

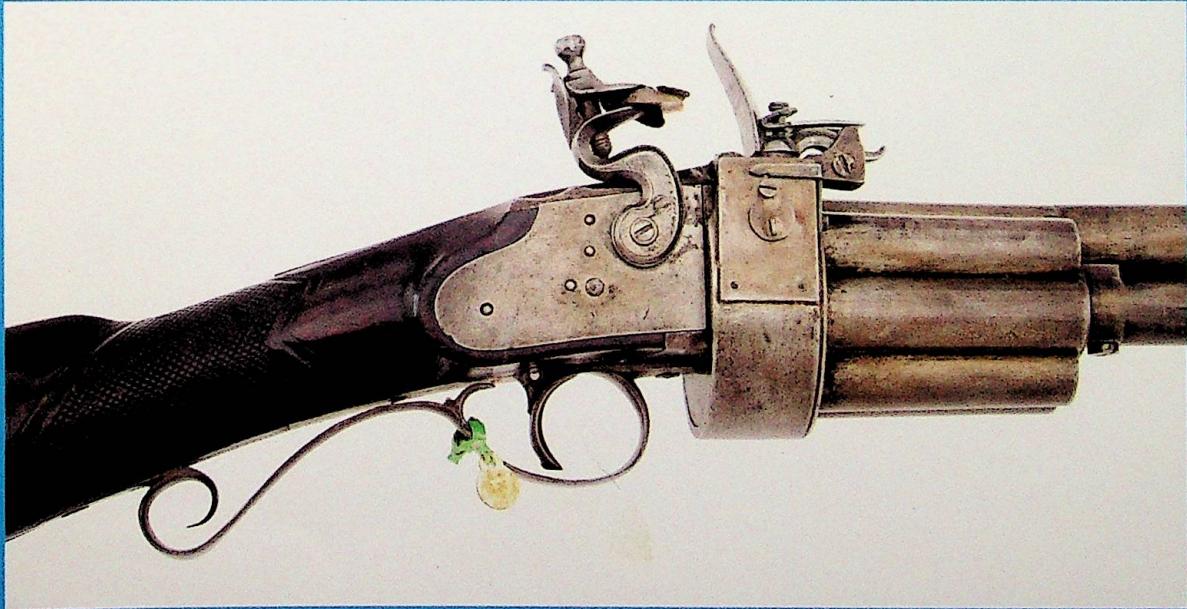
U.S. MARTIAL ARMS Collector

and *Springfield Research Newsletter*



Number 157 December 2018

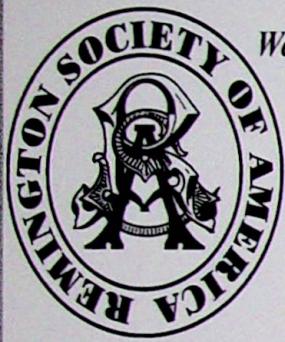
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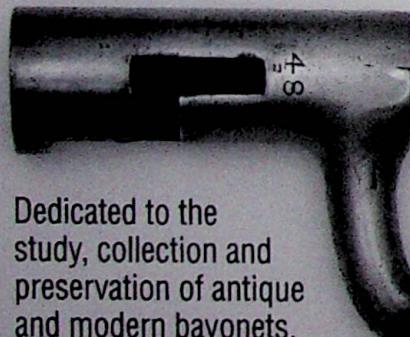
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2nd Quarter 2011

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U.S. MARTIAL ARMS COLLECTOR



And

Springfield Research Service Newsletter

Number 157

December 2018

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MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

SRS has reviewed many more U.S. Military arms from World War 11 and the U.S. Indian Wars.

SRS has searched data for the United States Marine Corps USMC rifles that came from the U.S. Justice Department and the Springfield Arsenal work to upgrade the Sporting Models to USMC specifications. The 1942 effort included the new barrels dated 1942, new bolts with 1942 SA markings and other stock and sight work.

We have reviewed data on Model 1911 pistols that were issued to Texas units. Other efforts were for M1 Garands and 1903A3 rifles. New serial numbers have been found.

We reviewed notes on early cavalry units of the American Indian Wars in the U.S.

SRS is reviewing serial numbers and exploring ways to search the U.S. Archives for more data. Some of the data reviewed showed information on the following units.

2nd Cavalry data includes the activity on Friday, March 17, 1876, in the Montana Territory, United States. The Cheyenne Indian attack commanded by Colonel Joseph J. Reynolds resulted in the Great Sioux War of 1876. It is noted that historians considered this battle as poorly initiated and that it made the Lakota Sioux and Cheyenne hardened against the U.S. The military tried to force the Indians to sell the Black Hills and live on a reservation.

3rd Cavalry regiment troopers in 1876 were used in the Little Big Horn Campaign. On June 17, 1876, ten companies of the 3rd Cavalry fought in the Battle of Rosebud Creek. This was the largest battle between

the Army and the Indians in the history of the American West.

4th Cavalry was the most successful. On 26–27 September, it survived a Comanche attack at the Tule Canyon, and, on September 28, the 4th went to Palo Duro Canyon and destroyed Comanche, Kiowa, and Cheyenne villages. Commander Mackenzie made two other expeditions onto the High Plains. On November 3 they had the last fight with the Comanches. They killed two and captured nineteen Indians in the spring of 1875. Mackenzie and elements of the 4th Cavalry were sent to Fort Sill to control the Southern Plains Indians. The Indians in Mexico marauded Texas. In 1878 General Sherman, Mackenzie and six companies of the 4th Cavalry went to Fort Clark and started expeditions into Mexico to restore peace in the region of South Texas.

5th Cavalry. After the Little Big Horn in 1876, the 5th was sent to fight the Northern Cheyenne and Sioux under Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull. The unit avenged the deaths of General Custer and 264 of his men. This campaign resulted in the Battle of Slimm Buttes. During March the Regiment made the most brutal forced marches in American military history.

The 5th Cavalry left the American West in 1898 for Tampa, Florida. Only Troop A made it to Puerto Rico to fight against the Spanish in the Battle of Silva Heights, at Las Marias and at Hormigueros.

6th Cavalry. September 6, 1873 a drunken row among 6th cavalrymen in Hays, Kansas had two troopers killed. The 6th Cavalry was based in the Southwest and served in

the Apache Campaigns. Capt Whitside and two Troops of the 6th Cavalry founded Fort Huachuca in 1877.

7th Cavalry. On June 25, 1876, Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer was killed in the Battle of the Little Bighorn, Montana, along with 267 soldiers. The 7th also was in other battles such as Canyon Creek, Montana, on September 13, 1877; the Battle of Bear Paw, Montana, on September 30, 1877 – October 5, 1877, and the Battle of Crow Agency, Montana on November 5, 1887. On December 29, 1890, the regiment fought in the Wounded Knee Massacre, in South Dakota, and December 30, 1890 was involved in the Drexel Mission Fight, in South Dakota.

SRS will try to obtain more data from the unit records at the U.S. Archives in Washington, D.C.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

U.S. Postal First Class Mail is used. Please send any corrections of addresses to us at any time. We are receiving more post office notices that mail cannot be delivered. We have no way to find a new address without a forwarding address.

Our policy of putting the number indicating the last issue of a subscription has had some mishaps that we are correcting. We want to correct any data that is overlooked or missing. Please send comments. There are some SRS products that are out of stock.

Please send us any corrections for address changes, holding subscriptions, or temporary addresses.

CURRENT ISSUE

Issue number 157 dated December 2018 is current. Mailing data is sent to our printing facility for December 1, 2018 and we rely on the Postal Service to deliver first class mail as soon as they are able.

ADVERTISING

Our advertising deadline is usually the Friday two weeks before the date of a publication. The projected mailing dates are the first week of March, June, September, and December of each year.

There are four quarterly issues each year.

SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH LETTERS

The basic letter with data from our files is \$50 postpaid; sales letters that may have a document are \$65.00; and research letters run from \$175.00 up. There are some instances where research requires us to spend days at U.S. Government buildings. These efforts may require additional costs for rare or historic weapons.

Research letters include USMC letters, OSS documents, 1st, 2nd, 5th, and 7th Cavalry, and Spanish American War units. Other unique units may require special research. It requires time to travel to government facilities and comply with their rules for handling of documents. A basic letter is data from our in- house files.

The data in our files is limited, and there is no way for us to hold the thousands or even millions of pages of government data. A research letter requires us to travel to a government facility and request to search and retrieve the specific copies needed for research.

