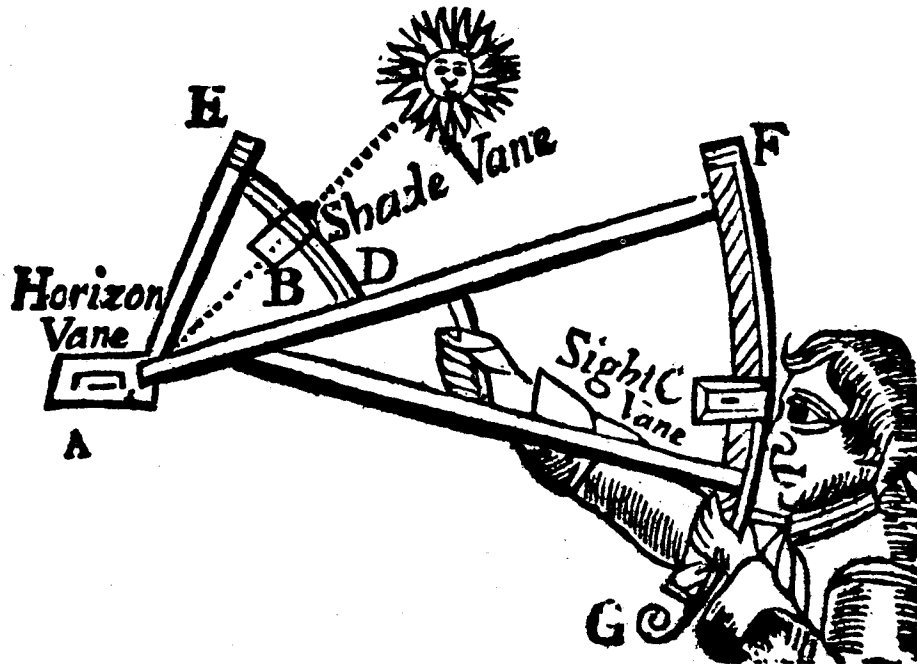


# Historical Technology

Catalog 102



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SAUL MOSKOWITZ INSTRUMENT ENGINEERING

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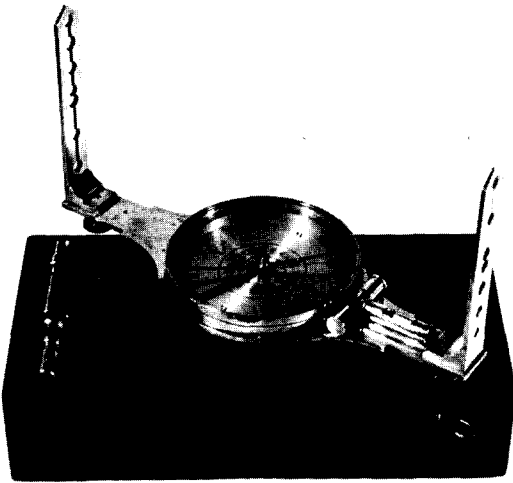
## Two Centuries of American Surveying

43. RARE J. & H.M. POOL SURVEYOR'S COMPASS - American, c.1835-40. Brass compass with 6" dia silvered dial engraved "J. & H.M. Pool, Easton, Mass.". Compass needle 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ " long. Dial face with numbered 10<sup>o</sup> lines from 0 to 90 to 0 in both directions; silvered edge ring with 1<sup>o</sup> divisions. Compass frame 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long with 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ " fold down sight vanes (quite rare). Pair of crossed bubble levels. Missing ball swivel joint but otherwise complete, working, and in fine condition. In original pine case 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " by 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ " by 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " high with label in cover of C.G. King, 7 Broad St., Boston.

In the history of Easton, Mass. published in 1886:

"In the south part of the town, in the year 1828, J. & H.M. Poole began the manufacturing of mathematical instruments on a small scale. A strong prejudice for foreign-made instruments was only slowly overcome. Poole's work was said not only to equal but even to excel the imported." Pool(e) instruments tend to be rare and of high quality as the one offered here.

(8 pounds) \$ 190



No. 42. Thaxter & Son Compass

44. SCARCE SIGHT-TUBE THEODOLITE - American, 1843, azimuth pointer stamped "GEO. D. VARNEY/PATENTED/JUNE 24 1843". Unusual brass construction with open vertical circle 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ " dia; vernier readout to 5 arcmin. Azimuth scale 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ " dia engraved on top edge of hollow base 3/4" high which houses 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long compass needle. 7" h overall. Sight tube is 12 3/4" long with peep hole at one end and rifle-sight-like center post at other (no lenses). Aux peep sight and center post sight attached to main tube for back sightings (since this instr. does not transit). Original wooden tripod with legs 4 ft 2" long. Rough pine field case 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " by 6" by 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " h. The tripod is in very good to fine condition and the theodolite is in excellent condition.

George Varney and his invention are not recorded in any of the standard references; it is unlikely that more than a handful of these instruments were ever made. Each was individually made, there is no interchangeability of parts. A different taper was cut for each mounting shaft and each instrument thus will fit properly only on its original tripod. Varney probably worked in eastern Massachusetts or along the New Hampshire coast, for this is where these instruments were located.

\$ 325



No. 43. J. & H.M. Pool Compass

45. IMPROVED SIGHT-TUBE THEODOLITE - American, 1843 by GEO. D. VARNEY. Same general construction as Item 44, but vertical circle is silvered, no reverse sighting vanes, tube mounted bubble level 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " instead of 2" long, and a folding pointer is attached to end of tube for plane table use. A plane table stand for the instr. is included. The original tripod has a very unusual leveling head. The tripod legs 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  ft long. The original plush-lined fitted case is 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long, 8" w, and 7" h. The original leather covering is gone and restoration is needed. The tripod and theodolite however, are in excellent condition.

This instrument was probably made about the same time (just before) the one above, but has several important features missing in the other which would have made it more accurate and more useful in a range of applications. The adj. tripod head would have made leveling faster and more accurate. This is an interesting, fine instrument.

\$ 375

