

FASCINATING FIND

CRICKET SCROLL SAW

This "Cricket" treadle scroll saw was manufactured by the Millers Falls Company in Massachusetts in the USA. It was based on their earlier New Rogers and Lester Improved designs, but was lighter and cheaper, designed for the home handyman market in the 1880s.

The bulk of the construction is of cast iron. A leather belt transmits the power from the treadle flywheel to the upper pulley and crank. The saw blade (which is missing) was supported between clamps at the ends of the wooden arms.

Foot powered machines were ideal for the low power requirements and left both hands free to hold and guide the work. Using a thin narrow blade allowed the freehand cutting of intricate inside and outside shapes for fretwork items like ceiling ventilators or other decorative work. With a clearance of 16 inches (400 mm), the table could also tilt allowing the saw to cut on a bevel for inlay work.

Unfortunately we have no record of the history of this Cricket saw which is displayed in the breezeway