This includes checking the U.S. Government files to make sure they exist and are still available for review.

The size of government data files is overwhelming, and we cannot duplicate all of the millions of pages. We try to copy the specifics and include them with any SRS letter.

In many cases the data may have a peculiar size and must be handled, verified, and copied according to government regulations. This may also require working with armed guards, checking our identification, and special stamps for security classification or other rules. Special documents require more time and may have higher costs. Recent efforts require special work to copy degraded original documents. Some papers are no longer available to copy and some documents have been moved to other government buildings.

COMMENTS AND INPUTS

We always want comments. Please send to editor@usmartialarmscollector.com or use the U.S. mail at SRS Box 126, Cabin John, MD 20818. The mail may take an extended time.

We may also print some data and ask for comments from our readers. There are a lot of very knowledgeable collectors with a wealth of information and sightings of rare weapons.

SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH DATA BASE

Our efforts are based on data from United States documents in U.S. Archives and other military sources. All serial number information comes from government documents. There are many weapon documents that come from sources that describe a weapon without a specific serial number.

More documents may exist and we continually look for information.

SHIPPING COMMENTS

SRS uses the U.S. Postal Service for magazine delivery and delivery of most of our products.

If you use PAYPAL, please check off the correct boxes for your specific instructions. We receive complaints from both subscriber and PAYPAL. A subscriber may accidentally check off the automatic payment box and does not want that service.

This problem can be corrected by the subscriber by contacting PAYPAL and correcting their ordering status. SRS cannot change or start an automatic payment for a subscriber.

SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH SERVICE SUPPORT

SRS uses RACKNER SOLUTIONS for our software support and protection of our database. <https://racknersolutions.com> More efforts continue and support is needed for software and other computer efforts.

LETTERS WRITTEN

Type: U. S. Spencer Carbine, Serial Number 54373 Issued to Company M, 1st Alabama Volunteer Cavalry in November 1864. The Spencer carbine was issued to William W. Peake, age 16, 5 feet 9 inch tall, dark complexion, blue eyes, and black hair. He was a farmer from Macon County, Georgia. Peake was enlisted for 3 years by Capt. Lonney on November 18, 1863. He had other entries from his unit on December 10, 1863 at Camp Davies. There is another notation that he was assigned to the 5th Tennessee Cavalry. William Peake is also listed in the Prisoner of War records that show that he was captured near Richmond, Virginia.

Type: U. S. Burnside Carbine, Serial Number 2697. Issued to Company B, 11th New York Volunteer Cavalry on June 22, 1865. The Burnside carbine was issued to

"C. Gannel". Copies of original documents that have been photographed under U.S. Archives directions are attached. They include Company B Ordnance for 11th New York unit, Order Book for Company B, New York 11th Cavalry, Ordnance types for Company B including Burnside carbines, a second Ordnance note for Burnside carbines, copy of "Gannel's" name and serial number of Burnside carbine, close up of "Gannel's" name and serial number, roster headings of trooper's equipment categories, trooper "Gannel's" first name, trooper's full name, and copy of Commander's name and list of equipment.

Type: U.S., Cal. 30, Krag, Model 1896 Carbine, Serial number 34644. Issued to 3rd Cavalry, Troop B, Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. 1897. Capt. D. H. Boughton was responsible for the weapon. It was reported stolen on October 20, 1897. The judge advocate, Lt. Arthur Tayer, reported this incident on November 9, 1897. The Carbine number 34644 was valued at \$19.00 and a board of inquiry was convened. There was no conclusive action; and two personnel were mentioned but no record of a conviction.

Type: Merrill Carbine, serial number 12732. Issued to Company G, 7th Indiana Volunteer Cavalry 1863. Merrill carbine number 12732 was issued to Samuel H. Wells, 18 years old, 5 foot 7 inches tall, dark complexion, black eyes, light hair, born in Rushler, Indiana. He was a was a farmer. He was enlisted on May 12, 1863, by Walter Scott for 3 years. He was last paid on February, 1865 by Major Osgood. U.S. Archive documents are attached to letter. Civil War operations for the 7th Regiment, Union City, Tennessee,

1863 Paris, Tennessee. December, 1863, action at Huntington, Tennessee. December 1864, expedition Trenton, Tennessee, Smith's Expedition Okolona, Mississippi. West Point, February. April, Sturgis' Expedition Ripley, Miss. Sturgis' Expedition Guntown, Miss. June Ripley, White's Station. July Action, Port Gibson, Miss., Expedition to Oxford, Miss. August, Tallahatchie River, Hurricane Creek, Oxford, Lamar, Colliersville, White Station. October, Memphis, Tennessee, Nonconah Creek. March, Arkansas and Missouri in pursuit of Price. September, Action at Little Blue, Mo. October, Grierson's Expedition from Memphis to destroy Mobile & Ohio Railroad. December, 1864 Capture of Verona, Egypt Station. December, Expedition from Memphis to Marion, Ark. Expedition from Memphis into northern Mississippi. 1865, moved to Alexandria, La. June. marched to Hempstead, Texas. August duty at Austin, Texas, until February 1866.

Type: Starr Carbine, serial number 10875 issued to Company F, 13th Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, May 18, 1864. Starr Carbine was issued to William J. Morrow age 18, 5 foot 6 inches tall, fair complexion, fair hair, and blue eyes. He was a farmer and enlisted on June 26, 1864 for 3 years by A. J. Alelen. Civil War battles and squirmishes for 13th Volunteers: April 2, 1864, Okolona, Ark., April 3, 1864, Little Missouri River, Ark. April 4, 1864, Prairie de Anne, Ark., April 10, 11 and 12, 1864; Camden, Ark., April 15, 1864, Jenken's Ferry, Ark., April 30, 1864, Cross Roads, Ark., September 11, 1864; Mount Elba, Ark., October 18, 1864, Douglas Landing, Ark., February 22, 1865; and Monticello, Ark., March 28, 1865.

Type: Rifle, U.S., Cal. .30, Sporting Model, Serial Number 1 264 573. Sold to Earl Genereaux, Port Clinton, Ohio. September 11, 1924.

Type: Rifle, U.S., Cal. .30, Model, Serial Number 1 498 669 was sold to Earl Genereaux, Port Clinton, Ohio. September 11, 1924.

Type: Rifle, U.S., Cal. .30, Sporting Model NRA Type, Serial Number 1 407 299 was sold to Leslie O. Marvin, 1793 West 45th Street, Cleveland, Ohio. April 23, 1934.

Type: Pistol, U.S. Model 1851 Navy, Cal., serial number 142356, issued to Company M, 10th Michigan Volunteer Cavalry, 1864.

Type: Carbine, U.S., Hotchkiss Rifle, serial number 1534, Shipped to Springfield Arsenal from Navy Yard. July 9, 1879. Colt Pistol, Caliber .32. Issued to Brigadier General E. F. Graham. Issue record: 1155, Serial number 561966.

Type: Rifle, U.S., Cal. .30, Sporting Type, Serial Number 1 367 830. Sold to A. Nielsen Santa Rosa, California. February 5, 1932. Sharps, Serial Number 13,131, issued to Company E, 1st California Volunteer Cavalry.

Type: Sharps, Serial Number 13,138, issued to Company C, 1st California Volunteer Cavalry, February, 1862.

Type: Sharps, Serial Number 13,197, issued to Company C, 1st California Volunteer Cavalry, 1862.

The rifles are U.S. Krags.

Type: U.S., Cal. 30, Krag Rifle, Model 1898, Serial number 118 749. Issued to Company D, 3rd Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, 1899.

Type: Rifle, U.S., Henry, Number 2101. Issued to Company H 3rd Volunteer Infantry May 17, 1865.



Type: Rifle, Cal. .22 M-1922M1, Serial Number 8314. Sold to V. G. Walmor, Marion, Ind. October 6, 1928.

The following is a photo of the 2nd Oregon Infantry in the Spanish American War 1898.

SERIAL NUMBERS OF PRE 1876 SPRINGFIELD .45 CALIBER MODEL 1873 CARBINES

The following is a list of some of our serial numbers, of early carbines issued by U.S. units in the American Indian wars in the United States.

