



**THE
MECHANICK'S
ADVISOR**

1/5/24

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Brickyard

Saturday, Wednesday through Sunday

This week the Brickyard Crew enjoyed the holiday season as well as quite a bit of rain. Thankfully much of the work is under a roof, mostly in the form of Apprentice Madeleine's plaster panel. Otherwise this week we've enjoyed the Carpenters drawknifing away at some shingles, and even giving it a try ourselves.

Master Josh also received a sailor's token from William at the engravers shop, which he is rather chuffed about. He had the following to say: "Sailor's tokens were often silver coin slugs or filed down minted coins that would be engraved by a sailor to commemorate a ship they'd served on, a battle they'd fought or a mess mate that had died. This one is made from the obverse side of a Spanish piece of eight."

- Madeleine Bolton



*This is
Madeleine's second
plaster panel.*



*Josh with his newest
prized possession.*

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Cabinetmaker

Sunday, Monday, Thursday through Sunday

The cabinetmakers have been carrying on with their various projects through the holidays. Bill is moving ahead with the joinery of his mahogany chair for January's woodworking conference. In order to coordinate the many angled mortise and tenons, we initially create a very boxy looking assembly for the chair's back. Once the joinery is deemed acceptable (as gauged off of the many straight lines), the structure is taken apart and shaped into the fashionably curvaceous form customer's appreciate. Tam has been making great progress on her dovetailing practice. John, meanwhile has started to make and fit the partitions that will keep bottles safe and sound on the interior of his cellaret project.

- Bill Pavlak



*Mahogany chair
starting to take shape*

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Carpenter

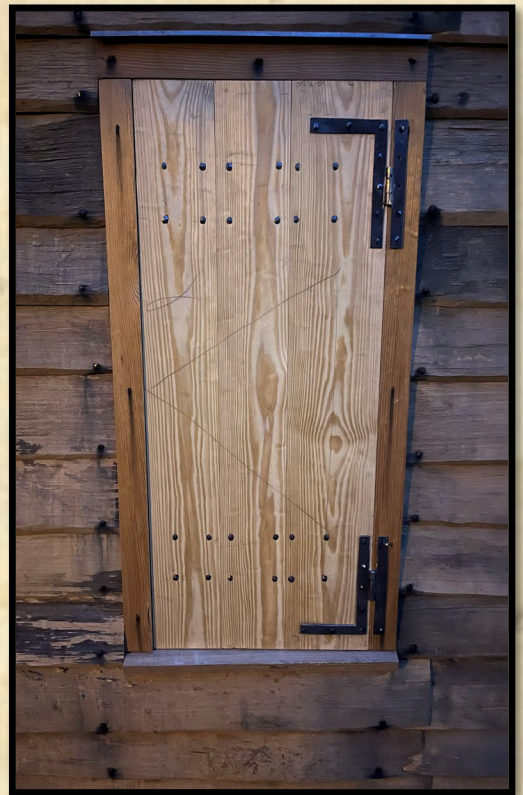
Sunday through Tuesday, Friday and Saturday

For the last couple weeks we've been focused on finishing up the brick yard drying house. We finished the installation of the clapboard on both gable ends. With that task out of the way we've split up a bit. Wes and Harold are building the stairs for the drying house and Bobby, Mary and McKinley are hanging the doors shuttered windows and knifing more shingles for the Bray.

- Matthew Sanbury



Shuttered window the joiners made and hardware the blacksmith made were installed over the lower window.



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Cook

Sunday through Tuesday, Friday and Saturday

Over the last few weeks of the Holiday Season, we had quite a few guests asking about holiday food during the 18th century. While the modern idea of specific holiday dishes did not come about until the 19th century (thank you Mr. Dickens), we have been putting lots of examples of seasonally appropriate dishes out to the table. During the winter season, things like figgy pudding, plum pudding, Cheshire pork pie, mincemeat pies, forced cabbages, and roasted birds would have made an appearance on the Governor's table not only for a certain holiday, but we can tantalize your tastebuds all season long. We hope everyone has had a happy and healthy holiday season! On to a new year full of delights!

- Charlotte Shoaf



A Cheshire Pork Pie, filled with salt, pepper, and nutmeg seasoned pork, green apples, white wine, and butter, decorated with apples and apple tree branches made of pastry.

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Engravers

Sunday, Monday, Wednesday through Saturday

Happy New Year all!

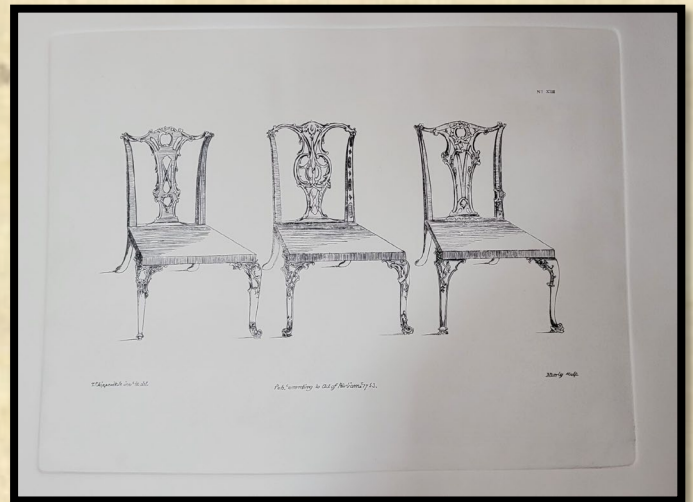
The Engravers are back in the swing of it. Lynn is working on her presentation for the Wood Working Con.

