

Tabitha Babbitt

The Woman who invented. . .



The Circular Saw

It's ironic that this tool is associated with macho workmen when it was invented by a quiet Shaker woman in 1813

Tabitha was a member of the Harvard Shaker community in Massachusetts, living a simple life as a weaver.

The community thrived on its forestry commerce, and Tabitha would watch the men in the saw mill as she spun her goods. She noticed that the long two-man pit saw the loggers used was wasting motion, as the saw only cut one way. Using her knowledge of the spinning wheel, she created a circular saw blade and mounted it on a spinning axle.

Spinning the axle at a high rate of speed, her circular saw proved a success, and the first saw she made currently resides in Albany, New York.-

She refused to take out a patent, as to profit from her invention went against her religious beliefs

What will you invent?