Serial Number 16362 Model 1873 Carbine July 14, 1878 Issued to COMPANY H 9TH CAVALRY

Serial Number 16390 Model 1873 Carbine June 13, 1879 Issued to TROOP F 3RD CAVALRY

Serial Number 16390 Model 1873 Carbine July 12, 1879 Issued to 3rd CAVALRY

Serial Number 16447 Model 1873 Carbine November 8, 1880 Issued to 8TH CAVALRY

Serial Number 16451 Model 1873 Carbine June 13, 1879 Issued to TROOP F 3RD CAVALRY

Serial Number 16457 Model 1873 Carbine July 12, 1879 Issued to
TROOP F 3RD CAVALRY

Serial Number 16586 Model 1873 Carbine May 15, 1876 Issued to 8TH CAVALRY
(DAMAGED) SURRENDERED

Serial Number 16608 Model 1873 Carbine April 25, 1877 Recovered TONGUE RIVER

Serial Number 16685 Model 1873 Carbine June 25, 1876 Issued to CO H 71H CAV
(DAMAGED)

Serial Number 16685 Model 1873 Carbine August 4, 1877 DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA
(SHIPPED TO SPRINGFIELD ARMORY)

Serial Number 16758 Model 1873 Carbine April 1, 1878 FORT KEOGH (SURVEYED)

Serial Number 16828 Model 1873 Carbine January 3, 1877 Issued to 3RD CAVALRY
(STOLEN)

Serial Number 16830 Model 1873 Carbine April 5, 1876 Issued to 8TH CAVALRY
(DAMAGED)

Serial Number 16861 Model 1873 Carbine July 12, 1879 Issued to 3RD CAVALRY

Serial Number 16929 Model 1873 Carbine April 29, 1879 Issued to TROOP A 5TH
CAVALRY

Serial Number 16981 Model 1873 Carbine June 4, 1879 Issued to TROOP L 5TH CAVALRY

Serial Number 16981 Model 1873 Carbine July 12, 1879 Issued to TROOP L 5TH
CAVALRY

Serial Number 16987 Model 1873 Carbine April 29, 1879 Issued to 9TH INFANTRY

Serial Number 17025 Model 1873 Carbine SMITHSONIAN C14134

Serial Number 17030 Model 1873 Carbine September 5, 1876 "WHITE-ROBE"
(TURNED IN)

Serial Number 17093 Model 1873 Carbine July 12, 1879 Issued to 3RD CAVALRY

*The serial numbers listed above are all early manufactured and the documents referenced
show the date and use of the weapon. The guns had other uses and possibly other units that
have not been identified.*

M1903 Rear Sight Replacements of the Past

- Most were discarded ...but not forgotten -

By William R. Hansen

Forward: The 1930's were destined to become the last hurrah for supporters of Springfield's long time Model 1905 Rear Sight. For over 20 years after adoption of the M1903, members of the shooting community, both commercially and inside the Ordnance Department futilely pursued upgrading an essentially obsolete 19th century morphology serving both battle and target objectives. Many familiar candidates came close... the Bassell and Blenkner, Nash, Lyman 48 and the Hatcher proposals to name a few. But, none would ever overcome the sentiments of an intransigent Springfield Armory (SA) bureaucracy on a tight budget.

However, another proposal not as well known by the '03 collecting community came close. To lower cost, it was based on a motive to improve the 1905 rear sight while better serving the basic operational fundamentals directed by Ordnance guidelines. But, like all the others...even though promoted as a win-win, it couldn't quite make the grade. But, it wasn't a loser either. The interesting thing is the sight has never received much collector attention outside of a few paragraphs in Brophy's incomparable M1903 tome... having been dubbed the "*Warner Objective Sight*".

Introduction: The so-called **Warner** sight was not a hastily conceived proposal. It had been designed years before by Robert Lyon Warner who became an astute businessman in the banking, securities and investment industry. However, Warner was far more than that. He was also a brilliant "Mechanical Engineer" who graduated from Cornell University in 1892. He was one of the few multi-talented and gifted who could never quite subordinate his natural creative genius for inventing things.

However, he needed someone to translate his current invention into reality, particularly for the U.S. Rifle, M1903. The individual he eventually chose just happened to be one of the M1903 rifle's historical stalwarts, the venerable Adolph O. Niedner, gunsmith extraordinaire. They both lived in Middlesex County of Massachusetts at the time and linked up in the early 1900's when Warner was still the General Manager of the Boston office of Westinghouse Electrical Manufacturing Company. Warner lived in Concord and Niedner in nearby Malden. (**Note:** For clarity, it is noted that Warner was not the same individual involved with the vintage 1908-1913 Warner-Swasey Telescope

fate ended up just another non-adoption.

Discarded But Not Forgotten: By year 1932, serious interest and pursuit for any kind of metallic rear sight replacement for M1903 had all but dissipated. The die was cast. The M1 Garand semi-auto was well on its way to become the new standard replacing the bolt action M1903. Nevertheless, that didn't mean such sights found to have potential were either altogether trashed or forgotten by the Springfield Armory (SA). The SA retained many of them for reference purposes long after rejecting their practical usefulness.

The Real Thing Discovered: The reader's attention is directed to pg. 27 of the last issue of the *U. S. Martial Arms Collector*, No. 156. The SRS Editor included a letter as a "Collectors Note" from J. W. JOYES, Commanding Colonel - Springfield Armory dated December 23, 1932. JOYES had located an aggregation of "miscellaneous non-standard" M1903 rifles in both storage and the museum. He wanted to know what to do with them. He was of the opinion that some of the serviceable ones could be overhauled and returned to duty. However, the list also contained 48 unserviceable rifles with rear sight candidates that had been tested and evaluated over many years, but ultimately rejected for replacing the M1905 standard. Among this group were 25 sights containing R. L Warner's proposal.

Of the 25 sights listed, 21 were affixed to guns equipped with both a Lyman and Warner sight on the same rifle. The remaining 4 were assembled with the Warner sight only. There is no known explanation for why 21 of these rifles contained the product of two different manufacturers. However, rational speculation suggests that two very competitive sight proposals could more ideally be scrupulously compared if installed on the same rifle.

One of these rifles is believed to have been recently located for illustration purposes. The two photos following on the next page identify it as SN 886180. It contains both Lyman 48 and Warner rear sights, thus dating government trial testing to the early post WWI period. Little is known about prior ownership except that it was initially purchased by a former U. S. Marine from the Army.

While the photos speak for themselves, a closing observation is made that 21 essentially identically set up rifles buried in storage are a lot of rifles to be declared "unserviceable". To render such a number to no longer having worth or value outside of parts salvage seems to imply an extraordinary standoff between these two sight manufacturers. Archival records have yet to disclose what happened to all fore-listed 25 rifles. We keep searching, but chances are we'll likely never know.

Epilogue: SRS readers are often curious about the personhood of those behind the

topic of discussion. A brief biography of **Robert Lyon Warner** follows:

