

Basic Detail Report

Title Prototype Shelf Clock

Date 1814-1815

Primary Maker Eli Terry

Medium wood, glass

Description This 1816 patent model for a 30-hour wooden-wheeled shelf clock is the earliest known model designed for mass production in a factory using interchangeable parts. It was designed by Eli Terry, and there is strong evidence that this is the clock made by Eli Terry as his patent model. The case and the movement are authentic. The glass has been replaced, and this model originally had a bell. One of the benefits of this clock was to see the works and be able to set it before the weights ran to the bottom. The design feature of moving the weights to be alongside the movement, instead of under it, allowed for a shorter case. Terry also located the escapement (the brass wheel in the center) on the outside of the plate for easier maintenance.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (overall height x width x depth): 20 × 14 × 3in.
(50.8 × 35.6 × 7.6cm)