

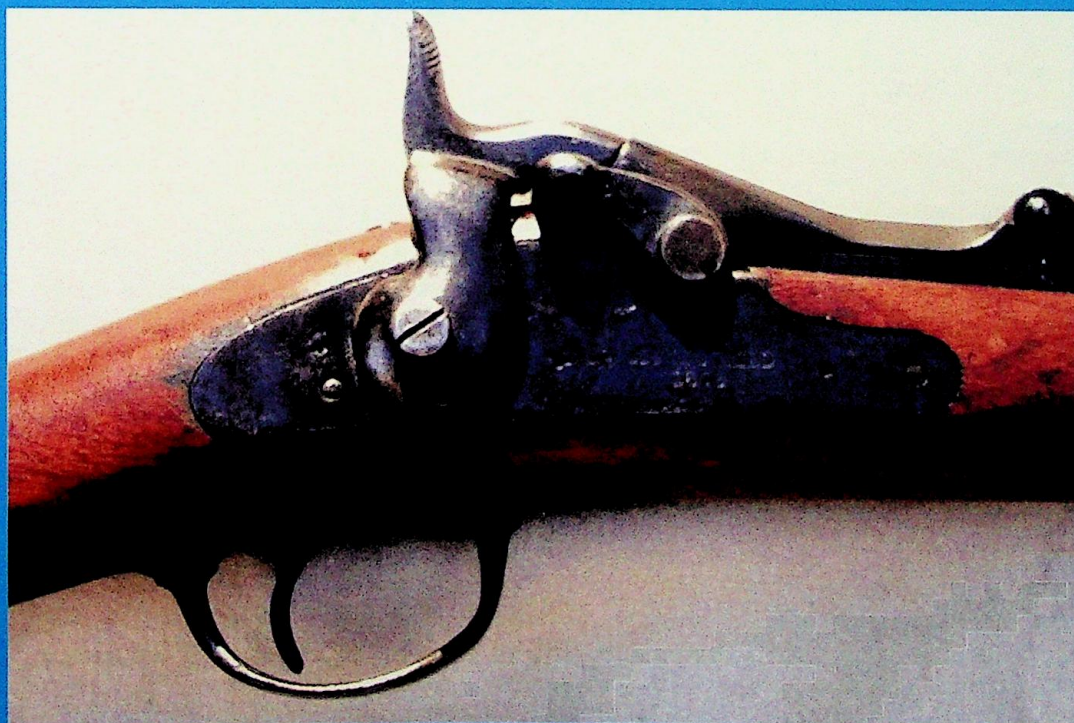
U.S. MARTIAL ARMS Collector

and *Springfield Research Newsletter*



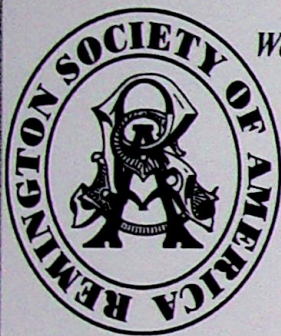
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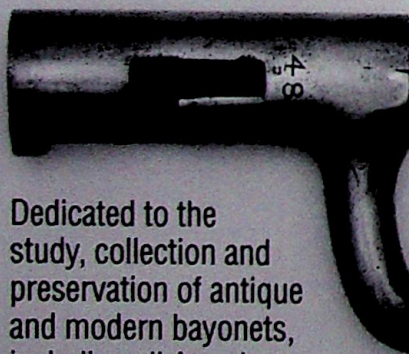
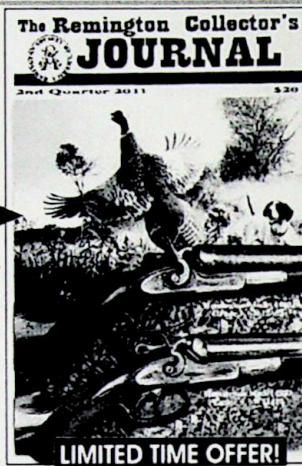
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U.S. MARTIAL ARMS COLLECTOR

CIRCULATION MANAGER
Wayne P. Gagner

And

Springfield Research Service Newsletter

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Cover: Springfield 1873 Cadet

Number 145

December 2015

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MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

The U.S. Martial Arms Collector has found more serial numbers for Springfield 1903 rifles and Colt Model 1911 pistols. The data also includes 1942 weapon procurement and other data right as we entered World War II. Information has been reviewed on .22 caliber training rifles and their many manufacturers. It appears that almost all commercial model .22 caliber rifles were bought at one time or another during WW II.

It is believed that very few were marked except those that say U.S. Government Property or similar identification. There are many that had no serial number and very few that have records of specific serial numbers and their exact usage.

The War appears to have utilized all types of weapons in their original commercial production configurations. Most of the data shows the disposition of many models and there are some contracts for their acquisitions.