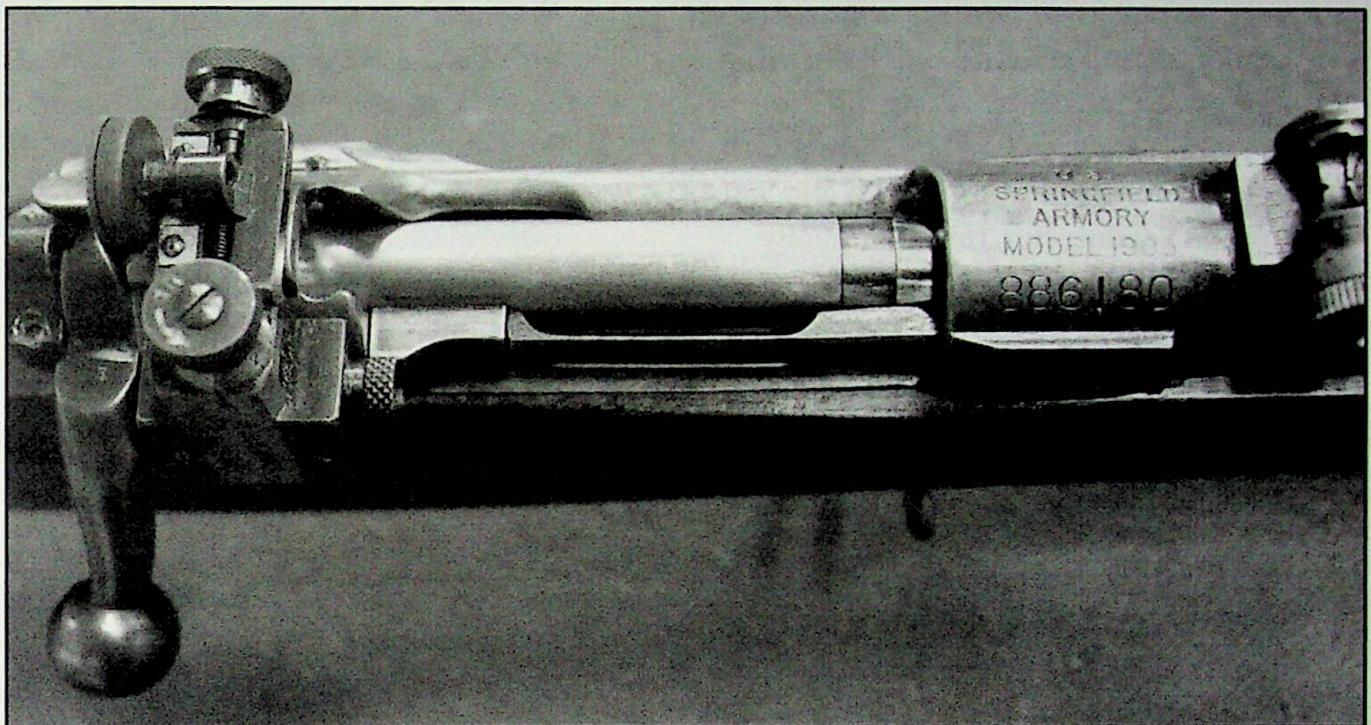


Photo No. 1: Lyman - Warner Sight, SN 886,180

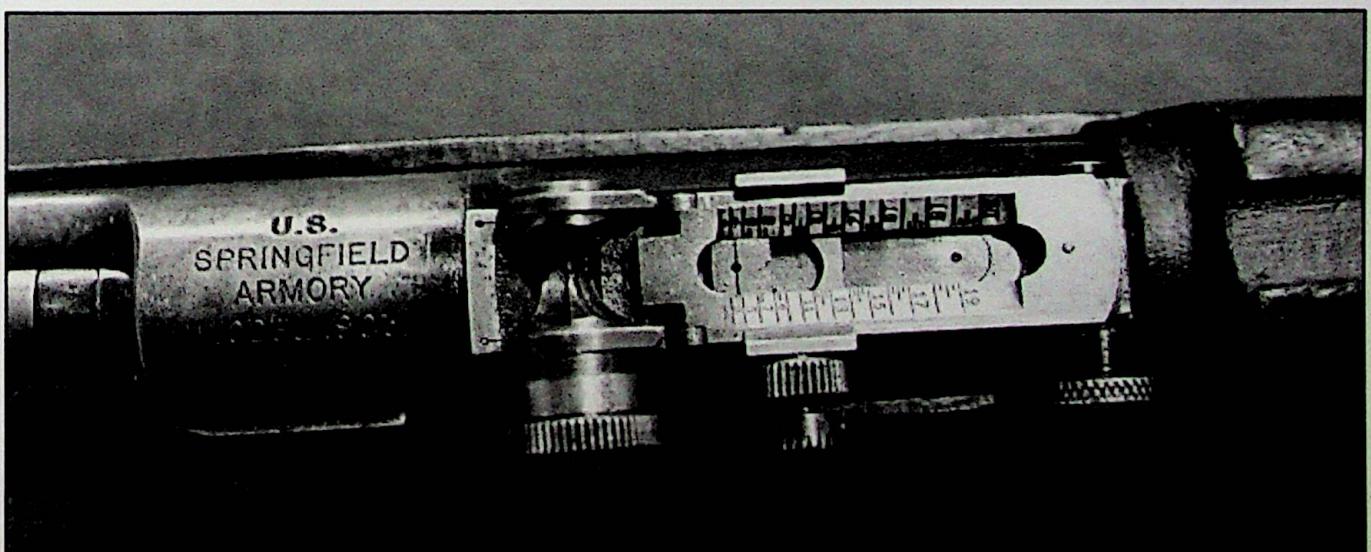
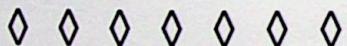


Photo No. 2: Lyman - Warner Sight, SN 886,180

Warner was born May 19, 1869 in Kansas City, MO. His parents were simple folk who moved around a lot, but were very responsible. Warner's father was a carpenter and construction contractor among other talents. Along life's journey, the family lived in Portland, Oregon where young Warner grew up and went to High School. But, they eventually moved to Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts in 1888 to start a new life. Warner was raised to pursue dreams his father never was privy to. Moreover, he clearly evidenced superior abilities.

He was able to enroll in the Cornell University in Ithaca, New York in 1888, wherein he graduated in 1892 with honors and a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. During his 4 year tenure, he was elected as president of his class for 3 years along with other significant involvement, including editor of the school paper. But, it was also the place and occasion for which he met his future wife and soul-mate.

After graduation, Warner and Anne R. Pearson (Alpha Phi)... originally from Evansville, Indiana were married on November 2, 1893 in Chicago, IL. They produced 5 children over 14 years...the eldest son of whom became Under-Secretary of the U.S. Navy. As previously noted, Warner worked many years for General Electric as its Boston General Manager. He eventually went into independent business forming a partnership known as Warner, Tucker & Co. - Investment Securities in Boston. His success in creativity, banking and investments had become widely noteworthy until untimely health issues resulted in his death on March 25, 1929 at 60 years of age. Anne lived a long life as his widow, meeting her maker in 1953 at the age of 82.



COLT SINGLE ACTION ARMY MODEL

Over 37, 000 Single Action Army Cavalry revolvers were purchased by the United States Military. Approximately 15, 000 were rebuilt to the artillery Model. The original 7 1/2 inch barrel was changed to 5 1/2 inches with extensive rebuilding for the military. The existence of this famous pistol is remarkable and models exist today.

The SAA shown is a 5 1/2 inch artillery model with all matching numbers except the

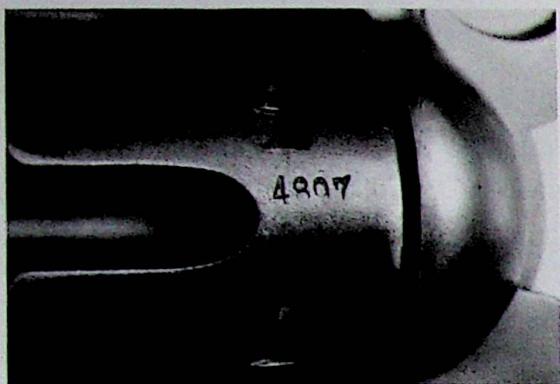
Courtesy: Dave Bushing

Below: Serial number 4857

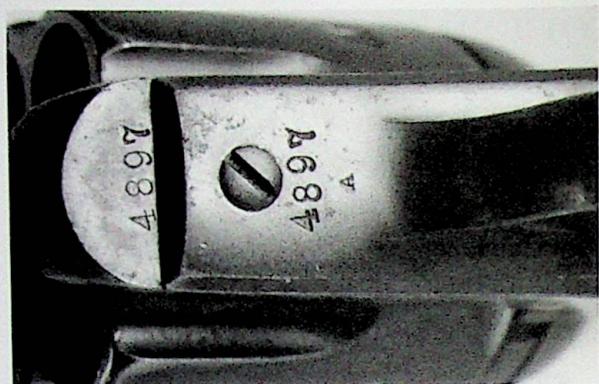
barrel. It is rare that the original parts retain the original matching serial numbers.

During the early days in the West the American Indian Wars were very active. The U.S. Army Cavalry used the SAA Colt revolvers in most of the historic battles including The Little Big Horn, Wounded Knee and others. The pistol number 4857 was manufactured in 1874. The Army issued many to various units such as the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 10th and other cavalry and military units. Some were reissued for the Spanish American War.





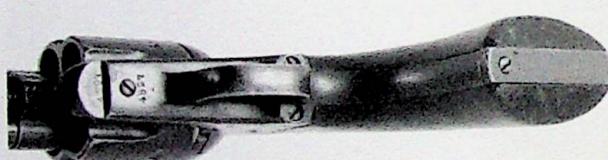
Above: Cylinder markings 4807 on outside near cylinder notch and flute.



Above: Frame and trigger guard matching serial numbers 4897 and A on trigger guard.



Above: Frame markings U.S. Sept. 15, 1871, July 2, 1872 Patent dates and U.S.



