

B.H.

A shoulder plane with the brand has been sighted. No details are known of this manufacturer. It is presumed to be made in Australia as cast on the right side is a kangaroo and on the left side are the initials **B.H.** It is made of cast iron, with the casting quite crisp and professional. The owner feels that is from around the 1920's period. The blade is unmarked, T shaped and 19mm ($\frac{3}{4}$ "") wide. The plane measures 137mm ($5\frac{3}{8}$ "") long, 50mm high (2") and 19mm ($\frac{3}{4}$ "") wide. It has a cedar wedge.



BLAKELEY, W.H. & CO.

<1920 →?

Formerly, 116 Russell St., Melbourne Vic.

Formerly, 176 Russell St., Melbourne Vic.

Formerly, 115 Lonsdale St., Melbourne Vic.

Formerly, 13 – 17 Lt. Lonsdale St., Melbourne Vic.

Now, W.H. Blakely Knife & Saw Co. Pty. Ltd. 39 Henderson Road, Clayton North Vic.



This company, established in 1867, was and is principally a saw maker, but in past days was an importer of saws, files, cutlery and joiners tools which included woodworking planes. Only one plane has been seen with just their mark on it – a wooden plough, made of beech, having a skate riveted to the body and with a bulb at the front. This is probably imported from England and marketed by Blakeley.

A number of other wooden beech planes (all probably British), with Blakeley marks on them together with other dealer names have been seen – 'J.DANK & SONS TOOL MERCHANTS BOURKE ST MELB', 'JAMES McEWAN & CO' and 'McPHERSONS "THE TOOL PEOPLE" 55 – 64, 582 – 88 COLLINS ST MELBOURNE'. They include various hollow and rounds, a 9mm ($\frac{3}{8}$ "") side bead, a 22mm ($\frac{7}{8}$ "") dado and coffin smoother.

According to Blakeley's, in 1920 a Mr. W.J. James assembled planes at their factory in Lonsdale St., Melbourne. See under **JAMES** for more information.

BOWSAW TOOL CO.

Approx. 1987 – 92

Mr. Ray Ingold, Brisbane Qld., trading as above.

Manufactured a bronze plane similar to the Stanley 101, using the lost wax casting method. The beauty of this method being that there was virtually no machining except to drill and tap the threads and the polishing of parts. It came with an improved lever cap. Around 150 were sold during the production period including approx. 10 stainless steel models with an ebony sole.

Interestingly, it has been found that Ray Ingold endeavoured to have his plane trade-marked in March 1985 but the application lapsed in September 1988. Why? Maybe it was because of a dispute with regard to the trademark by a company in Sydney whose logo contains a very similar bowsaw. Noteworthy also is that an unfinished panel plane with a very similar motif on the cap has been documented.



casting bowsaw panel plane - picture Peter McBride

BRAY, RICHARD

1922 - ?

Oakleigh Vic.

A carpenter and joiner whose had not been sighted and therefore not mentioned in my first and second editions in 1993 and 1998. I am now happy to report that this plane has been seen and is as described in its patent documents. In short, the patent statement states, *'This invention relates to the construction of carpenter's planes whereby the same may be easily adapted for use in making mouldings, or edges such as bevels, chamfers, rounds, hollows or ovolos in joinery work. For this purpose, the box or body of the plane is made in a special manner whereby it can receive and hold the necessary tools or bits. The body of the plane is accordingly bored to receive bolts that pass through adjustable recessed fences, the opening being usually arranged at an angle of 90° and which comes immediately over a like recess in the body of the plane. Thus, the plane will be enabled to properly ride over the edge of the square piece of wood or the squared edge of a board for bevelling or otherwise ornamenting the same.'*

No makers imprint is on the plane's body, but 'GREGSTEEL' is imprinted on two cutter blades.