William is working on Rings, Feather edge spoons and Monograms.

And Emma has been nursing a fractured hand. She is recovering and working on drawing and cutting a little at a time. Lots of practice work.

We are gearing up for winter training and cleaning up the shop.

- Carol Zelesnikar



Here is an engraved cartouche detail, Emma's tray with coat of arms and a chair test print.

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Founder

Tuesday through Saturday

As we near the end of 2023, I wanted to take a moment to look back at all the completed projects that we sent out of the Foundry this past year for the Fife & Drum Corps, Military Programs, the Tailors, the Milliners, the Silversmiths, Development, the Musket Range, the Tin Plate Workers, the Engravers, the Coopers, Historic Area Operations and even one private order. Here's our list (in no particular order): 11 Drumhead Tensioner Hooks in brass, 11 Drumhead Tensioner Wingnuts in brass, 2 Courthouse Keys in bronze, 2 Square Shoe Buckles in sterling silver, 2 Oval Shoe Buckles in sterling silver, 10 Drummer's Call Badges in pewter, 28 Frenchman's Map Tray Feet in sterling silver, 63 Small Sunburst Buttons in pewter, 73 Large Sunburst Buttons in pewter, 39 Small Flat Buttons in pewter, 17 Large Flat Buttons in pewter, 5 CW Seal Donor Gifts in pewter, 4 CW Seal Donor Gifts in cast iron, 4 CW Seal Donor Gifts in bronze, 1 CW Seal Donor Gift in sterling silver, 4 Lead Cakes, 8 Demitasse Spoons in pewter, 1 Water Bucket Handle in bronze, 2 Water Bucket Ears in bronze, 1 Water Bucket Handle Pattern in pewter, 2 Water Bucket Ear Patterns in pewter, 2 Shell Candlestick Bobeches in brass, 8 Slip-End Spoons in pewter, 2 Salt Spoons in sterling silver, 1 Geddy Back Door Key in brass, 4 Tapersticks in pewter and 2,622 Musket Balls in pewter.

- Andrew Godzik



*The forge and crucible
after an iron pour.*

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Harpsichord Maker

Sunday, Monday, Thursday through Saturday

Toothed Planes are vital tools for applying veneers and working intensely grained woods that other tools cannot work cleanly. The blade edges are serrated and scratch the surface of the wood instead of shaving it. For preparing veneers and applying them to the cases of harpsichords, all the surfaces are left scratched, assisting in the adhesion of the hide glue. Once the veneers are applied, the toothed planes help clean the surfaces evenly, followed by scraping and abrasives. Without these special tools, working veneers and beautiful wood would become very taxing on the worker. We have now revealed one of the secrets to our work. Come see how it all is coming along.

- Edward Wright and Melanie Belongia



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Leather Breeches Maker

Thursday through Saturday

Our shop wishes you a Happy New Year!

The past few weeks in the shop have been busy with holiday guests as we wrapped up 2023. Our shop wreath this year was in memory of our dear friend, Journeyman Jan Tilley.

The new year started with Apprentice Emma beginning work on her final apprenticeship project, a reproduction of an original 1790s pair of leather breeches. Apprentice Wilson is working on a black sheepskin pair of breeches. We see a trend of new black leather breeches in the mid-1750s but also old leather breeches being dyed black to cover wear.

- Sarah Cross



Apprentice Emma making the first cut in the leather for her final project. (She was nervous)

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Shoemaker

Open Daily

Val has built up the last for Eve Otmar and is now in the process of building a pair of common shoes for her. Victoria continues work on her dancing pumps.

- *Valentine Povinelli*



Val finishing up some boot repairs for Mark Schneider.

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Weavers, Spinners, and Dyers

Sunday through Wednesday, Saturday

Pamela has been working on color matching with dyes recently. The color in question was black. Anyone who has ever tried to match two articles of black clothing knows that 'black' comes in many shades. After some trouble shooting and a fresh batch of dye, a match was achieved! It was also discovered that by altering the mordant from iron to alum, black can still be possible. Getting color successfully and repeatedly would have been the mark of a good dyer.

- Pamela Russo



The single skein was white Leicester Longwool, and the other two show the before and after of the soft gray corriedale. Both skeins of yarn are "True Black"

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Wigmaker

Sunday through Thursday

The Wig Shop hopes everyone is having a lovely holiday season! We have continued to be busy with Burgess wigs and hair consultations. Debbie and Benton are working on the final rows of their wigs and both should be off the wig block in the next few days. Edith has made a fresh batch of pomade that will be utilized by the gentlemen who will be dressing their own hair for the Burgess filming in January.

- Debra Turpin



*Wigs ready for pick up
for the Burgess filming*

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Next Week, Look Forward to Updates From...

- **Bookbinder**
 - *Tuesday through Sunday*
- **Cabinet Maker**
 - *Sunday, Monday, Thursday through Saturday*
- **Cooper**
 - *Tuesday through Sunday*
- **Famer**
 - *Tuesday through Saturday*
- **Fife and Drum**
- **Founder**
 - *Tuesday through Sunday*
- **Historic Masonry**
 - *Sunday, Wednesday through Saturday*
- **Milliner and Mantua-Maker**
 - *Tuesday through Saturday*
- **Musket Range**
 - *Ticket Event*
- **Shoemaker**
 - *Daily*
- **Silversmith**
 - *Sunday through Tuesday, Friday, Saturday*
- **Tin Plate Worker**
 - *Tuesday through Saturday*
- **Wigmaker**
 - *Sunday through Thursday*
- **Wheelwright**
 - *Sunday through Friday*

Editor.

Matthew Siepinski