

# **The Ashton Valve Company 1871 to 1976**

## **Main Office and Works: 161-179 First Street, Cambridge, MA 41**

Henry G. Ashton established the Ashton Valve Company in Boston in 1871. The company primarily manufactured steam gages, safety valves, and air gages for railroads and locomotives. Ashton Valve moved to First Street in Cambridge in 1908 and rapidly expanded to fill the entire block between Rogers and Binney Streets. The firm was incorporated in 1917. By 1930, it employed over 200 people and had established branch offices in New York, Chicago, and San Francisco (Stone, 1930).

The Ashton Valve Company's steam valves and gauges were very successful in the marketplace and won many medals at international expositions and world's fairs. The company absorbed the Boston Steam Gage Company in 1898, and was active in Boston and Cambridge through the first half of the twentieth century, with business peaking in the 1920s and 1930s. Ashton Valve merged with the Crosby Steam and Gage Company in 1948, sold the building to Nicholson & Co., an industrial adhesive manufacturer, and moved with Crosby into the old Winter Brothers Tap and Die building in Wrentham, MA. The Wrentham building was torn down in 2012, Crosby was purchased by Tyco and still operates out of a facility in Mansfield, MA.

## **Pressure Gauge Restoration: March 18, 2020**

**Manufacture: The Ashton Valve Company**

**Model Number: 51 Pressure Gauge**

**Serial Number: 569810 (Circa 1930)**

**Manufacture Location: Cambridge, Massachusetts**

**Size: 8½" Pressure Gauge**

**Dial: Nickel Plated Brass, Black Filled Stamped Lettering**

**Construction: Cast Brass Rear Flange Case and Flared Threaded Ring, Glass Window**

**Sensing Element: Solid Drawn Seamless Bronze Bourdon Tube**

**Movement: Brass with German Silver Pinion and Arbor**

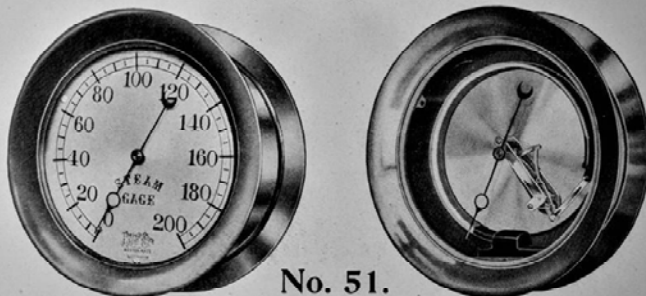
**Range: 0 to 200 psi**

**Restoration By:**

**Colonial Instruments, Inc., 1 Chestnut Street, Nashua, NH 03060**

## The Ashton Improved Single Spring Bourdon Steam and Pressure Gages.

ADAPTED FOR USE ON BOILERS, ENGINES, STEAM  
VEHICLES, PRESSURE TANKS, ETC.



No. 51.

Springs of Solid Drawn Tube.  
PRICES, INCLUDING COCK.

SIZE.	Iron Case, Brass Ring.	Iron Case, N. P. Ring.	Brass Case.	N. P. Case.	Brass Deep Case, O. G. or Oct. Ring.	N. P. Deep Case, O. G. or Oct. Ring.
24 inch Dial,	\$200.00	\$206.00	\$260.00	\$280.00		
20 " "	135.00	140.00	190.00	205.00		
18 " "	110.00	113.00	155.00	167.50		
16 " "	90.00	92.00	125.00	135.00		
14 " "	75.00	76.50	100.00	107.50		
12 " "	50.00	51.50	75.00	79.00	\$80.00	\$84.00
10 " "	32.00	33.00	40.00	43.00	44.00	47.00
8 1/2 " "	22.00	22.75	30.00	32.50	33.50	36.00
6 3/4 " "	16.00	16.00	20.00	22.00	23.00	25.00
6 " "	13.00	13.50	16.00	17.50	18.50	20.00
5 1/2 " "	10.00	10.25	12.00	13.25	13.75	15.00
5 " "	8.00	8.20	11.00	12.00	12.50	13.50
4 1/2 " "	8.00	8.20	10.00	11.00	11.50	12.50
4 " "	7.00	7.18	9.00	9.75	10.25	11.00
3 1/2 " "	6.00	6.15	8.00	8.60	9.25	9.75
3 " "	6.00	6.15	8.00	8.60	9.25	9.75
2 1/2 " "	6.00	6.15	8.00	8.60	9.25	9.75
2 " "	6.00	6.15	8.00	8.60	9.25	9.75

Write for Discounts.

