

Together with the Implements of the Lumberman, Joiner and Cabinet-Maker in Use in the Eighteenth Century:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A great early book from the 1920's on early tools!By Rhode Island RayAs a tool collector and having an interest in the history and evolution of tools this is an important book to have. Mercer was one of the 1st to try and document and analyze the history and evolution of tools. The book has a lot of interesting information and he does look at some of the then known roman tools and compare how modern hand tools have changed or in some cases stayed the same.As a first attempt to look at all the different types of woodworking tools plus the history and evolution of hand tool is it a good book to see what was known at that time. However it is not a perfect book and needless to say R. A. Salaman's book the Dictionary of Woodworking Tools is more up to date and has better information on a wider diversity of older woodworking hand tools. W.L. Goodman's out of print book,1978 The History of Woodworking Tools is certainly more up to date than Mercer's book on the evolution of just some woodworking tools. Mercer tries to cover the whole gauntlet of the evolution of all woodworking tools while Goodman's book only looked at only some wood working tool evolution.Despite the newer information that is available on Salamans book on the wide variety/diversity of kinds of wood working tools and the more up to date evolution of hand tool information in Goodmans book, Mercer made a good 1st attempt at trying to look at and dealing with both types and evolution of tools. Mercer's book is worth having and some information he writes about it none the less interesting and informative.As a tool collector and having an interest in the evolution of wood working hand tools Mercer's book is a good one to have.What is needed now is a more up to date book of Goodman's book to fill in the gaps on many of the woodworking handtools he was unable to document in their evolution.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy W. EdenGreat!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. but it seems like a very credible resourceBy John BushI don't have the background to evaluate its accuracy, but it seems like a very credible resource. Completely fascinating.

Classic reference describes in detail hundreds of implements in use in the American colonies in the 18th century. Over 250 illustrations depict tools identical in construction to ancient devices once used by the Greeks, Egyptians, and Chinese, among them axes, saws, clamps, chisels, mallets, and much more. An invaluable sourcebook.