Above: Matching numbers on frame, trigger guard and back strap number 4897.



Above: Matching serial number 4897 on trigger guard.



Above: U.S. Markings

The following Single Action Army revolvers are in the SRS data base.

The numbers list some of the extensive American Indian War activities during the years from 1873 and later. Few records survive with a complete history of all of the issue documents. However, it can be assumed that almost all of the original revolvers saw some service with military units.

The serial numbers that SRS has in our records include the following serial numbers.

Number 4707 was issued to Troop E, 11th U. S. Volunteer Cavalry on February 25, 1900. It was issued to another unit in prior years.

Number 4751 was issued to Troop A, 1st Nevada Volunteer Cavalry in 1898 for the Spanish American War. It was issued originally to another unit in the 1870's.

Number 4865 was issued to Company H, 2nd Cavalry on June 2nd, 1874, and was reissued on April 1, 1878.

Number 4878 was issued to the famous American Indian "Fool's Beam" on September 5, 1876. It was in another Army unit before and after 1874.

Number 4886 was issued to Fort Snelling on August 28, 1882, and saw service in the 1870's and after 1882.

Number 4916 was issued to the Santo Thomas Police Department on July 16, 1901 during the Spanish American War in Puerto

Rico. It was issued several times in previous years during the 1870's.

Number 4947 was issued to Company H, 17th Infantry on March 1, 1889 and was issued in prior years.

Number 5013 was issued to the 2nd Artillery and inspected by Springfield Armory on October 22, 1900. It was in service from 1874.

Number 5131 was issued to Troop A, 1st Nevada Volunteer Cavalry in 1898 for the Spanish American War. It was in service since 1874 and converted to an artillery model.

The Cavalry requirements in the early days of Colt production were for units throughout the United States and other countries. The Colt SAA revolvers saw service in all capacities including cavalry units, infantry, artillery and small and large combat units in all military ranks.

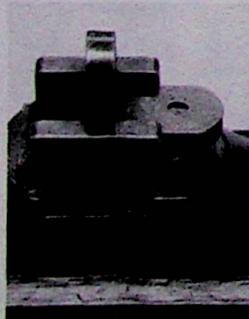
Many records do not include serial numbers only the description and caliber of a pistol.

The Colt documents show deliveries of number of weapons. The unit and individual records have disappeared. SRS has found serial numbers that show a single number in various documents such as legal entries, clothing allowances, payroll notes and others correspondences. There are no structured serial number documents. Some documents can be carefully photographed under armed guards. We expect this to increase the work to find new numbers.

U. S. M1 CARBINE TEST, SHOP MODEL MANUFACTURED BY GENERAL MOTORS INLAND DIVISION

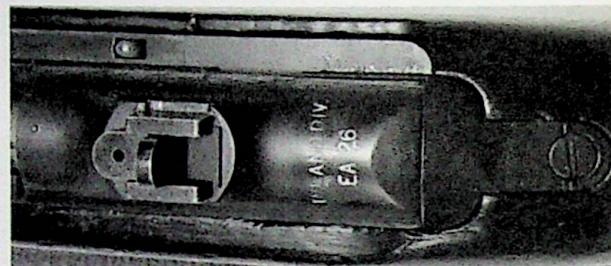
The following Carbine serial number EA 26 was manufactured by the Inland Division. The serial numbers were assigned in a small block of special serial numbers by the United States Army Ordnance Division during World War 11. The assignment of numbers was allocated according to contractors that produced carbines and other weapons to avoid duplication of weapon serial numbers. The special numbers using E prefixes were very small and allowed an inventory control and manufacturing accounting. Specific funding control for contractors was reported to Congress for the allocation of funds.

Special serial numbers were also assigned to allow modifications and production changes to be offered to Springfield Armory and other Ordnance facilities. There were strict accountings of all funds for weapon production. Provisions were made for companies such as General Motors to submit new designs using accounting procedures in company accounting. All weapons were accounted for as standard military manufacture and special shop models, presentation, and company or military test models for individual parts and complete weapons.

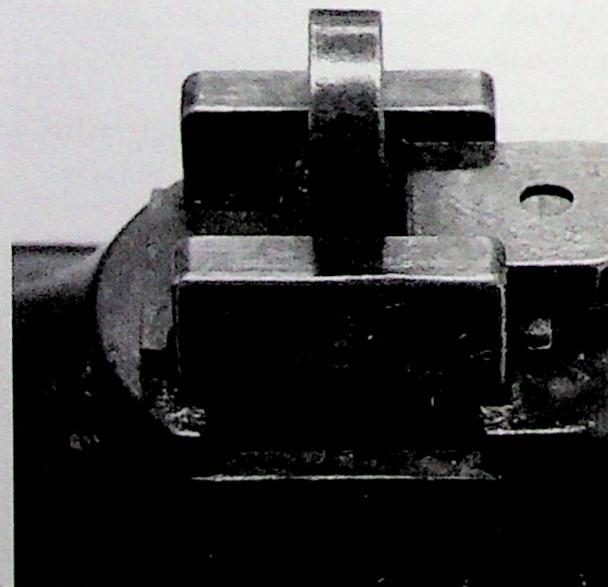


Left; Side Rear Sight

Below: Receiver with serial number EA 26 assigned to Inland Division as a test and shop model.



The rear sight is shown with the shop machining with no sand blasting and sharp original machining. The quality is perfect and the gun was finished in a black General Motors finish. Each part of the rear sight was perfect quality machining.



Above: Right side of rear sight



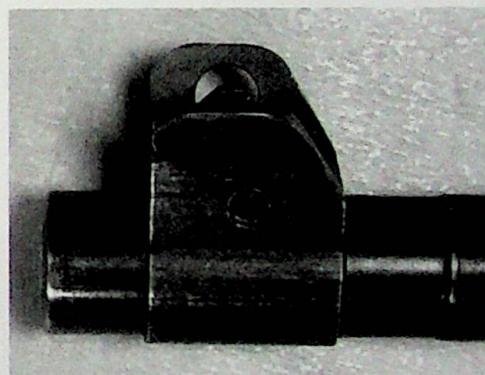
Above: Barrel Band and Machined Screw



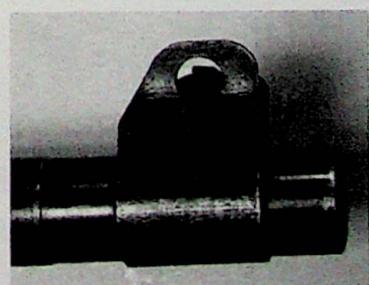
Above: Sling Swivel with Machined Screw
Cloth Sling, Crisp machining and stamping
and machine marks on barrel. No bayonet
fixture.



Above: Barrel marked Inland MFG.
Division General Motors 4-43



Above: Left side Front Sight



Above: Right side Front Sight



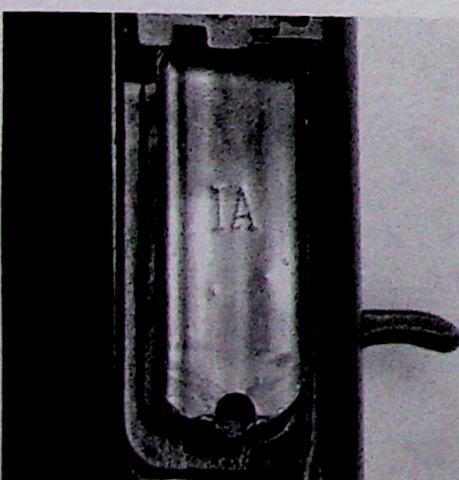
Above: Shop Model with short M1 Clip



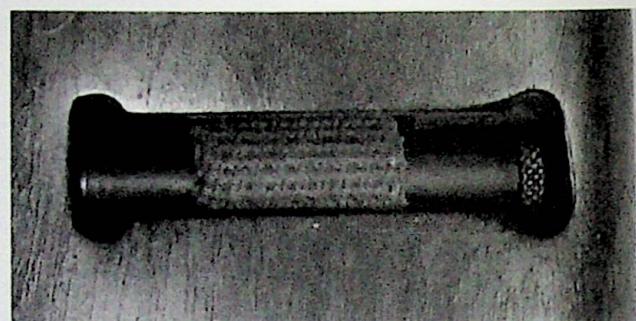
Above: Shop Model with clip inserted, barrel band, and front sight.



Above: Trigger guard with Safety and Clip Release.



