

Lighting



100

100. CRUSIE

Massachusetts, *1740–1760

Iron

H. 6" L. 5" W. 4¾"

N-175.1

DESCRIPTION: Square body with upright sides and flat bottom. Channels extend from each of the four corners, out and up at an angle, to serve as fonts. Square bail hangar bolted to sides. Pick attached by chain to upper portion of handle.

PROVENANCE: Ward, Shumway, Nadeau. Said to have been used in Artemas Ward's general store which was opened on April 21, 1750, in the "yellow house" (Summer house) standing on the westerly side of the meeting house in Shrewsbury, Mass.

COMMENTS: Lamps of this type, an open container of oil or grease with a loose wick, are of ancient origin and continued in use into the nineteenth century. They are, therefore, very difficult to date.

REFERENCES: Watkins, *Artificial Lighting in America*, passim.



101

101. SPLINT AND CANDLE HOLDER

New England, *1700–1720

Iron

H. 8¼"

N-126

DESCRIPTION: Three-legged circular stand (drip pan) with an upright strap shaft terminating in a hook; cylindrical ring attached to upper part of shaft. Strap attached to lower part of shaft is spring mounted and extends up into ring; it serves to hold in place a candle or splint. Legs terminate in scroll feet.

PROVENANCE: Ward, Shumway, Nadeau



102

102. WALL SCONCE

Northeastern United States, ca. 1800
Sheet iron, glass
H. 9" Diam. of backplate 7½"
N-141

DESCRIPTION: Circular concave backplate is covered on front with a mosaic of silvered glass. Metal ring (like a footring) attached to back serves as a spacer and a platform to hold the sconce evenly on the wall; a pierced metal strap attached to upper portion serves as a hanger. Strap candlearm supports a cylindrical candle cup and drip pan with crinkled edge.

REFERENCE: [Rushlight Club], *Early Lighting: A Pictorial Guide*, fig. 3-52, for a similar example.



103

103. WALL SCONCE

Northeastern United States, possibly Pennsylvania,
*1790-1810
Sheet iron
H. 8¾" W. 7⅞"
N-705.2

DESCRIPTION: Tulip-shaped backplate with hole in upper center for hanging; crinkled sides. U-shaped strap attached to backplate supports cylindrical candle cup and drip pan with crinkled edges.

PROVENANCE: Rittenhouse, Shumway, Nadeau



104

104. WALL SCONCE

New England, *1790-1810
 Sheet iron
 H. 9¾" Diam. of backplate 8¾"
 N-817

DESCRIPTION: Circular backplate with scalloped rim. U-shaped strap soldered to back supports cylindrical candle cup and drip pan with crinkled edge. Short support strap soldered to upper back of backplate.

PROVENANCE: Ward, Shumway, Nadeau

105. CANDLESTICKS (PAIR)

Charles and James Shaw, Birmingham,
 England, ca. 1810

Steel
 H. 7½"
 N-445.1

DESCRIPTION: Tall cylindrical shaft bolted to low-domed circular foot; tab for push-up device protrudes from slot in shaft; small dished drip pan with hanging tab on one side. Stamped into tab: "SHAW'S / BIRM^M".

PROVENANCE: Ward, Shumway, Nadeau

COMMENTS: This is an example of the so-called hog-scraper base.

REFERENCES: Burks, *Birmingham Brass Candlesticks*, p. 121, lists Charles and James Shaw, 1808. See also *Wrightson's New Triennial Directory of Birmingham* (1818), p. 115, which lists:



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105A

"Shaw, C. and J. manufacturers of till, chest, cupboard, and Banbury locks, curry comb, cut nails, iron candlesticks, round end flat bolts, trunk handles, clips, &c. Great Charles-street." See also [Rushlight Club], *Early Lighting: A Pictorial Guide*, fig. 3-24 for a similar stick.

106. CHANDELIER

Connecticut or Massachusetts, *1790–1800

Sheet iron

H. 29" W. 23³/₄"

N-138

DESCRIPTION: Long slender conical central shaft with five candle arms; shaft has a flat loop at top for hanging; bottom terminates in a short cone. Arms soldered to lower portion of shaft and then curve up and out; cylindrical sockets and crinkled-edge drip pans; supporting struts soldered to central shaft and each arm.

PROVENANCE: Shumway, Nadeau. This chandelier once hung in Artemas Ward's home in Shrewsbury, Mass.

REFERENCE: Butler, *Candleholders in America, 1650–1900*, p. 83, for a similar example at Colonial Williamsburg.



