

NEW HAVEN CHIME #3 CIRCA 1900

By Chris Johnson

The chime movement was patented in 1896 by John Willcock of Toronto. There have been six models identified from catalogs differing mostly in case design. The clock predates the Seth Thomas Sonora Chime by eight years.

Uses two separate movements mounted vertically on a cast iron frame.

The upper movement is the time and strike and interacts with the lower movement to trigger the chime. After the chime is completed, the upper movement initiates the strike.

Strikes the melody on the four smaller gongs and hourly on the larger gong which are all mounted through a hole in the resonator to the bottom plate.

On the time movement the center wheel arbor extends through the back plate with a star cam that trips a lever initiating a chime melody every quarter hour.

The strike lifting arbor also extends through the back plate and is activated by the chime movement to strike the hour after the 16 note chime has played.

Chiming isn't self-correcting but any error in the strike can be adjusted independent of the chime.

The restoration process involved extensive bushing work and replacement of the chime movement mainspring. This clock came with incorrect hands and a damaged dial which i replaced with parts from a new haven chime #4 parts clock i already possessed. The case work involved some re-gluing, polishing and repairing the back-door hinges and latch mechanism.