

# An Early Baldwin Lamp

by Dave Johnson

This small all brass unmarked Baldwin handlamp was a recent addition to my collection. When I first saw a photo of this lamp it hadn't been cleaned at all and I wasn't entirely certain it was a Baldwin. Upon obtaining the lamp all uncertainty vanished.



(left) Early Baldwin with bail and no cap hook. (right) Indented water door.

The water door is identical to those on my early incused lettering Baldwin and my early Baldwin wet mine lamp. Except for the indented rather than traditional domed Baldwin water door this lamp has a nearly identical base and top as the other Baldwin shown below. Rather than a cap hook like the other lamp, this recent acquisition has a bail and no cap hook. But, the lamp with a hook has the indentations in the water chamber for a bail to be soldered in place just as the lamp with the bail has.

Notice that while the same basic shape there is a major difference in the water chambers of these two lamps. The lamp with the bail has a separate top piece and the sides of the water chamber are made of flat stock with a soldered seam up the back, while the lamp with a hook has a single-piece stamped water chamber. Both lamps have push on reflectors and measure 4 1/2" tall to the top of the raking wire and have a base diameter of just over 2 1/4". This is yet another variation of the Baldwin lamp.