Above: Bottom of Short Clip Marked 1A.



Above: Oiler and sling in position in M1 carbine stock. Sling is fabric with steel oiler and a very sharp stock cut out for sling assembly.

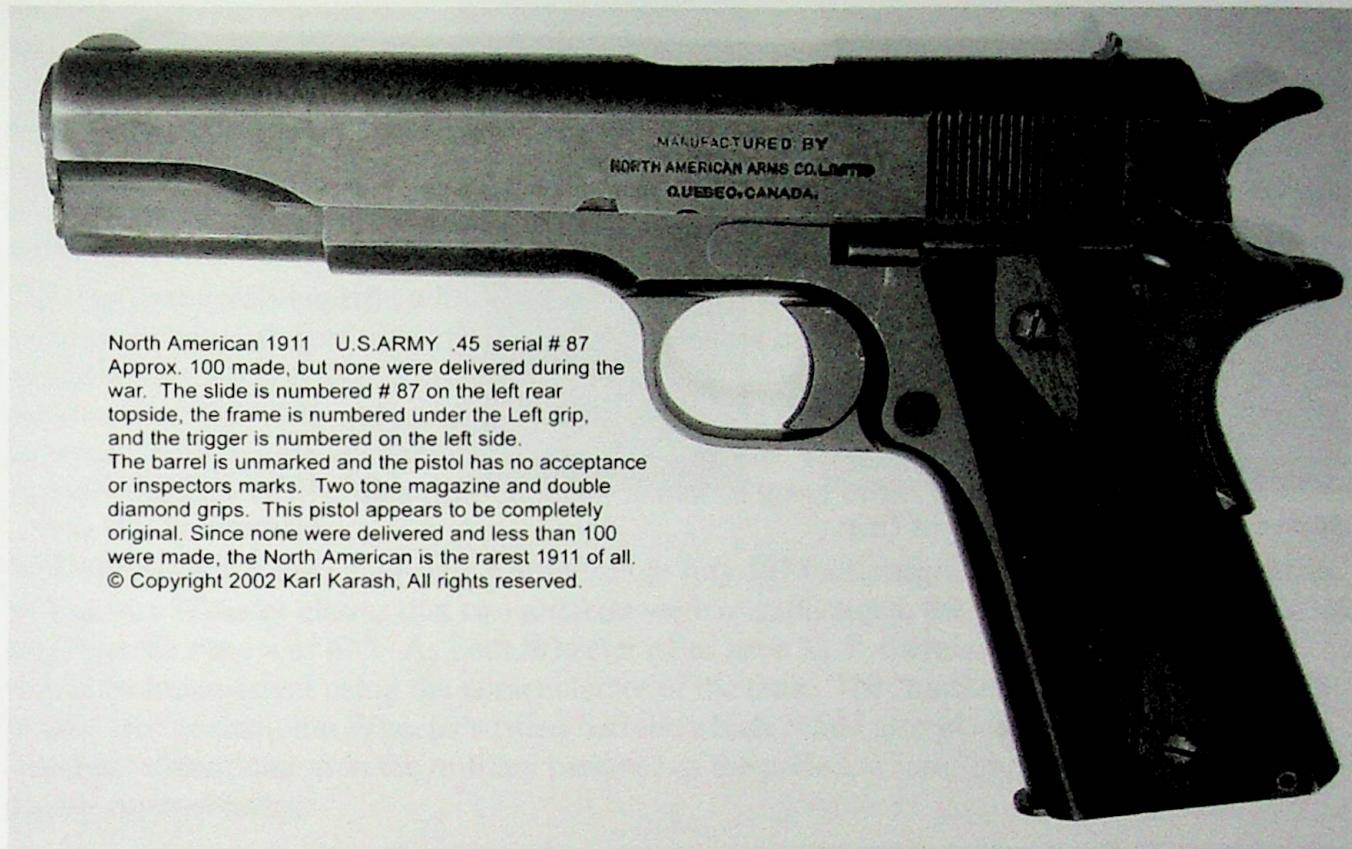
The special M1 Carbines are very rare and the existence of an original is almost unknown in original condition. SRS has found information on some of these serial numbers, but this example is the only one with a serial number that we have matched with a known rifle. There may be others in private collections.

The condition is very rare as this rifle has the original General Motors black finish with no parkerization. There is no buffering or abrasive work on the original machine surfaces.

We have found no other shop models of this type with a short magazine. There are no parts marked as test or shop model.

The carbine may have been left in General Motors Corporate Headquarters for display or history.

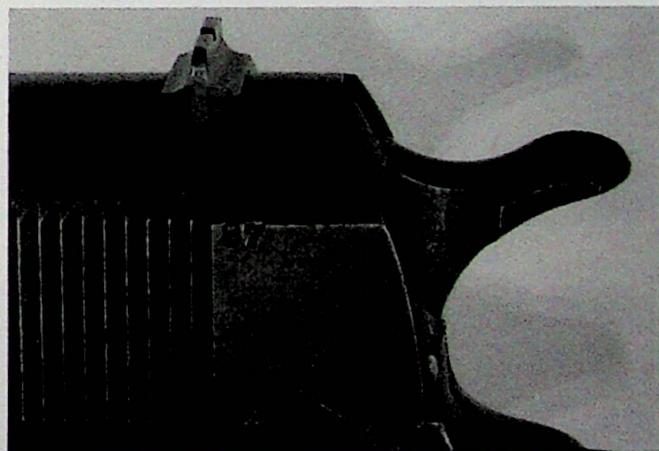
NORTH AMERICAN MODEL 1911 Courtesy of: KARL KARASH



North American 1911 U.S.ARMY .45 serial # 87
Approx. 100 made, but none were delivered during the
war. The slide is numbered # 87 on the left rear
topside, the frame is numbered under the Left grip,
and the trigger is numbered on the left side.
The barrel is unmarked and the pistol has no acceptance
or inspectors marks. Two tone magazine and double
diamond grips. This pistol appears to be completely
original. Since none were delivered and less than 100
were made, the North American is the rarest 1911 of all.
© Copyright 2002 Karl Karash, All rights reserved.



Above: Right Side with no markings, Trigger
and Walnut Grip Screw.



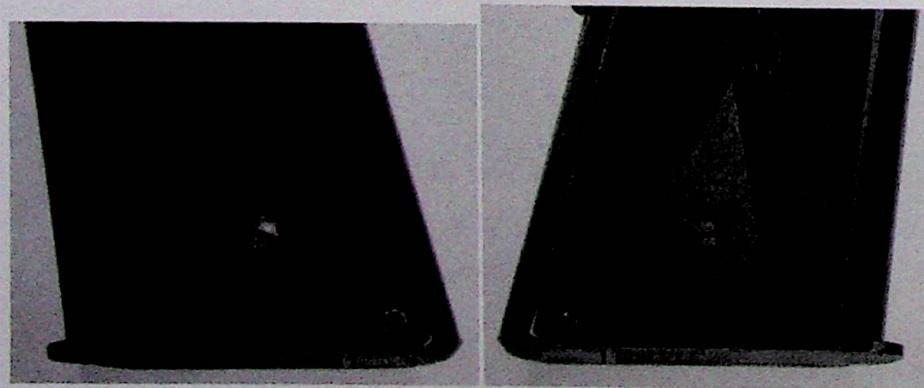
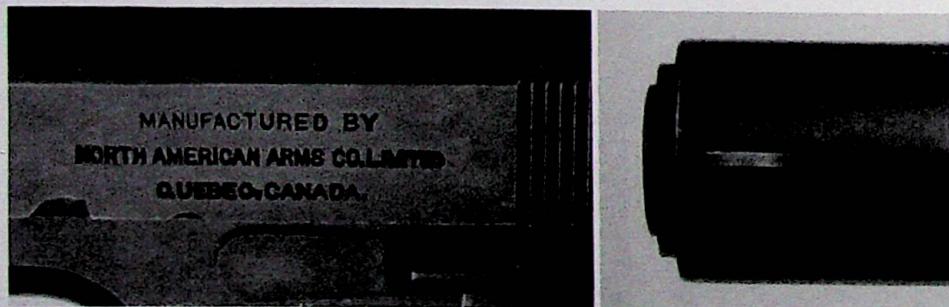
Above: Serial number 87 marked on Left side
of slide below rear sight.



Above: Grip Safety, and view of Grip safety, Spring and plunger.