In ordering always state size wanted, whether brass or iron case, and maximum pressure.

These gages are made with non-corrosive movements.

An allowance of 10 cents each will be made for cocks if not wanted.

Special net prices on sizes below 5 1/2 inches when ordered in quantities.

For gages with Illuminated Dials, see page 71.

A siphon must be used with these gages.

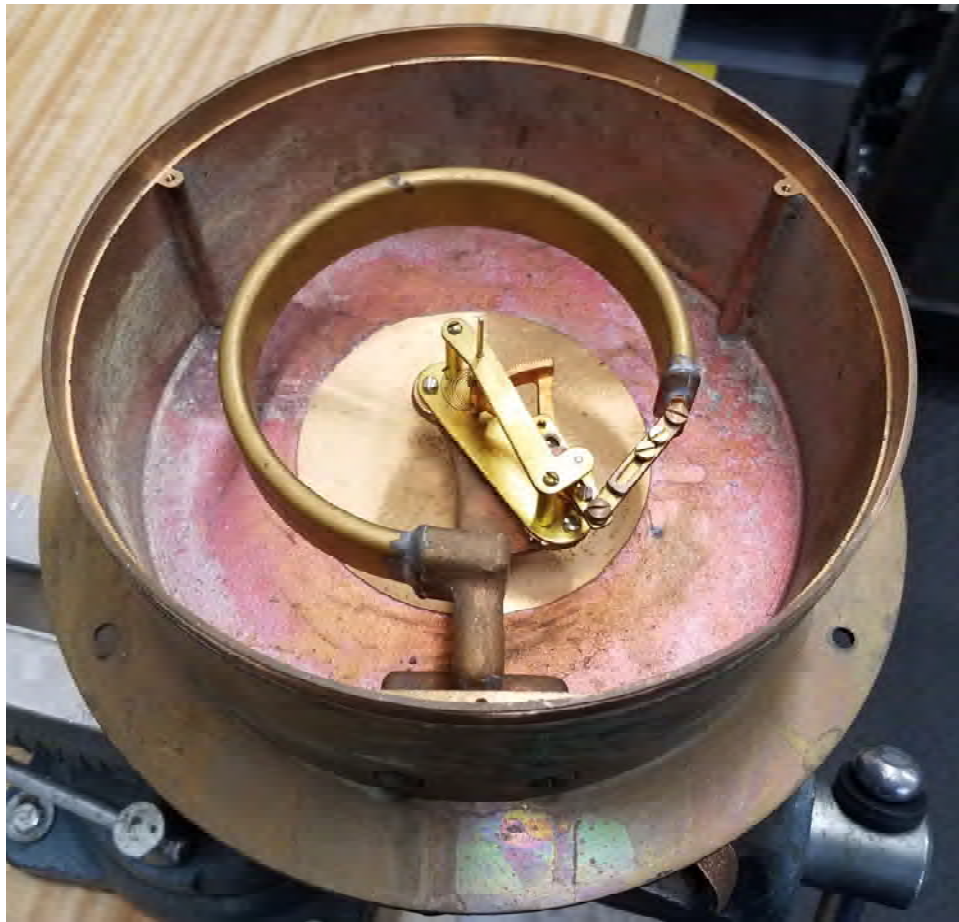


THE PARIS EXPOSITION—EXHIBIT OF THE ASHTON VALVE COMPANY.



