1928* by Victor S. Clark, 3 Volumes, 1928, reprinted 1949

*Innocent Espionage: The La Rochefoucauld Brothers' Tour of England in 1785* by Norman Scarfe, 270 pp., 1995

*A Place to Live and Work, The Henry Disston Saw Works and the Tacony Community of Philadelphia* by Harry C. Silcox, 231 pp., 1994

*The Texture of Industry, An Archaeological View of the Industrialization of America* by Robert B. Gordon and Patrick M. Malone 442 pp. 1994

*R. R. Angerstein's Illustrated Travel Diary, 1753-1755, Industry in England and Wales from a Swedish perspective*, translated by Torsten and Peter Berg, 378 pp., 2001

*Without Fear or Favor, Culling and Scaling Timber in Canada, 1762-1992* by T. G. Honer. 1999

### **Maritime**

*The American Whaleman, a Study of Life and Labor in the Whaling Industry* by Elmo Hohman, 355 pp. 1928

*Harpoons and other Whalecraft* by Thomas G. Lytle 256 pp. 1984

*History of American Sailing Ships* by Howard I. Chapelle 400 pp. 1935, reprinted 1982

*Maritime History of Massachusetts 1783-1860* by Samuel Elliot Morison, 401 pp. 1921, reprinted 1979

*The Shipbuilders of Essex, a Chronicle of Yankee Endeavor* by Dana A. Story, 368pp., 1995

*A Shipyard in Maine, Percy & Small and the Great Schooners* by Ralph L. Snow and Douglas K. Lee, 391 pp., 1999

*Masting and Rigging the Clipper Ship & Ocean Carrier* by Harold A. Underhill, 304 pp., 1946, reprinted 1958

*Sperm Whaling from New Bedford* by Elton W. Hall, 221 pp., 1982

*Steel's Elements of Mastmaking, Sailmaking and Rigging* by David Steel 300 pp. 1794, reprint of the 1932 edition.

*The Yankee Whaler* by Clifford W. Ashley, 379 pp., 1926, reprinted 1991

### **Tools, General**

*American Woodworking Tools* by Paul B. Keabian and Dudley Whitney, 213 pp., 1978

*Ancient Carpenters' Tools, Illustrated and Explained, Together with the Implements of the Lumberman, Joiner and Cabinet-Maker in Use in the Eighteenth Century* by Henry C. Mercer, 339 pp., 1929, reprinted 2000

*Antique Tools and Instruments from the Nessi Collection* by Luigi Nessi, 363 pp., 2004

*The Art of Fine Tools* by Sandor Nagyszalanczy, 231 pp., 1998

*Classic Hand Tools* by Garrett Hack, 224 pp. 1999

*Collecting Antique Tools*, Herbert P. Kean & Emil S. Pollak, 201 pp., 1990

*Directory of American Toolmakers*, edited by Robert E. Nelson, 1170 pp., 1999, reissued as a CD 2007, see the publications page.

*Dictionary of Woodworking Tools* by R. A. Salaman, 546 pp., 1975, reprinted 1997

*Explanation or Key, to the Various Manufactories of Sheffield, with Engravings of each Article* by Joseph Smith, unpaginated, 1816, reprinted 1975

*A History of Woodworking Tools* by W. L. Goodman, 208 pp., 1967

*A Museum of Early American Tools* by Eric Sloane, 108 pp., 1964, many reprints

*A Pattern Book of Tools and Household Goods*, circa 1818, reprinted 2006, see publications page

*Tools, A Guide for Collectors* by Jane & Mark Rees, 240 pp. 1999

*Tools: Working Wood in Eighteenth-Century America* by James M. Gaynor and Nancy Hagedorn, 126 pp., 1993

### **Tools, monographs on a type or class**

*American Axes: A Survey of Their Development and Their Makers* by Henry J. Kauffman, 152 pp., 1994

*American Machinist's Tools, an Illustrated Directory of Patents* by Kenneth L. Cope, 424 pp., 1993

*American Marking Gages, Patented and Manufactured* by Milton H. Bachellor, Jr., 445 pp., 2000

*The American Patented Brace 1829-1924* by Ronald W. Pearson, 192 pp., 1994

*American Wrench Makers, 1830-1930* by Kenneth L. Cope, 352 pp., second edition 2002