Left: Back View Safety, Hammer at full cock, and back of slide.



Above: Photos of North American Markings. North American Arms Co. Limited Quebec, Canada. Front Sight and end of Slide and barrel. Left side of Walnut Grip and Screw. Right side of walnut grip and Screw.

UNITED STATES NAVY WHEELER TRIAL REVOLVING RIFLE

The Rifle was .50 caliber, 32.625" round barrel, microgroove rifling with a twist. Seven shot with an automatic priming magazine, hammer engraved with a border design. The barrel has front blade sight no rear barrel sight but a shallow flat on the top of the barrel was used as a sighting groove. Dark walnut straight grip stock with checkering in the wrist with small cheek piece on the left side. Steel butt plate and trigger guard. Marked inside the lock mortise "3", meaning this was gun number 3. Matting mark on the top.

This the first revolving rifle with automatic priming system made in America; a total of four were made consisting of two rifles and two pepperbox carbines. All models were subsequently purchased by the U.S. Navy for trials. Of the four known to exist, three are currently in the Smithsonian and VMI museums, making this example the only one in private hands, and therefore the only one available for purchase anywhere. It was purchased by Mark Aziz from Colonel Berkley Lewis, long time collector author of many books and articles.

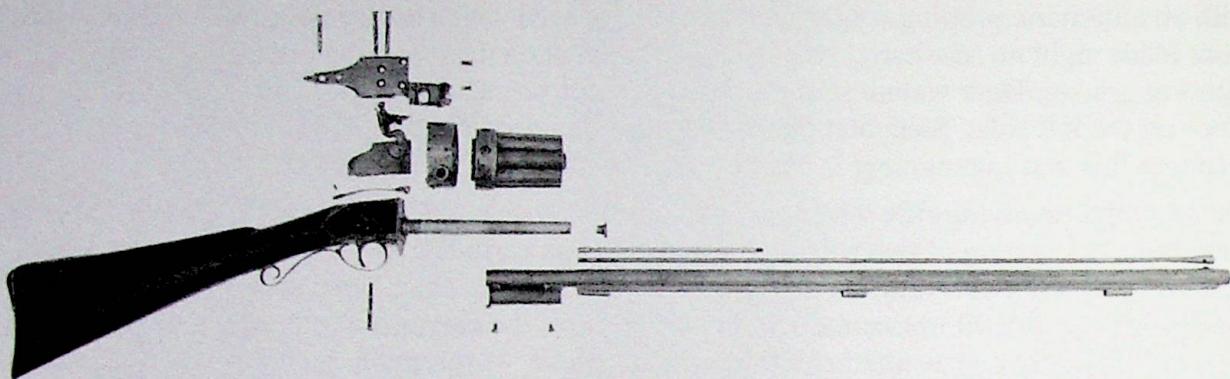
While Willard Cousin's four-part April through July 1978 article in "The Gun Report" magazine on Captain Wheeler claims that two muskets were manufactured, the standards for musket barrel length at the time was 42". As both Wheeler rifles have 32.5" barrels, such a classification would be inconsistent using the nomenclature of the time. The "musket" classification also fails to take into account the Wheeler's rifled barrels, which would also place them well without the "musket" classification in the military parlance of the period, where "musket" and "rifle" were clearly distinct terms.

The Wheeler rifle is the rarest and most desirable Revolving American flintlock rifle as well as the rarest American martial flintlock arm. After its development, Elisha Collier reworked Wheeler's patent and took his design to England where he patented and manufactured his famous Collier revolving arms. The historical importance of Wheeler's four revolvers to Collier and the later Samuel Colt cannot be overstated. For years gun collectors have been giving Collier, an American, credit for inventing the revolving guns he devised. Poor Captain Wheeler!

The U. S. Martial Arms has published several different early revolving shoulder arms manufactured in small quantities. The Wheeler seems to be the most complex and most unique. The small number puts the model in a unique collector's category.

It is interesting that the rare revolving models survived in a time when patents were being sought and registered. Colt came at a later date and appears to be one of the larger manufacturers.

It would be an enormous task to assemble and a quality collection of this type of weapon and their history.



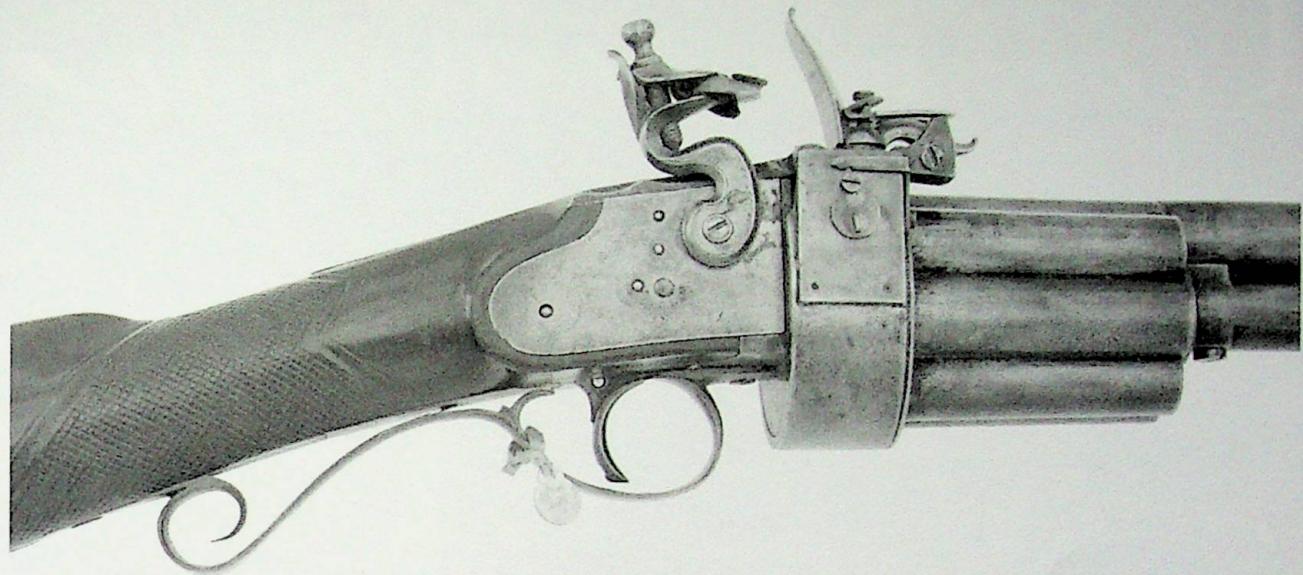
The above photo is the complete Wheeler Revolving Rifle show all parts and sub assemblies. They included the butt stock, disassembled lock, cylinder hub assembly between action and cylinder, ram rod, barrel assembly, and various pins and screws. The weapon is unique and is in great condition. It is seldom seen and this photo illustrates the tendons machining and quality of the manufacture. The very small production for a U. S. Navy test model shows the rarity of the early revolving rifles.



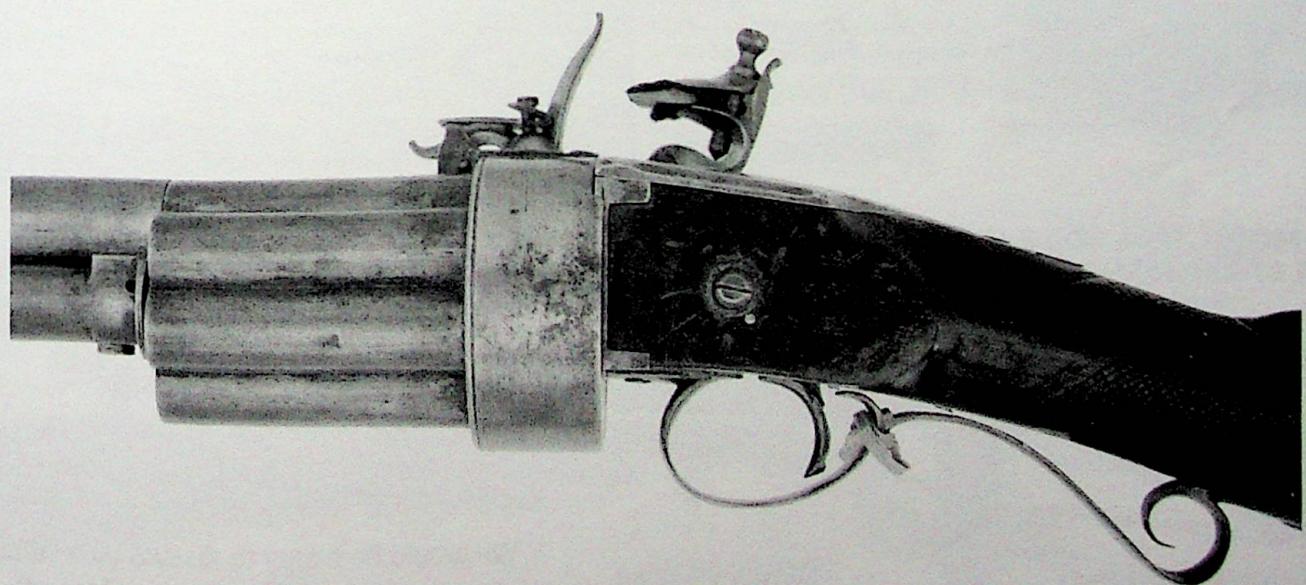
Above: The left side of the Wheeler .50 caliber rifle.



