



The Star Drilling Machine

The portable rigs of the Star Drilling Machine Company of Akron, Ohio, date to the 1890's. They enjoyed a wide popularity and apparently fulfilled the boasts of the manufacturer, of which there were many. "Ninety-five percent of all oil wells in the world drilled by portable machines were drilled by Star Drilling Machines." In a bulletin issued by the company, they laid out seven "claims of superiority". These claims extended to everything from the wagon to the mast and all of the parts in-between. The "standard of perfection" was achieved in their view.

The Star was certainly held in high regard in the 1900's until after WW II when the company ceased to manufacture. Star started out with steam powered rigs, some capable of traction, and ended up with petrol-powered truck-mounted machines as well as tractor drive machines. They called the latter the "super-tractor model".

As the cost of fuel and scarcity of water became problems for steam rigs in some arid areas, Star came up with portable drilling rigs powered by petrol which were put into general use in the 1920's. Steam machines already at work could be easily converted to petrol according to a Star bulletin. Our thanks to Samuel T Pees for this information.

Sandstone has two of these machines in their collection but with many parts missing, as can be seen from the photographs of machine, serial number 6699, built in 1928. In our photo gallery is an advertisement from the company, Malcomess, who were the agents for Star in South Africa, which gives a much clearer picture of their appearance. Advertised are both a steam driven version, similar to those that are in the Sandstone collection, and a paraffin powered version.

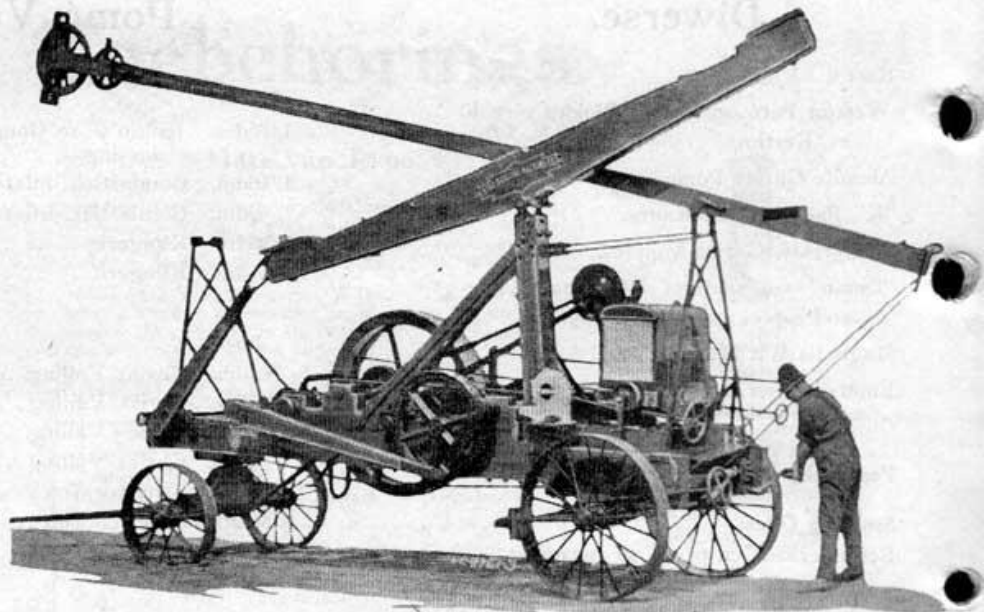
Both machines are now with an associate Heritage Collection in the Western Cape for restoration where it is hoped that one machine can be constructed from number 6699, pictured below, and its unknown sister.