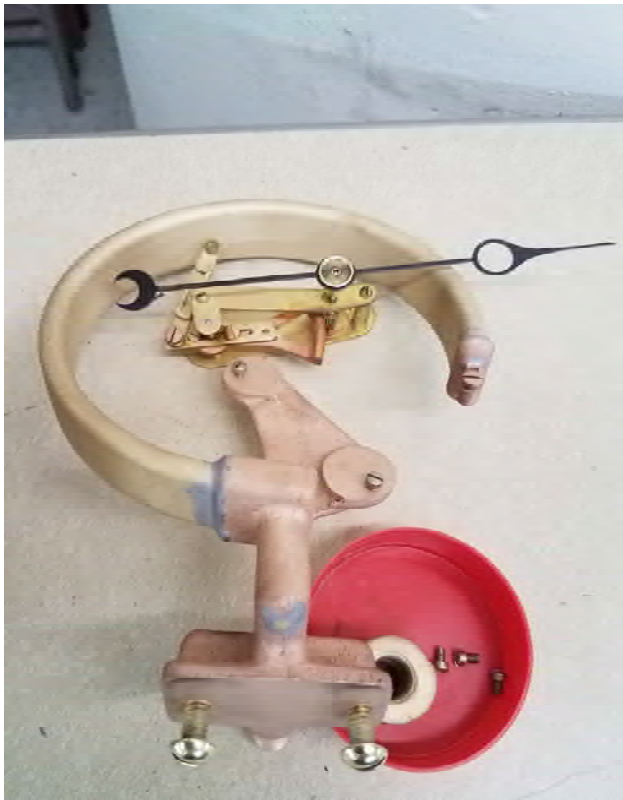


















## THE ASHTON VALVE COMPANY

Pop Safety  
and Relief  
Valves

—  
Pressure  
and Vacuum  
Gages



Main Office  
and  
Works  
161-179 First  
Street  
Cambridge,  
Mass.

—  
Phones:  
Univ. 7226  
Univ. 7227



Photo: March 2020

The Ashton Valve Company, 161 First Street, Cambridge, MA 02142







## Certificate of Pressure Calibration

Charles D. Sheehy, Inc.  
675 Bodwell St. Extension  
Avon, MA 02322

Date: **March 13, 2020**  
Certificate Number: **87130-01**  
Purchase Order Number: **022820-JAC**