*Antique and Collectible Stanley Tools, A Guide to Identity and Value* by John Walter, 885 pp., second edition 1996

*Anvils in America* by Richard Postman, 564 pp., 2000

*The Axe and Man, The History of Man's Early Technology as Exemplified by his Axe* by Charles Heavrin, 182 pp., 1999

*British Planemakers From 1700* by W. L. Goodman, revised by Jane and Mark Rees, 514 pp., 1993

*Dictionary of Leatherworking Tools* by R. A. Salaman, 400 pp., 1986

*Drawing Instruments, 1580-1980* by Maya Hambly, 206 pp., 1988

*Grimshaw on Saws* by Robert Grimshaw, 202 pp., 1880, reprinted 1991

*A Guide to the Makers of American Planes* by Emil and Martyl Pollak, revised and expanded by Thomas L. Elliott, 477 pp., 2001.

*The Hammer, King of Tools* by Ron Baird and Dan Comerford, 352 pp., 1989

*The Handplane Book* by Garrett Hack, 272 pp., 1997

*Hand-saw Makers of North America* by Erwin L. Schaffer, 163 pp., 1999

*Henry Disston & Sons Handbook for Lumbermen*, 168 pp., 1902, reprinted 1994  
*Manufactured and Patented Spokeshaves & Similar Tools* by Thomas C. Lamond, 424 pp., 1997  
*Metal Wood Screws, The Evolution and History* by G. G. Jenkinson, 123 pp., 1999  
*One Good Turn, A Natural History of the Screwdriver and the Screw* by Witold Rybczynski, 176 pp. 2000  
*Patented American Sawsets, An Illustrated Patent Directory, 1812-1925* by Todd L. Friberg, 306 pp., 2000  
*Patented Transitional & Metallic Planes in America 1827-1927* by Roger K. Smith, 2 Vols., 1981, 1992.  
*The Rule Book: Measuring for the Trades* by Jane Rees and Mark Rees, 472 pp., 2010  
*The Ultimate Brace, A Unique Product of Victorian Sheffield* by Reg Eaton, 180 pp., 1989.  
*The Wooden Plane, It's History, Form, and Function* by John M. Whelan, 513 pp., 1993

### **Tools, Maintenance and Repair**

*The Care of Antiques and Historical Collections* by A. Bruce MacLeish, 250 pp., 1985  
*The Complete Guide to Sharpening* by Leonard Lee, 245 pp., 1995  
*Restoring, Tuning & Using Classic Woodworking Tools* by Michael Dunbar, 256 pp., 1989  
*Restoring Woodworking Tools* by Herbert P. Kean, 114 pp., 2001

### **Trades**

#### General

*The Colonial Craftsman* by Carl Bridenbaugh, 214 pp., 1950, reprinted 1966  
*Colonial Craftsmen and the Beginnings of American Industry* by Edmund Tunis, 159 pp., 1965, reprinted 1999.  
*A Day's Work: A Sampler of Historic Maine Photographs, 1860-1920* by W. H. Bunting. 2 Vols., 1997 and 2000.  
*Early Nineteenth-Century Crafts and Trades*, edited by Peter Stockham, 137 pp., 1807, reprinted 1992  
*Last of the Line: Traditional British Craftsmen* by Tom Quinn & Paul Felix, 160 pp., 1999  
*Little Book of Early American Crafts and Trades*, edited by Peter Stockham, 140 pp., 1807, reprinted 1976  
*The Last Yankees: Folkways in Eastern Vermont and the Border Country* by Scott E. Hastings, Jr., 143pp., 1990  
*Popular Technology or Professions and Trades* by Edward Hazen, 2 Vols., 1846, reprinted 1981  
*Traditional Country Craftsmen* by J. Geraint Jenkins, 236 pp., 1965

*Van Vliet Book of Trades*, a portfolio of reproductions of 18 etchings illustrating trades by Jan Van Vliet, 1635, with an accompanying essay by Harry Bober. Early American Industries Association, 1981

*Vanishing Crafts and their Craftsmen* by Rollin C. Steinmetz & Charles S. Rice, 160 pp., 1959

### Woodworking

*The Cooper and His Trade*, Kenneth Kilby, 192pp., 1971

*Country Craft Tools* by Percy Blandford, 215 pp., 1997

*Eighteenth-Century Woodworking Tools, Papers Presented at a Tool Symposium, May 19-22, 1994*, edited by James M. Gaynor, 248 pp., 1997

*Mechanick Exercises or the Doctrine of Handy-Works* by Joseph Moxon, 1703, many reprints, facsimile issued as DVD by Toolemera Press, 2009, chapter on The Art of Joinery with analysis and illustrations by Christopher Schwarz published by Lost Art Press, 2008.

