
OUR HERITAGE

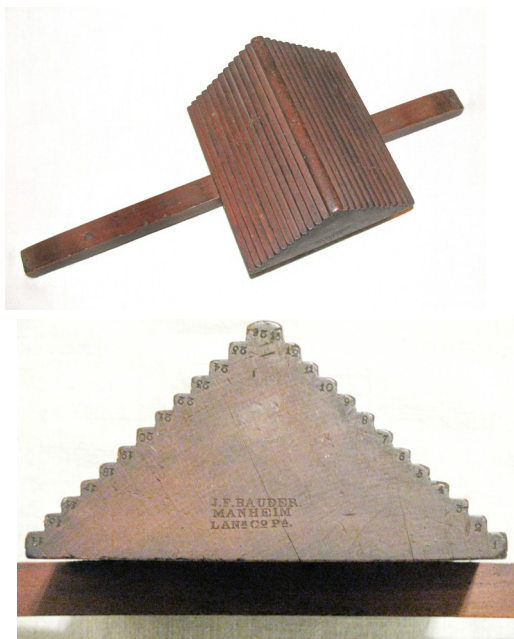
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JACOB F. BAUDER'S STEPPED FLOOR BOARD GAUGE, ca 1840's



In early American homes, floor boards varied in widths and the floor board gauge was developed to make it possible for the carpenter to obtain the widest boards from stock, standardize the cuts and have boards of the same width fit end-to-end.

Some tool collectors have referred to the stepped gauge as a clapboard (wooden siding on a house) marking gauge, but research has identified the tool's use as a marking gauge for floor boards.

This type of gauge was also made by a few of the other crafters of wooden tools in Lancaster County (E. W. Carpenter, John Stamm, etc.) and all are very scarce.

The information concerning the function of the gauge was obtained from an article written by Bob Roger for *The Gristmill*, the quarterly publication of the Mid-West Tool Collectors Association. Mr. Roger was kind enough to permit HMPF to furnish the information to our readers. We suggest these websites to our readers who have an interest in early American tools and crafts: www.eaiainfo.org and www.mwtca.org

Mr. Roger urged HMPF to provide *The Gristmill* with the pictures of the Jacob F. Bauder marking gauge and any information concerning Mr. Bauder.

The following is the article sent to the Mid-West Tool Collectors Association from HMPF:

Jacob F. Bauder's home and shop were located at 71 South Charlotte Street in the small town of Manheim, Pennsylvania and he was the next door neighbor to craftsman and wood turner Daniel Danner (see Chronicle, March, 1994). The Daniel Danner home is still standing at 73 South Charlotte Street but the Jacob F. Bauder home which occupied the lot next to the Danner property on the north side no longer exists. It is believed that Jacob F. Bauder, before opening a shop in Manheim, may have worked in the shop of E. W. Carpenter. This feeling is based on the fact that there are so many similarities in their style and workmanship. Also, there are tax records indicating that in 1841 Jacob Bauder was listed as a planemaker in Lancaster City and in 1843 through 1852 as a planemaker in Manheim. In Lancaster he did not

have a home, which also leads one to believe that he worked as a planemaker out of E. W. Carpenter's shop in the city of Lancaster.

The following notice was placed in the January 20, 1846, Vol. 1, No. 3 issue of the Manheim *WEEKLY PLANET and Rapho Banner*:

Plane Manufactory, South Charlotte Street, in the Borough of Manheim, Lancaster Co., Pa. Jacob F. Bauder takes this method of returning his sincere thanks to the citizens of Lancaster County and the public generally, for the liberal patronage heretofore bestowed upon him, and reminds them that he still continues to manufacture PLANES of every description, wholesale & retail, warranted equal to any other in the country.

N.B. A liberal discount will be given to wholesale purchasers.

January 20, 1846, WANTED: A boy of good moral character and industrious habits, who may be desirous of learning the plane making business, can obtain a good situation by applying to J. F. Bauder.

(This notice also appeared in the March 24, 1846 and April 14, 1846 issues of the *WEEKLY PLANET*.)

In the August 4, 1846, Vol. 1 No. 31 issue of the *WEEKLY PLANET*, Jacob F. Bauder placed this notice:

PRIVATE SALE: The undersigned offers at private sale his valuable Lot of Ground situated on Charlotte Street, in the Borough of Manheim, Lancaster County, designated in the town plan as No. 158, containing 57 ft. front and 257 ft. deep, adjoining properties of Susan Brown on the north and Daniel Danner on the south. The buildings thereon erected are a one story Weatherboarded Log Dwelling House 36ft. front and 19 ft. deep, with a frame kitchen attached, a frame shop, 14 ft by 16 ft., a stable, shedings, & c., all in good repair; a well of excellent water. Also a thriving Nursery is commenced on the said Lot. Terms reasonable. Possession and an indisputable title will be given on the 1st of April, next. For further particulars apply to the subscriber, residing on the premises.

