

farm tools



Woodworking

Everything needed for running a farm and home in the late 1800s was probably built by hand on this site with the help of some trusty tools and a lot of wood from the property — this barn, simple furniture, apple crates, barrels, sheds, wagon platforms, steps.

Beam Drills, or Hand Auger

This is a hand drill for large holes, most often created as a system to tighten the connections that held beams in place. The hole was drilled through both the beam and the post. Then a rounded wooden pin was driven through the hole to hold all the pieces together. Our recent reconstruction uses bolts and steel plates, but Greer built the original barn with wooden beams and wooden pins only.



Broad Axes and Adzes

Several tools, used in succession, allowed the builder to create flat beams out tree trunks. This broad axe, made by a blacksmith or even a self-sufficient farmer with a talent for metalworking, is sharpened on both sides to chop notches in a log. Then an adze removed the wood between each notch.