106

107. CHANDELIER

New England, *1800–1810

Sheet iron

H. 12³/₈" W. 15" D. 3"

N-320

DESCRIPTION: Conical shaft, with a cylindrical ring for hanging, mounted in the center of a rectangular drip pan with raised edges; four cylindrical candle cups mounted in pan, two on each side of central shaft.

PROVENANCE: Once used in the First Congregational Church of Coventry, Conn. The church sold it at auction, ca. 1900, and Orin Shumway paid 25 cents for it. He sold it to RWN's grandfather for the same price.

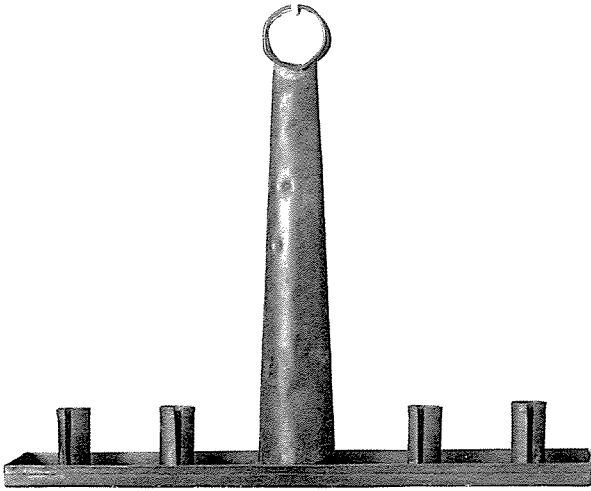
108. CHANDELIER

New England, *1790-1800

Sheet iron

H. 21" W. 31"

N-448

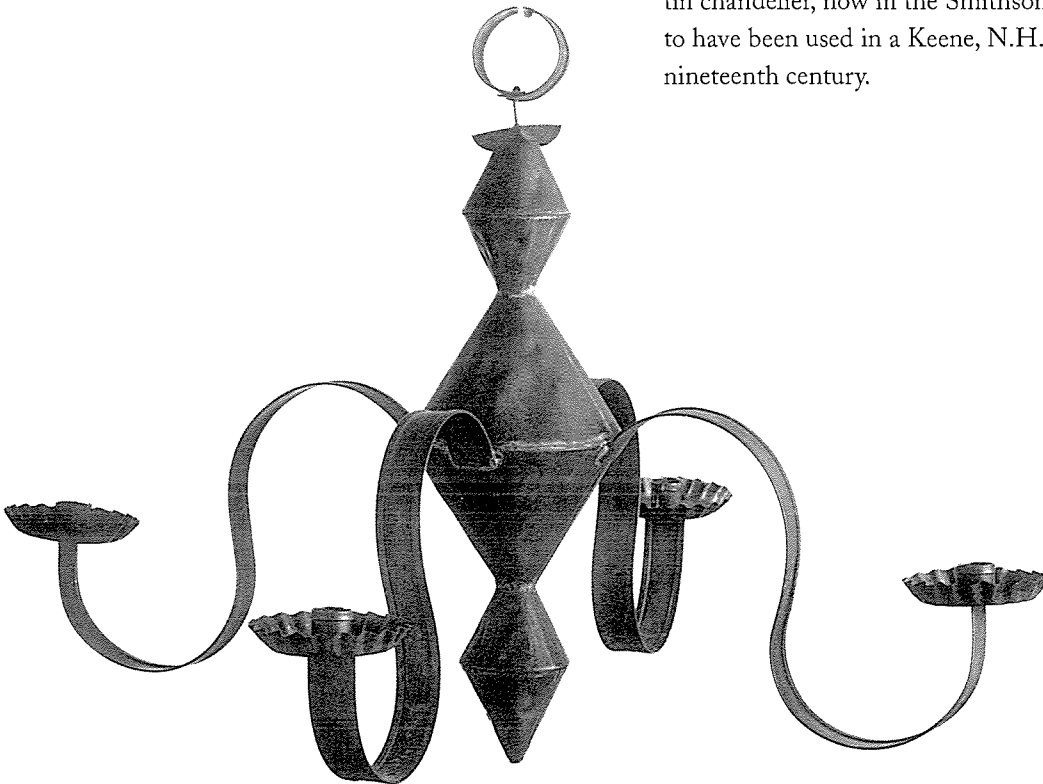


107

DESCRIPTION: Central shaft consists of three sections, each one a pair of cones soldered base-to-base; upper and lower sections smaller than middle section. Four boldly S-shaped strap candle arms soldered to shaft; short cylindrical candle cups; flat drip pans with crinkled edges. Ring for hanging attached by wire to upper section of shaft.