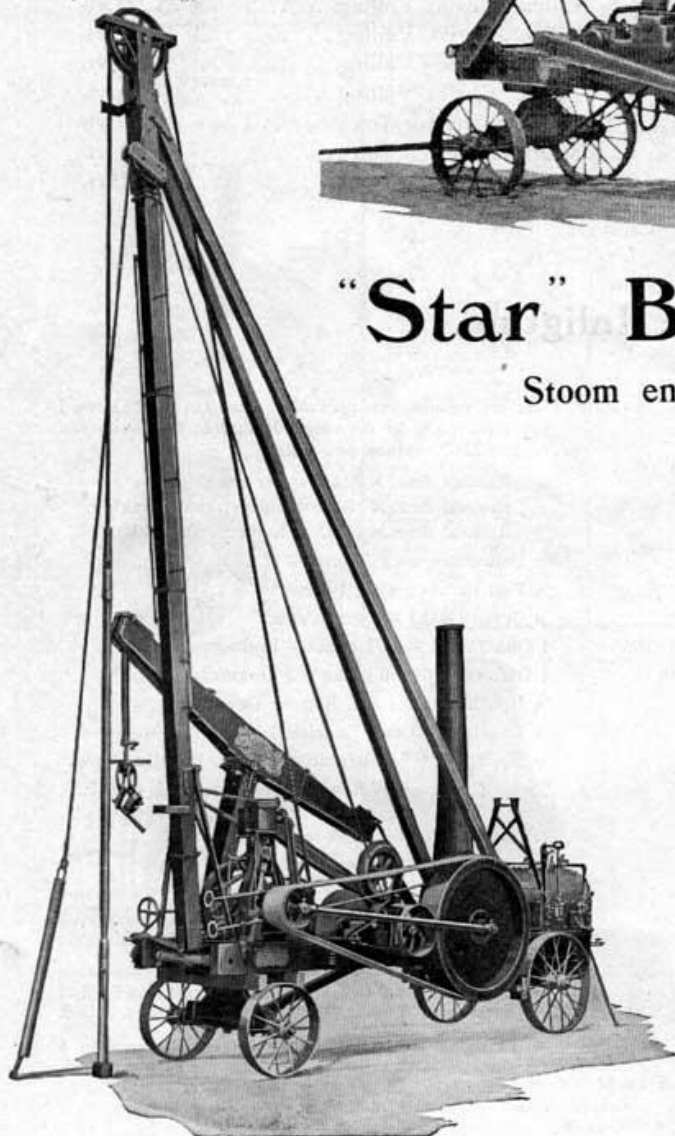
Gewigte en Besonderhede:

- No. 32:** 300vt. Masjien, kom-
pleet met Gereedskap en
Tou (Parafien Enjin Dryf).
Gewig 10,073 pond.
No. 34: 400vt. masjien, kom-
pleet met Gereedskap en
Tou (Parafien Enjin Dryf).
Gewig, 11,587 pond.
No. 19: 400vt. masjien, kom-
pleet met Gereedskap en
Tou (Stoom Krag).
Gewig 13,00 pond.
No. 22: 800vt. masjien, kom-
pleet met Gereedskap en
Tou (Stoom Krag).
Gewig 18,942 pond.
No. 23: 1000vt. masjien, kom-
pleet met Gereedskap en
Tou (Stoom Krag).



“Star” Boor Masjiene

Stoom en Parafien Enjin Krag.



Die Boor kontrakteur wat probeer om per-
manente en voordelige besigheid op te bou eis
modern uitrusting. Groter spoed en bekwaam-
heid is verlang meer as ooit te vore en vir die
rede is die “Star” Boor Masjien die kontrakteur
se eerste keuse. Die “Star” Boor is nou voor-
sien in twee tiepes—stoom en parafien enjin
krag. Die parafien enjin gedryfde Boor het
meer en meer populêr geword in die laaste tyd,
moontlik omdat hy die sterkte en gerief van
operasie behou sowel as die snel boor kwaliteite
van die stoom bewerkte “Star” Boor, en bied
daarby aan vermeerderde vervoerbaarheid, ter-
wyl die moeilikhede verenig met slegte water
en agtelosige brandstof voorsienings verwyderd
is. Verder, daar is geen onophout vir die doel
om die ketel pype skoon te maak, stoomketels
te ondersoek, en vure uit te hark. Die Parafien
enjin wat met die “Star” Boor voorsien is, is
’n kragtige eenvoudige en maklik bestuurde vier-
silinder moter kar tiepe enjin en loop baie
voordelig op parafien. Hy voorsien ’n uit-
stekende handelbare krag so essensiële vir mak-
simum boor bekwaamheid en hy is totaal inge-
sluit vir alle-weer beskerming. Kortliks die
resultate ontvang is: Vinniger Boor, besparing
van tyd, minder kapitaal nodig, en laer werk
onkoste.

Ons hou voorrade aan van
Boor en Vis Gereedskap
Boor Tou en Sandpomp Lyn.

MALCOMESS
BEPERK.