

Ember Tongs - *a sketch*

By

Rick Guthrie (deceased)

Editor's Note: Rick Guthrie, who passed away on 18 January 2020, was a talented professional blacksmith and a knowledgeable historian on America's Colonial Period. In addition, he was an accomplished sketch artist who often drew tools and other implements before making them at his forge, anvil, and bench. Below is one of Rick's sketches - a pair of ember tongs (Fig. 1, Sketch of ember tongs by Rick Guthrie [zoom in for larger view]). Ember tongs were used for lifting a burning ember or coal from a fireplace to light a tobacco pipe. Also, shown below, for comparison, is a similar pair of original ember tongs found in Halifax County, VA dated 1750 (Figs. 2 & 3, Original ember tongs).

Rick was not a stranger on this website. Check out his 2013 video, *Hand Wrought Nails*, under Historic Trades at:

<http://ehcnc.org/decorative-arts/historic-trades/hand-wrought-nails/>

Rick's long-term friend (and mine), Barbara Luck, compiled a "Celebration of Life" photo album to share. Anyone interested can access it at:

https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipMLQIUoGYwRBvTusUH5xLiq8TNR_eE2zeUNFXTx5mgjZHPnjs3vz0pZ69p0VwulqA?key=aUxrZ1BpQ0VCe1JKSW53RldXZIBWR1gyQzlrME9R

Click on the first photo to enlarge it, then step through the rest by clicking the advance arrow.

JM

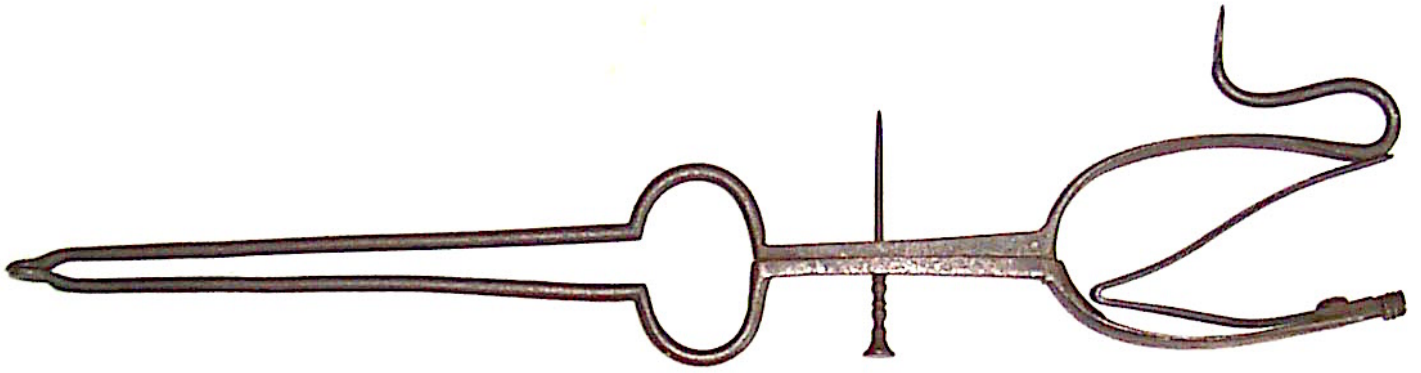


Figure 2



Figure 3