*The Tool Chest of Benjamin Seaton* edited by Jane & Mark Rees, 72 pp., 1994

*A Treatise on Lathes and Turning: Simple, Mechanical, and Ornamental* by W. Henry Northcott. 1868, reprinted 1987

*Village Carpenter* by Walter Rose, 146 pp., 2001

*The Wheelwright's Shop*, George Sturt, 236 pp., 1923, reprinted 1993

*Windsor-Chair Making in America From Craft Shop to Consumer* by Nancy Goyne Evans, 475 pp., 2006

*With Hammer in Hand, The Dominy Craftsmen of Easthampton New York* by Charles Hummel, 424 pp., 1968

### Leatherworking

*Art of the Shoemaker* by M. de Garsault, 1767, translated and annotated by D. A. Saguto, 304 pp., 2009

### Metalworking

*American Copper, Tin and Brass* by Henry J. Kauffman, 150 pp., 1950, reprinted 1995

*American Iron, 1607-1900*, Robert Gordon, 341 pp., 1996

*American Pewterer, His Techniques & His Products* by Henry J. Kauffman, 132 pp., 1970, reprinted 1994

*Art of Coppersmithing* by John Fuller, Sr., 327 pp., 1894, reprinted 1993

*The Art of the Tinsmith, English and American* by Shirley Spaulding DeVoe, 222 pp., 1981

*Metalwork in Early America: Copper and Its Alloys* by Donald L. Fennimore, 472 pp., 1996

*Metalworking Trades in Early America* by Henry J. Kauffman, 166 pp., 1966, reprinted 1995

*Out of the Fiery Furnace, The Impact of Metals on the History of Mankind* by Robert Raymond, 274 pp., 1984

*Practical Blacksmithing* compiled and edited by M. T. Richardson, 2 Vols., 1889-1891, reprinted 1998

*Tinsmiths' Tools and Machines*, the centennial edition of the catalog of the Peck, Stow & Wilcox Company, 1800-1900, 150 pp., reprinted 1993

*The Tinsmith's Helper and Pattern Book, With Useful Rules, Diagrams and Tables* by H. K. Vosburgh, 120 pp., 1879, reprint of 1910 edition

*The Village Blacksmith* by Ronald Webber, 160 pp., 1971

### Printing & Bookbinding

*American Iron Hand Presses* by Stephen O. Saxe, 108 pp., 1991

*Bookbinding in America* by Hannah Dustin French, Joseph W. Rogers, and Hellmut Lehmann-haupt, 293 pp., 1941

*Bookbinding in Early America* by Hannah D. French, 230 pp., 1986

*The Colonial Printer* by Lawrence C. Wroth, 368 pp., 1938, reprinted 1994

*The History of Printing in America with a Biography of Printers & an Account of Newspapers* by Isaiah Thomas, 1810, reprint of second edition, edited by Marcus A. McCorison, 650 pp., 1970

*Mechanick Exercises on the Whole Art of Printing* by Joseph Moxon, 1683/4, 480 pp. in reprinted editions, several reprints available

*Typefounding in America, 1787-1825* by Rollo G. Silver, 139 pp., 1965

### Stone

*Flesh and Stone, Stony Creek and the Age of Granite* edited by Deborah Deford, 202 pp., 2000

*Hammers on Stone, A History of Cape Anne Granite* by Barbara Erkkila, 191 pp., 1980, reprinted 1987

*Limestone Lives, Voices from the Indiana Stone Belt* by Katherine Ferrucci, 108 pp., 2004

*New Lives in the Valley: Slate Quarries and Quarry Villages in North Wales, New York, and Vermont, 1850-1920* by Gwilym R. Roberts, 470 pp., 1998

*Slate Roof Bible* by Joseph Jenkins, 271 pp. 1997