Jacob F. Bauder

The notice also appeared in the August 18, 1846; Sept. 1 & 8, 1846 issues of the *WEEKLY PLANET*.

In the September 29, 1846, Vol. 1, No. 39 issue of the *WEEKLY PLANET*, Jacob F. Bauder placed this notice:

PUBLIC SALE: On Saturday, the 10th day of October, 1846 will be sold by public sale, at the public house of A. H. Reist, in the Borough of Manheim, the following Property, viz:

LOT OF GROUND, No. 158, situated on Charlotte Street, in said Borough, containing 57 ft. front and 257 ft. deep adjoining properties of S. Brown on the north and Daniel Danner on the south. The Buildings thereon erected are a one story Weatherboarded Log Dwelling House 36 ft. front and 19 ft. deep. With a frame kitchen attached, a frame shop, 14 by 16 ft., a stable, shedings, & c., all in good repair; a well of excellent water. Also, a thriving NURSERY is commenced on the said Lot. Terms reasonable. Possession and an indisputable title will be given on the 1st of April next. For further particulars apply to the subscriber, residing on the premises. Sale to commence at 1 o'clock, p.m., when attendance will be given and terms of sale made known by.

Jacob F. Bauder

In the February 23, 1847, Vol. 2, No. 8 issue of the *WEEKLY PLANET and Rapho Banner*, Jacob F. Bauder placed this notice:

FOR RENT: The under signed offers for rent, his Dwelling House a lot of Ground, situated in S. Charlotte St. in the Borough of Manheim, from the first of April next. J. F. Bauder

Also in Vol. 2, No. 8 is this ad:

FRUIT TREES: The subscriber has on hand a variety of Choice Fruit Trees, such as: Apples, Pears, Peaches, & c which he intend to dispose of, at moderate prices. J. F. Bauder

Note: In the March 9, 1847, Vol. 2, No.10 issue of the *WEEKLY PLANET* only the fruit trees ad appears.

Mr. Bauder made the general variety of wooden planes and it can be said that the planes and other wood working tools that he produced for carpenters and cabinetmakers are of the highest quality.

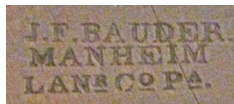
At this time, it is not known where Jacob F. Bauder permanently relocated to when he sold the Manheim property but it is known that he also produced wooden planes stamp: J. F. Bauder, No. 213 St. John's St., Phila.

Many questions remain unanswered concerning Jacob F. Bauder. Since Jacob was a next door neighbor to Daniel Danner, did he use Mr. Danner's shop when he first started in business? If the tax records indicate that he moved to Manheim in 1843, why did his first notice appear in the Jan. 20, 1846 issue of the *WEEKLY PLANET*? Why did he advertise his business and the need of a boy to learn the trade and in the same year offer his property for sale? How could he move to Manheim in 1843 and have a property with a house, shop, etc. to sell in 1846? Did he build his house and shop or purchase it from someone? When did he actually sell his house and to whom? Since he is listed in the tax records as being in business in Manheim as late as 1852, where did he conduct his business in Manheim if he sold or rented his property around 1847? Where is he laid to rest? Does he have any descendents?

In the article that we sent to the Mid-West Tool Collectors Association, we mentioned that HMPF will appreciate any information concerning Jacob F. Bauder that can be provided to the organization at www.manheim1762.org. Hopefully, some questions will be answered in the near future. We know that a picture of Jacob F. Bauder and some family records were in the hands of a descendent but we don't know the name and location of the person.

If any of our members would like to help search for some of the answers to the questions concerning Jacob F. Bauder, please don't hesitate to contact the Foundation.

JH



The preceding part of this article appeared in our October 2010 newsletter. We have decided to re-publish it as a **Special Issue**, with additions, and add it as such to our website. The following are the additions:

Since Jacob F. Bauder and Daniel Danner were neighbors it was convenient for the two skilled craftsmen to help each other. Recorded in Daniel Danner's shop ledger (June 11th, 1844 thru April 6th, 1847) are entries for business that Daniel did with Jacob. Below is pictured an area from the ledger. Also pictured are two planes produced by Jacob.



Entries as they appear:

- June 11th To Six Set Sashplane Screws 15
- July 25th To eight Set plough Arms 80
- Sept. 10th To 1 peck Rye ————
- March 6th To 2 Set plough Arms (without nuts) 8
- Nov. 18th To Horse to Lancaster 50
- Feb. 9th To 5 arms for ploughs (boxwood) 30