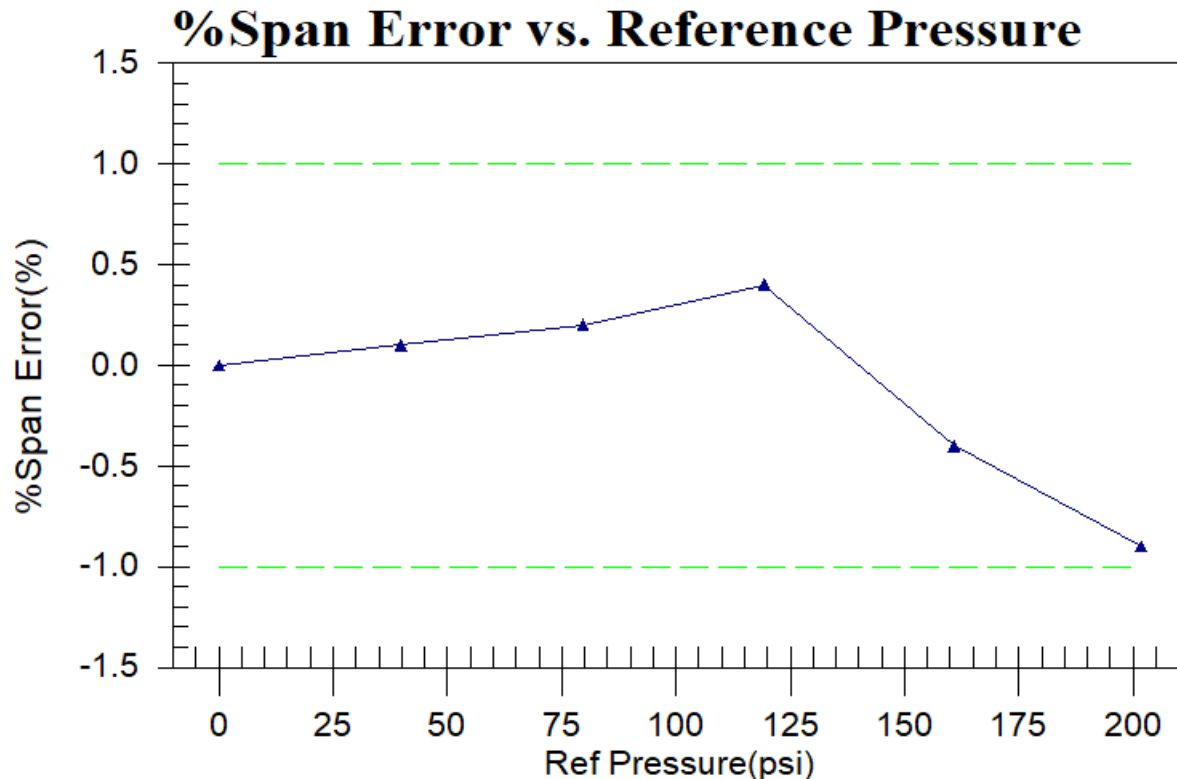
### Instrument/ Device Under Test

Manufacturer	The Ashton Valve Company	Test Date	March 13, 2020
Pressure Gauge Model	8½" Antique Gauge	Due Date	March 13, 2021
Pressure Range	0.000 to 200.000 psi	ID/ Serial Number	569 810
Data Acquisition Method	Manual	Condition	Restored
Accuracy	±1 %Span Full Scale		

### >>>Calibration Test Results <<<

#### As Left Data

Instrument Under Test Indicated Pressure Reading	Actual Applied Reference Pressure on Calibration Test Standard	Instrument Under Test Deviation	Instrument Under Test Tolerance	Instrument Percent of Span Error	Test Results
psi	psi	psi	psi	%	Pass / Fail
0.00	0.00	0.00	± 2.00	0.0000	Pass
40.00	39.80	0.20	± 2.00	0.0996	Pass
80.00	79.60	0.40	± 2.00	0.2003	Pass
120.00	119.20	0.80	± 2.00	0.4001	Pass
160.00	160.80	-0.80	± 2.00	-0.4007	Pass
200.00	201.80	-1.80	± 2.00	-0.8990	Pass



Colonial Instruments, Inc. One Chestnut Street Nashua, NH 03060 certifies that the measurement results contained in this certificate were obtained using standards with uncertainties traceable through an unbroken chain of comparisons to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), or through another National Metrology Institute (NMI) to the International System of Units (SI) via reference to national measurement standards, established natural constants, or consensus standards. A Test Accuracy Ratio (TAR) of 4:1 was maintained unless otherwise stated.

Certified By: Colonial Instruments, Inc.

By: Ken Brasley

#### Laboratory Calibration Test Standards

Serial Number	Model	Manufacturer	Pressure Range	Nominal Uncertainty	Certification Date	Recertification Due Date
4556001	6270A	Fluke	0.000 to 200.000 psi	±0.02 %Span Full Scale	March 28, 2019	March 31, 2020

Reference Uncertainty: ±0.009 psig from -15 to +30 psig and ±0.06 psig from 30 to 300 psig

**Ambient Lab Conditions:** Temperature: 73.0 F      Pressure: 29.685 inHg      Humidity: 27.0 %RH  
Lab Test Procedure: Fluke / DH Instruments, COMPASS for Pressure Basic 5.0.50      Data Acquisition: RS232  
Pressure Medium: N2

Date: **March 13, 2020**      Certificate Number: **87130-01**  
Instrument ID/ Serial Number: **569 810**      Purchase Order Number: **022820-JAC**

**End of Report**

Generated: 03/13/20 at 8:41:21 AM

Rev. Sept 2019

Page 2 of 2