There are also data on plans to procure M1 Garands from other manufacturers and Model 1911 pistols from manufacturers other than Colt, Singer, North America, Union Signal, Remington, etc.

Exact data is still being searched to find prototype weapons, test weapons, and other variations that were never put into production. These efforts will be long in time as there are thousands of pages of data to search and retrieve and put into usable form.

Procurement of other items such as knives, accessories for weapons, cleaning products, storage items, and shipping containers form an entire new search to support U.S. military items of interest to collectors. Data on

Model 1903 rifles and quite a few unique weapons made in limited numbers are found on a random basis. There are still many areas that need review, but time is the general limitation in adding more serial numbers to our data base. When we try to find a record that was previously available, it often takes much more effort and often results in long waits and not receiving the original data.

We will continue to add more serial numbers to our data base as we go through more documentation. This effort will take an extended time but it appears that there is a great deal of interest in our new findings.

Inquiries

We look forward to all inquiries that may be received on most subjects on U. S. Military weapons and support equipment for all wars and operations in limited, full operations, and peacetime. The interest of readers is one of our issues that is always of importance. Single pages of paper documents have been found and are held in our files to be used as support for new findings and old documents with limited data.

Any inquiry may be answered as we find or reconstruct past data. Our goal is to satisfy readers' interests.

We look forward to any comments and questions. This is an input as to what readers are interested in, and we want to keep them coming.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

NOTE. Please send an email if you receive any subscription data that is incorrect. We always have problems with the Postal Service and need any comments or corrections for your magazines or letters. The only way we can ensure address corrections or new information is by subscribers' inputs.

SRS uses first class mail to make sure a magazine or documents are delivered to a subscriber. We still receive an occasional piece of mail that is returned and sometimes cannot find a new or forwarding address.

The last subscription issue is designated by the issue number that is printed on all magazine address labels. There have been mistakes by the printer and some issues have the number deleted. We always try to double-check each address and try to send a letter advising of the subscription renewal time and issue. There have been computer crashes in the past that slow us down.

Please let us know if any subscriber has had a problem.

Current issues

Issue number 145 dated December 2015 is the current magazine. It will be mailed the first week of December 2015.

Number 146 will be mailed June 2016.

Number 147 will be dated September 2016

Number 148 will be dated December 2016.

The projected mailing dates are the first week of March, June, September, and December 2016, for the four quarterly issues.

Similar dates are planned for each new year.

ADVERTISING

Our advertising deadlines are the Friday two weeks before the date of a publication.

Please contact us for competitive rates for full page ads and other small ads.

SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH LETTERS

The basic letters are \$50.00; sales letters with a document are \$65.00; and research letters run from \$175.00 and up.

We have had some long-time research efforts take months because of the difficulty in finding the original data in government files. We have some issues with government data being transferred to other facilities in other cities. This has caused delays and the loss of data in the Archive systems.

SRS usually holds subscribers' payments until we check on document location and availability. If a document cannot be located, there is nothing we can verify and no research can be done. There are cases of documents lost in government systems and the disappearance of documents. A payment may be returned if the research cannot be done.

Research letters on very unique weapons may require extra charges and times. It is very easy for a research effort to extend in full days or many days. Government regulations often change and require more time to finish any letter started.

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There are cases that require armed government escorts for the document to be transferred and searched for correct data. A basic letter is data recovered from our in-house files. 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. We try to copy the specifics and include them with the letter. A peculiar size or condition of a document may require special handling and copying according to government regulations.

Special stamps for security classification or other rules must be followed.

COMMENTS AND INPUTS

We always want comments.
editor@usmartialarmscollector.com.

An inquiry can be made by mail to SRS Box 126, Cabin John, MD 20818. Replies may take an extended time.

SPRINGFIELD RESEARCH DATA BASE

Our efforts are based on data from United States documents, and all serial number information comes from government documents. There are many documents that describe a weapon without a specific serial number.

All data in the Springfield Research Service database is based on U. S. Government documents.

There are more documents that may exist, but this will be a never- ending search.

BACK ISSUES OF THE MAGAZINES

Issue 143 dated June 2015 and issue 142 dated March 2015 are completely sold out. Copies may be made in black and white upon request.

The older newsletters (number 1 through 54) must be obtained by special request. Issues number 55 through 145 are \$10 each postpaid if they are available. Many printed 10 years or more may not be available. Several issues have run out. A copy in black and white can be made as a last resort, and mailed. There will be a delay or extra costs.

SRS Searches

We still find new data but it is more difficult with any new government regulations and quality of original documents. We continue to answer requests from our subscribers.

LETTERS WRITTEN FOR SERIAL NUMBER REQUESTS

U.S. 1903 COLT Automatic Pistol, serial number M137276, Colt Pistol, Caliber .380. Issued To: Brigadier General G. F. Doriot. Date: April 26, 1961.

