

VICTORIA LODGE OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH  
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**TOOLS USED IN BUILDING KING SOLOMON'S TEMPLE.**

by

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First I would like to thank Very Worshipful Brother Art Scott for inviting me here today. Last evening I had the opportunity to give my Surveyors Talk and demonstration to the members of Camosun Lodge No.60 and their visitors. I hope they enjoyed it. I enjoyed giving it. This Talk has been given all British Columbia to many Lodges. It's my way of paying back the Craft for what it has done for me.

My profession background is that of being a Mechanical Surveyor for the past 35 years. My job is to make sure large machines like Pulp & Paper Machines are installed and maintained correctly. The tolerances we work to are to .002" or the thickness of a human hair. To do this type of work we have to use very exact survey instruments.

Today I am going to attempt to talk to you about our ancient Brethren on the original working tools and how they used them.

The basic tools would be a Plumb, Level and Square, like what you would see a carpenter or mason use. Add to that a measuring device like a tape measure. But our Ancient Brethren did not have the advantage of going to Home Depot or the local hardware store. So what did they use?

In our Lodges we have displayed in the East the Working Tools of Masonry. These tools are miniatures of the actual tools. But here again, "What did they use?".

I will go back into my history

In years past tradesman were fully trained from a basic start. Much like Freemasonry tries to do. We take a good man as a E.A. then pass him to a F.C. and then make him a MM. and so on. When we raise a Brother to the Master Masons' Degree he still does not know very much. He only learns as he travels along his Masonic trail. This takes time. Today are we all trying to do too much. Most belong to many concordant bodies. Are we trying to do too much, I think so. Don't get away from our Craft Lodges.

In Masonry we are trying to train future masons to be better educated and informed. A good example is a Lodge of Education and Research like yours here in Victoria. Another is the Wardens' Retreats that are now being held throughout the province. You have for example V.W.Bro. Art Scott and V.W.Bro. Stephen Godfrey who have, and are working very hard in this field. I can tell you we are getting the dividends now in Lodges where future Worshipful Masters have taken the time to attend these Wardens' Retreats.

I would like to thank you for having invited me to your meeting today.

Fraternally,

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