

The Davistown Museum
The Ancient Dominions of Maine: An Archaeology of Tools
Interactive Displays

In the main hall of the museum there are three areas of tools that are culled out of the main collection and displayed in a manner that allows museum visitors to hold, feel and identify each item.

Section I of our interactive display consists of a workbench with reference books and a representative selection of edge tools that visitors can handle and contemplate. This selection of tools is intended to illustrate some of the salient characteristics of handmade pre-Industrial Revolution hand tools. This area is organized on the premise that visitors can have a better understanding of the significance of early tools if they can touch them and view their manufacturers' signatures.

Section III of the museum's interactive display consists of tools on exhibit on the right side of the hall as components of our assemblages of found artifacts. These assemblages have been the most commented on of all our exhibits by museum visitors to this date. This exhibit consists of 24 numbered, unidentified tools with a register at the end of the counter in which visitors may write their opinions as to what they think these unidentified tools are or what they were used for.

Section II of this display, the TOOL EXAM, consists of over 50 unusual tools that visitors are invited to closely inspect before filling out the museum's tool examination form. Museum visitors may then leave off their answer sheets to become a part of the museum collection. Humorous and imaginative responses to our tool examination are as welcome as are more serious attempts to identify each tool. This examination is especially designed for "kids" of any age wishing to learn more about some of the obscure tools no longer in use in most workshops.

The tools for section I and II are listed in their respective time categories of Maritime I, II, III, IV or IR; only the unidentified section III tool group is listed below. This section is under reconstruction and does not coallate with the current displays. The Tool Exam (section II) listing may also be viewed by clicking the link below.

http://www.davistownmuseum.org/PDFsforInventory/WebToolExam_PDF.pdf

Status Location

Show and Tell: Station III

<p>TEE5008 Combination tire tool Forged or cast iron or steel, 9 1/8" long, unsigned, 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee5008.jpg</p>	<p>DTM MH-O</p>
<p>TEE5006 Cotter pin puller Cast iron or steel, 8 3/4" long, unsigned, 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee5006.jpg</p>	<p>DTM MH-O</p>
<p>TEE5002 Frame opener pliers Cast iron or steel, 11" long, unsigned, 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee5001.jpg</p>	<p>DTM MH-O</p>
<p>TEE1006 Rifle flint scorer Brass, 7 1/4" long, unsigned, 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee1004.jpg</p>	<p>DTM MH-O</p>
<p>TEE5003 Scraper Forged or cast iron or steel, 7" long, unsigned, 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee5001.jpg</p>	<p>DTM MH-O</p>

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Interactive Displays

Show and Tell: Station III

	Status	Location
TEE5004 Stove lifter	DTM	MH-O
Forged or cast iron or steel, 10 1/2" long, unsigned, 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee5004.jpg		
TEE1004 Stove-cover lifter / bottle opener combination tool	DTM	MH-O
Cast iron or steel, 9" long, signed "PAT.NOV. 26 1861". This is Sylvanus Walker's patent: http://www.google.com/patents/US45541?pg=PA2&dq=%22november+26,+1861%22&hl=en&sa=X&ei=-xa5ULSzd6WS0QHEqIG4BQ&ved=0CD0Q6AEwAw#v=onepage&q=%22november%2026%2C%201861%22&f=false http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee1004.jpg		
TEE1002 Toe hammer	DTM	MH-O
Forged or cast iron or steel and wood, 6" long, 4 1/2" wide head, unsigned, 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee1002.jpg		
TEE5009 Turnback leather trimmer	DTM	MH-O
Cast iron or steel and wood, 9 1/4" long, unsigned, 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee5008.jpg		
TEE1003 Unidentified tool	DTM	MH-O
Brass and wood, 7 1/2" long, unsigned, 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee1003.jpg		
TEE1005 Unidentified tool	DTM	MH-O
Forged or cast iron or steel with wood handle, 8 1/2" long, unsigned, 19th century. Burnisher? http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee1005.jpg		
100400T10 Unidentified tool # 2	DTM	MH-O
Cast steel and wood, 14 1/2" long with 8 3/16" blade, unsigned. Could this be an old pointing tool used in masonry work in the old brick building of cities like Belfast or Portland?		
101400T2 Unidentified tool #12	DTM	MH-O
Forged iron, rope and brass, 5 1/2" long, 3 1/2" long rope handle, unsigned. This tool comes with 14 steel blades. What was it used for?		
101900T5 Unidentified tool #25	DTM	MH-O
Forged iron (?) and twine, 13 3/16" long, net holder 6" diameter, signed with a touchmark "5". Is this for whaling or fishing use? http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/101900t5.jpg		
TEE5001 Unidentified tool 1	DTM	MH-O
Forged iron and wood, 13" long, unsigned, 19th century. What are these tools used for? Visitors to the museum may submit written opinions in our suggestion box. Internet visitors submit your suggestions by email. The Davistown Museum will keep a record of the most interesting responses. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee5001.jpg		
TEE5006A Unidentified tool 6A	DTM	MH-O
Cast iron or steel, 11" long, unsigned, 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee5006a.jpg		
TEE5007 Unidentified tool 7	DTM	MH-O
Cast steel, brass, and wood, 9 1/4" long, unsigned, 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee5007.jpg		
TEE5007A Unidentified tool 7A	DTM	MH-O
Cast steel, 9 1/2" long, signed with the mark "J.H.F", 19th century. http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee5006a.jpg		

Davistown Museum Inventory of Tools - Interactive Displays

Show and Tell: Station III

Status Location

DTM MH-O

TEE5008A Unidentified tool 8A

Cast iron or steel, 6 1/4" long, 4" wide, unsigned, 19th century.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/tee5006a.jpg>

TE1002C Unidentified tools (3)

DTM MH-O

Cast iron and painted drop-forged steel, 8" long, signed "PATENT LEVER" on one.

This is a lot of 3 unidentified 19th century tools.

<http://www.davistownmuseum.org/pics/te1002c.jpg>