PROVENANCE: Mary Ward, Maynard Putnam, Charles Lyman Shumway, Nadeau. The chandelier is accompanied by note written by RWN: "In the late 1800s my grandfather rode on a bicycle from Webster to Sutton (Mass.) to visit Maynard Putnam, a cousin. He was given the chandelier & he carried it back to Webster (distance 10 mi.) on the bicycle. It originally belonged to Avery Ward."

REFERENCE: Jane C. Giffen, "Chandeliers in Federal New England," in Cooke, *Lighting in America*, fig. 11, for a related tin chandelier, now in the Smithsonian Institution, thought to have been used in a Keene, N.H., tavern during the early nineteenth century.



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109. CHANDELIER

Massachusetts, *1790–1800

Pine and sheet iron

H. 18½" W. 27"

N-239

110. SPERM OIL LAMP

Probably the Boston and Sandwich Glass Company,
Sandwich, Massachusetts, 1830–1840

Glass

H. 11¾" (approximate)

N-464

DESCRIPTION: Central wood shaft with large vase turning on upper section, topped by reel and ring turnings; upper part of lower portion of shaft cylindrical, lower portion inverted bell-shaped; acorn-shaped drop. Six S-curved strap candle arms; cylindrical candle cups; flat drip pans with crinkled edges. Traces of yellow paint on wood.

PROVENANCE: Maynard Putnam, Sutton, Mass., who married Harriet Ward; Shumway, Nadeau

DESCRIPTION: Colorless pressed glass base; colorless blown glass font. Stepped "waterfall" base with interior pyramidal reeding visible through glass; progressing upward: short reeded column, three rings, small secondary font, two rings, primary font. Swags and tassels engraved on font.

PROVENANCE: Perkins, Shumway, Nadeau

REFERENCES: Barlow and Kaiser, *The Glass Industry in Sandwich*, 2: 71, no. 2065, for a pair of lamps with the same base and pedestal.

111. SPERM OIL LAMPS (2)

Probably New England, 1830-1840

Glass, cork, sheet iron

H. 6½"

N-544.I, .2



IIO

DESCRIPTION: Globular colorless blown-glass reservoir with top opening. Pressed-glass foot and pedestal: hexagonal shaft, stepped pedestal, square foot with rounded corners; interior vertical ribs. Cork stopper with single tube.

PROVENANCE: Perkins, Shumway, Nadeau

REFERENCE: Wilson, *American Glass, 1760-1930*, I: 322, no. 385.



III



112

112. SPERM OIL LAMP

Probably Boston and Sandwich Glass Company,
Sandwich, Massachusetts, 1840–1865

Glass, sheet iron, pewter
H. 9" Diam. of base $4\frac{15}{16}$ "

N-193.2

DESCRIPTION: Hexagonal colorless pressed glass font with domed top; moon-and-star pattern panels. Trumpet-shaped sheet-iron “make-do” base. Pewter cap with two high-rise tubes angled apart. One brass cap on chain.

PROVENANCE: Perkins, Shumway, Nadeau

REFERENCES: See, for example, Barlow and Kaiser, *The Glass Industry in Sandwich*, 2: 93, no. 2121, which they call the “star and punty” pattern. But see Wilson, *American Glass, 1760–1930*, 1: 425, no. 643, which he calls “moon and star pattern.”



113

113. KITCHEN (or HAND) LAMP

New England, 1850–1870

Glass, brass

H. $5\frac{1}{2}$ " W. $4\frac{1}{2}$ "

N-1126.1

DESCRIPTION: Colorless glass bell-shaped body with heavy base and applied ear-shaped handle with tooled terminal. Body engraved with berry-and-leaf pattern. Circular brass fitting in top threaded to receive screw-on cover with two long tubes angled away from each other.

PROVENANCE: Perkins, Shumway, Nadeau

COMMENTS: According to glass historian Jane Spillman: “Glass company catalogues of the 1860s and 1870s advertised lamps similar to those shown here as kitchen lamps. . . . Kitchen lamps were often made for burning fluid, although some burned kerosene.” Many were made in pressed glass. They were also known as hand lamps.

REFERENCE: Spillman, *Glass Bottles, Lamps & Other Objects*, no. 292.



