

Cromwell

Papers of Richard Allen Cromwell
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Biographical, Scope and Content Note

Richard Andrew Cromwell, from North Charlestown, New Hampshire invented a ski cutting machine in 1940. His goal in inventing the ski cutting machine was to improve the time it took to make skis and the quality of skis.

Cromwell filed for a patent for his ski cutting machine with the United States Patent Office on August 3, 1940. His request was not filled until October 31, 1944. On September 5, 1942 Cromwell's application was rejected, but he did not give up. Cromwell sent in a re-application that went to the Board of Appeals, who finally accepted his design.

Cromwell's design was important to the ski-making business because his machine allowed for the shaping process to take place with only one passage of the billet through the machine. His machine eliminated multiple runs of wood through the machine and also made the skis smooth. The machine allowed for retrimming if a ski should become warped due to the steaming process. Cromwell also designed the machine to have two cutters that operated simultaneously, so both skis were the same. The machine produced a pointed toe in accordance with the ski.

The shaping of the skis took about 40 seconds to make through the machine. The machine weighted approximately two tons and used two 10HP motors. The machine cost about between \$18-\$20,000 dollars and took about six months to make and deliver to a customer. Cromwell operated the Cromwell Machine Company in Claremont, New Hampshire from 1947 to 1955.

Inventory List

- Box 1 Folder 1 - Patent for H. J. Lundquist for skee shaping device October 26, 1920
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Patent for W. M. Whitney for wood shaping machine October 25, 1927
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Letters regarding manufactured skis from Machine Cromwell Company
- Box 1 Folder 1 - patent for J. R. Cameron for automatic machine for forming ironing boards and the like January 5, 1932
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Patent for M. A. Strand for automatic wood shaper August 25, 1925
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Patent for J. R. Kelbrich for paddle making machine December 22, 1925
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Patten for J. P. Tarbox for machine for shaping oar blades September 28, 1909
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Re-application of R. A. Cromwell for ski cutting machine to US Patent Office
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Envelope and letter from State Planning and Development Commission
Concord, NH
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Two copies of patent for R. A. Cromwell for ski cutting machine October 31, 1944

- Box 1 Folder 1 - Re-application of R. A. Cromwell for ski cutting machine before Board of Appeals
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Receipts from Machine Cromwell Co.
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Receipts to Machine Cromwell Co. from various companies
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Letters to Cromwell regarding ski cutting machine
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Patent for J. E. Erickson for ski cutting machine July 1, 1930
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Homestead Mortgage Deed
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Warrantee Deed
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Mortgage Deed
- Box 1 Folder 1 - Agreement between Cromwell and Derby Hall Inc., of Vermont
- Box 1 Folder 1 - List of equipment in Machine Cromwell Co.

- Box 1 Folder 2 - Original patent for R. A. Cromwell for ski cutting machines
- Box 1 Folder 2 - Original copies of figures of machine that appear in the patent

- Box 1 Folder 3 - Description of the patented machine for the rapid automatic sharpening of skis
- Box 1 Folder 3 - Letters regarding ski cutting machine
- Box 1 Folder 3 - Re-application by Cromwell for ski cutting machine – US Patent Office
- Box 1 Folder 3 - Brochure from Machine Cromwell Co.
- Box 1 Folder 3 - Letter from J. E. Erickson, Jr. – Patent and Patent Causes – Washington, D.C. – in response to an amendment of May 4, 1942
- Box 1 Folder 3 - Re-application of Cromwell for ski cutting machine – US Patent Office
- Box 1 Folder 3 - Application for ski cutting machine
- Box 1 Folder 3 - Letter stating Board of Appeals reversed their decision
- Box 1 Folder 3 - Supplemental Amendment by US Patent Office
- Box 1 Folder 3 - Appeal for claims 2, 18, 24 on ski cutting machine application
- Box 1 Folder 3 - Patent for L. Platt for woodworking machine March 13, 1900

- Box 1 Folder 4 - Seven photographs of ski cutting machine
- Box 1 Folder 4 - Two negatives of ski cutting machine