Above: A full length photo of the top of the Wheeler.



Above: The right side of the Wheeler action and revolving assembly.



Above: The left side of the Wheeler with Single Stock bolts and triggers assembly.

Courtesy Of: Jack Lewis

U.S. Martial Arms Collector 157-25

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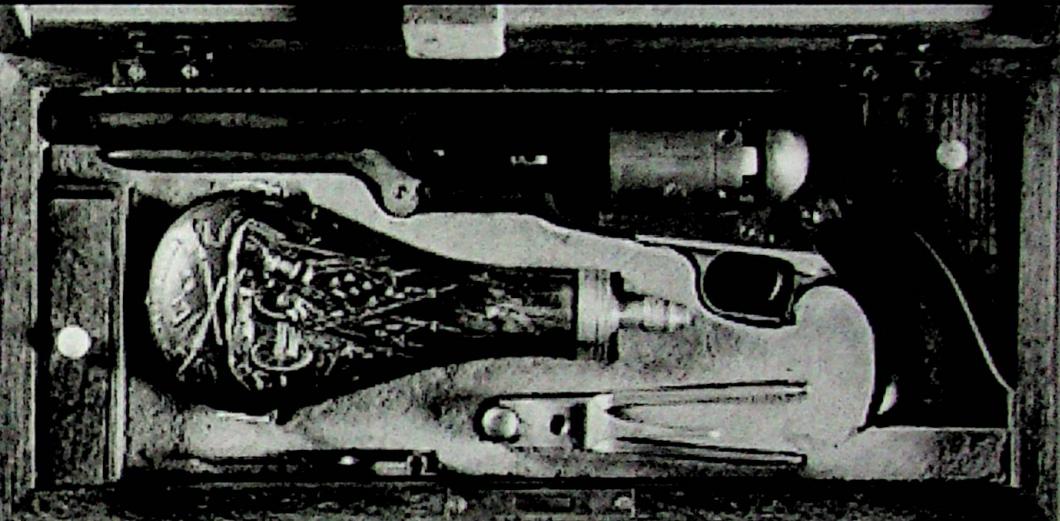
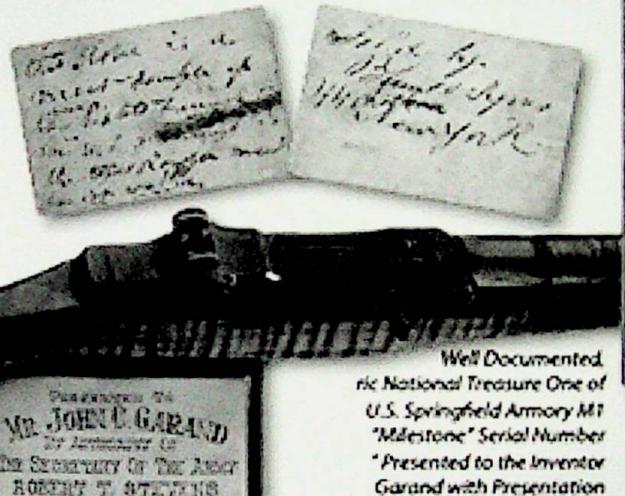
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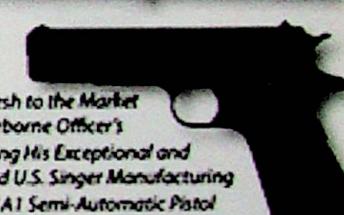


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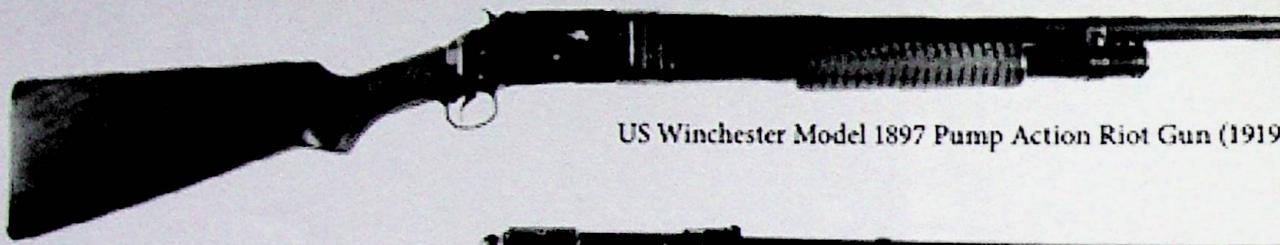
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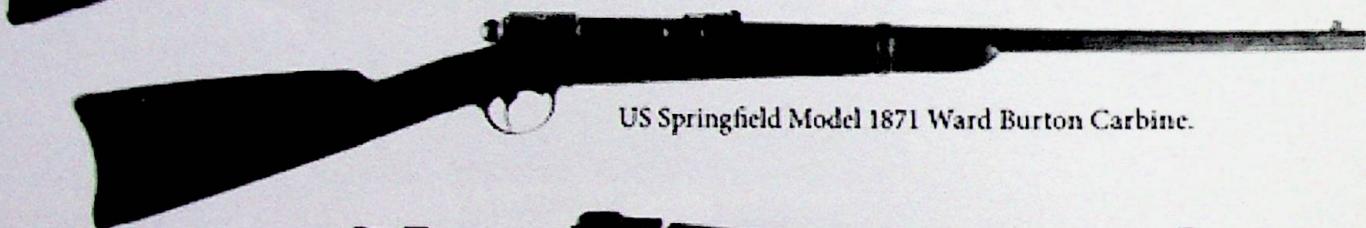
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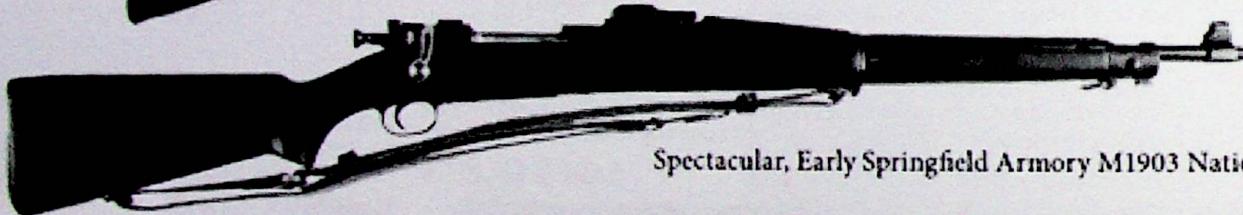
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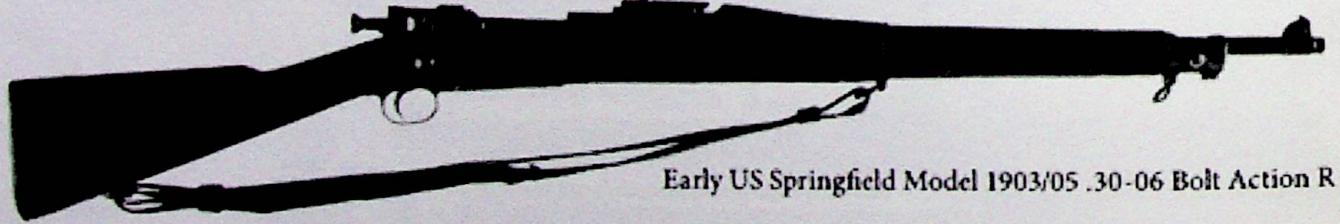
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