

AS:

As: 'Tom Blake' started 1920. x 1940
 Patent # 1,872,230. 1931
 As: 'L. A. Ladder Co' s 1940. x 1941

OWNER: The late Tom Blake (1902-1994)

FACTORY:

LA County. s 1920. x 1941
 Some were manufactured by Thomas Rogers. s 1932. x 1939
 Some were manufactured by the Catalina Equipment Co.. late 1940's. early 1950's
 Tom Blake pulled his name from these boards due to inferior construction.

Note: For more detailed information, see "TOM BLAKE: The Uncommon Journey Of A Pioneer Waterman" by Gary Lynch and Malcolm Gault Williams, Croul Family Foundation.

BLANKS:

solid. 1927. 1930
 solid, chambered. mid 1920's. 1930
 Patterned after the Hawaiian royal olos, 16 foot, 150 lb redwood planks were chambered with nearly 100 4" long holes drilled through the deck, then the top and bottom were covered with thin plywood. The finished product weighed about 100 lbs. ?
 Folding, inflatable; 10'+, 9 lbs. s 1933. x 1935
 Inflated with a bicycle pump, these boards were kept rigid with overlapping wooden side pieces.
 Hawaiian Hollow Surfboard: **Figure 1**. s 1932. x 1939
 12'10" x 21-1/2" x 5-1/2", 44 lbs; African mahogany planking by Robert Mitchell.



Figure 1

Tom Blake Paddle boards by L.A. Ladder: **Figure 2**. s 1940. x 1941
 Clear, vertical grain spruce; Colors: maroon, blue or green with white trim; Natural spar varnish decks.
 9' to 14', 36 to 70 lbs., galvanized nails or brass screws, brass plug & registered trademark label



Figure 2

Square Tail Hawaiian Board: **Figure 3**. s 1940. x 1941
 11'9"; Same construction as TB Paddle boards above.



Figure 3

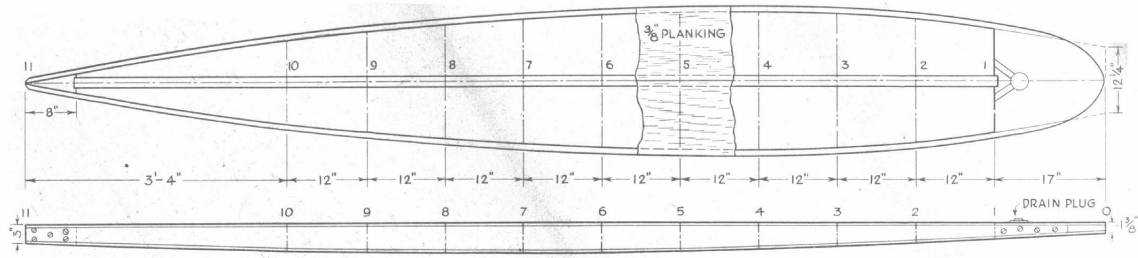
Hollow, plywood planking 9' to 14'. 1934. 1941

SHAPES:

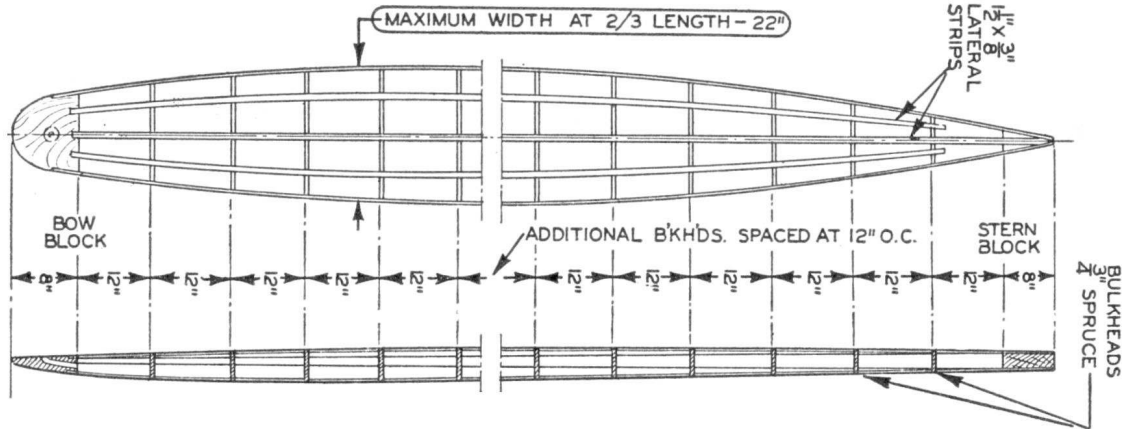
Breaker Board, 5'6", with nose rocker. 1940. 1941
 Paddle boards: 1920. 1934

PLANS: The following plans were published and available to the general public.

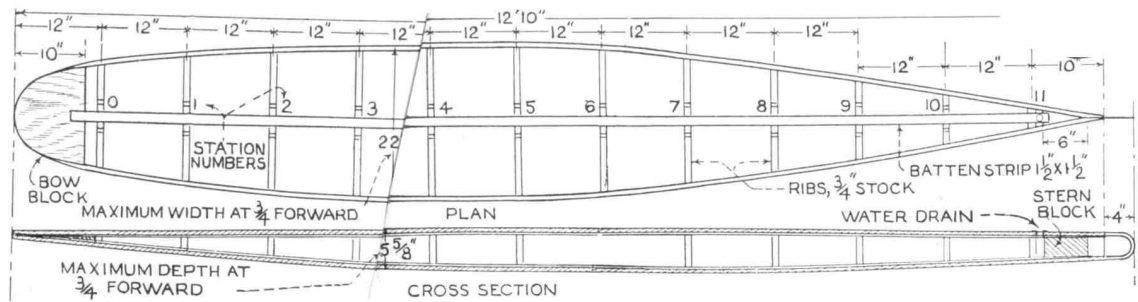
Popular Science. 1933



Popular Mechanic and Inventions. 1933



Popular Mechanics (Need better image). 1937



LOGOS / PLUGS:

- Figure 7**. 1934. 1939
- Figure 8**. c 1932. c 1939
Cast brass with drain plug on boards by Thomas Rogers 'U.S. Pat 1,872,230 - Tom Blake', 5 holes
- Figure 9**. s 1940. x 1941
Cast brass with drain plug on boards by L.A. Ladder Co. 'U.S. Pat 1,872,230 - Tom Blake - Mfr'd by Los Angeles Ladder Co.', 5 holes.
- Figure 10** late 1940's. early 1950's
Cast brass with drain plug on boards by Catalina Co. '(US Pat 1,872,230 - Tom Blake - Catalina Equip Co. - Los Angeles, Calif)', 5 holes.
- Figure 11**. late 1940's. early 1950's
Cast brass with drain plug on boards by Catalina Co. 'U.S. Pat (1,872,230) Tom Blake - Catalina Equip Co. - Los Angeles, Calif.' 3 hole,



Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11

FINISH: Multiple coats of marine spar varnish. 1920. 1940's
 FINS: Some carried early fins, see **Figure 12**. 1935. 1940's



Figure 12

NUMBERING: None reported to date.

We would like to express our thanks to Gary Lynch for his contributions to this profile.