114

114. CAMPHENE "SPARKING" LAMP

New England, 1820–1840

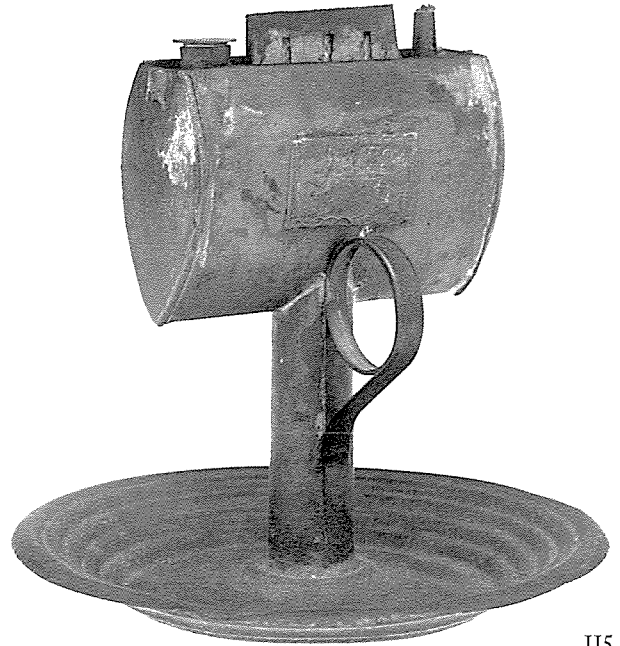
Pewter, brass

H. 6¼" Diam. of foot 3"

N-135.2

DESCRIPTION: Cylindrical font with protruding rims at top and bottom. Font supported on a cast taperstick with a baluster shaft and circular stepped foot. Circular flat cap with a high brass tube for wick.

PROVENANCE: Obediah Perkins, Shumway, Nadeau



115

115. LARD LAMP

S. N. and H. C. Ufford, Boston, Massachusetts,

1850–1860

Sheet iron, brass

H. 6½" Diam. of base 6¾"

N-1052

DESCRIPTION: Font is rectangular in elevation on broad side, ovoid from end, flat on top. Top has a wide slot for a flat wick, one tube for a conventional round wick, and fuel orifice for brass screw-on lid. A tiny cylinder is attached to each end of the font, possibly to receive some kind of chimney. Brass plate attached to side of font impressed with: S N & H C UFFORD, / 113 COURT ST / BOSTON / KINNEARS PATENT / FEB. 4 1851".

COMMENTS: Patented by Delamar Kinnear, Circleville, Ohio, Feb. 4, 1851. The small wick provides additional heat to prevent the lard from solidifying.

REFERENCES: Hayward, *Colonial Lighting*, p. 130 and pl. 40. Arthur H. Hayward, "Lard-Oil Lamps," in Cooke, *Lighting in America*, pp. 129–30.



116. *SPERM OIL LAMP (1 of 3)

New England, possibly the Boston and Sandwich Glass Company, Sandwich, Massachusetts, 1845–1860 (body), and Plume and Atwood, Waterbury, Connecticut, ca. 1875 (burner)

Glass, brass

H. 18½" Diam. 4¼"

N-712

*with conversion burner

DESCRIPTION: Colorless glass standing lamp with base, pedestal, font, chimney, and globe. Hexagonal pressed-glass base, pedestal, and knop. Urn shaped font, hexagonal in plan near top; hearts in relief on each of the six panels; the pattern is heart and thumb print; top of urn domed with opening in center. Brass lamp fitting with wheel to raise and lower annular wick; vent holes under burner and under globe holder. Cast into wheel: "VICTOR / THE P&A M'F'G Co". Cylindrical glass chimney; etched and engraved bulbous globe with flared top.

COMMENTS: The lower portion was intended as a sperm oil lamp. It was later converted to a coal oil lamp by the installation of a new burner. The Plume and Atwood Manufacturing Company assumed this name January 1, 1871. It owned factories in Waterbury and Thomaston, Connecticut, that manufactured a wide variety of metal items, particularly in brass and copper. Kerosene burners and lamp trimmings were among the company's products. A ca. 1906 illustrated catalogue of the company's products was reprinted in recent years for lamp collectors. It features a variety of lamp burners of the type seen here.

REFERENCES: Barlow and Kaiser, *Sandwich Glass*, 2: 108, no. 2160. Bassett, *Waterbury and Her Industries*, p. 26. Plume and Atwood, *Illustrated Catalogue*, pp. 9, 24 for burners.