

Wilson Bohannon Padlock Notes

Beginning in 1860 the early lever padlocks were constructed with a “Flat Top”. By 1880 they were for the most part all constructed with a “Arc Top”. This change did not take place overnight but rather over a period of time. Interestingly we have found that none of the “90” series catalog numbers were made with an “Arc Top”.

Some but not all of the early lever padlocks were made with a “Dead Bolt” mechanism. As we discover which catalog numbers were made with the “Dead Bolt” mechanism we will list them.



During the early years in Brooklyn WB stamped the padlock information in various locations too numerous to mention.

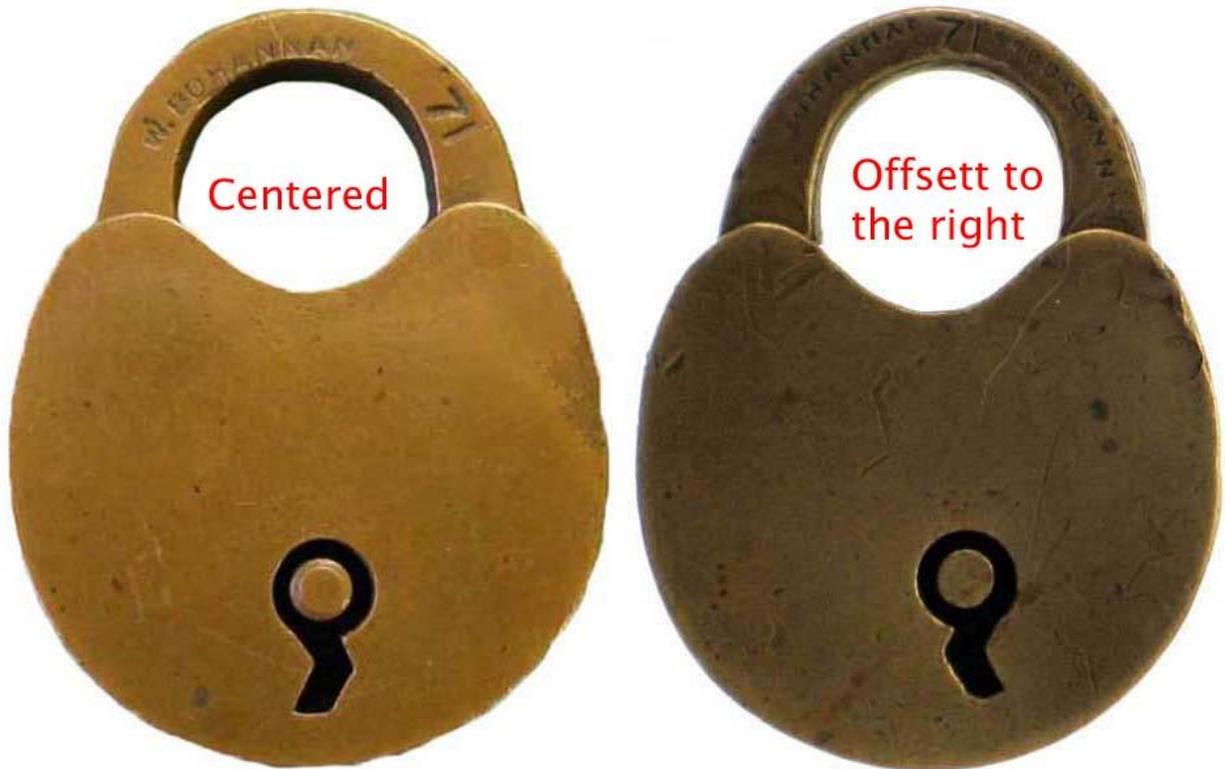
The early Years



While still in Brooklyn they pretty much standardized stamping the padlock information on the obverse of the shackle with the catalog number in the center. When WB moved to Marion they moved the catalog number to the right side of the shackle near the heel. You will find some deviations but for the most part the foregoing is true.



We have found numerous lever padlocks that have offset keyways. This was not limited to one catalog number but rather a variety of catalog numbers. We have found keyways offset to the left and offset to the right. We are in the process of understanding why these locks exist.



We have found some pin tumbler padlocks having offset keyways. Once again we are in the process of understanding why.



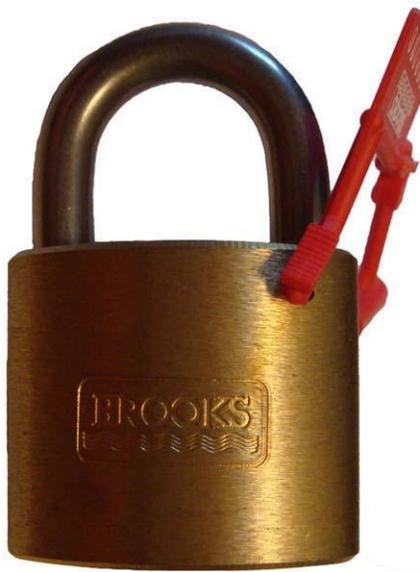
Hardware Companies That Special Ordered WB Padlocks

- American Railway Supply Co.
- E. J. Brooks
- Richards & Conover
- L. G. Tillotson & Co.

The padlocks were stamped with varied WB information and varied hardware company information in varied locations. We are not going to show all the variations.

We are not creating listings for padlocks that were standard WB catalog items. We will create a listing for those padlocks that were made to specifications that were not standard WB catalog items.

E. J. Brooks – Seal



L. G. Tillotson