U.S. Springfield, Cal. .30, Model 1903, serial number 1 348 623, National Match, Type C. Sold : Roy W. Wilson, Winchester, Massachusetts. Date: October 21, 1930.

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U.S. Model 1898 rifle, serial number 16 8316, Cal. 30, Issued : Company K, 27th United States Volunteer Infantry. 1899.

U.S. Model 1879 carbine, serial number 133101, Cal. 45 . Adjutant General Affidavit : 1st Sergeant Charles Campbell, Troop L, 7th Cavalry. Date: March 22, 1888. The U.S. Carbine specified was part of a group of 52 carbines enumerated as to condition and recommended to be shipped to Fort Abraham, Lincoln Ordnance Depot. Serial number 133101 needed to be re barreled and the sights repaired. Captain George D. Wallace was accountable for the weapons in the Territory of Dakota. A board of survey convened March 12, 1888. The purpose was to examine the condition of 52 U.S. Springfield carbines, caliber .45, and 20 Colts revolvers, caliber .45. Fort Meade March 12, 1888. List of property stores cited on March 12, 1888. The carbine, number 133101 was in constant use in garrison and in the field since 1885 and the condition has legitimate wear and tear.

Smith and Wesson revolver, caliber 44 American, serial number 1444, Serial Number 1444. Delivered From: Springfield Armory, Springfield, Massachusetts. Date: March, 1871. Our personnel have spent many days dealing with the Archive personnel and have finally found the data and the reason why the government documents do not exist in the Washington Headquarters system and other facilities in this area. The National Archives shipped the documents to Boston, Massachusetts on a permanent basis and has not kept any copies. We only charge for a research letter if we can find the copies of the data. We have no access to the records and the government does not provide this information without travel to Boston and

research at that facility.

U.S. Springfield rifle, Cal. .30, Model 1903, serial number 1 008 132 . Recovered from: The USS California sunk at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Documented: February 13, 1942. Documentation on the USS California records, serial number, and Battery 81 USS California information.

U. S. Rifle, serial number 1 402 206, Caliber .30, M1903A1, National Match, 1936, Sold Loren D. Schiff, 2516 East Newton Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Date: January 14, 1937.

U.S. Model 1898 rifle, serial number 121418, Cal. 30, Rifle, Issued Company L, 3rd Kentucky Volunteer Infantry. Date December 17, 1898.

U.S. Model M1 Garand rifle, serial number 2322, Cal. 30. Issued to: 3rd Infantry, Ft. Sam Houston. Date: February 7, 1939.

U.S. Sharps Carbine, serial number 62835, please be advised that there are no longer government records on this weapon. A Springfield Armory manufactured carbine was manufactured long after the production period for the older model Sharps Carbine.

The commander of the Springfield Arsenal in Springfield, Massachusetts authorized the manufacture of a Sharps Carbine with the coffee mill attachment on the stock.

The parts were taken from an old stock of parts from Springfield Armory storage and

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assigned to a senior armorer personnel to be made in off hours and lunch time. The Armory commander approved the weapon and included the instructions that original parts with price, and a survey of serial known to be used was to be made. The serial number was chosen to be outside of any known serial numbers in all Armory records including the Master Armorer's Notebook. The number was unique and did not follow or precede any known number. The number 62835 was chosen and used. Data in Springfield Research records show that 62699 (issued in 1865), 62838 (issued in 1863), and 62900 (issued in 1863) exist with no reference to a coffee grinder. The work on 62835 was done on an as-available time for work with no target time for completion. No mention of test firing data or markings has ever been found, but policy shows that the commander would only make a weapon that met all specifications.

During this time many other Springfield weapons were being made such as Model 1903 rifles, special orders, 22 caliber training rifles and others. The fit and finish was excellent and up to Springfield quality, and Springfield machinery was used. The Carbine has been known to old-time collectors and old-time armory personnel. The data has disappeared and this includes the Master Armorer's Notebook last seen going into the dumpster when the Park service took over the operation. SRS and others have looked for the notebook for years.

Other records include the original paper/cardboard data card that accompanied the gun. It was known to be in the family of the Springfield employee that worked on and paid for the weapon. The charges were paid for by the owner and did not include any charges for labor. The policy was to charge for cost of the parts to the government.

Changes and family real estate changes have saved the gun in fine condition, but data such as a cash receipt and details of cost are not available. This is also true of the Armory data to Congress for production, test, and other weapons.

The Sharp's Carbine with the coffee grinder (mill) is unique and a very special weapon authorized by the Springfield Commander. It had senior Springfield personnel involved in the manufacture.

We searched all of our files, the company records in Hartford, and the military files. Serial number 52838 showed up in the military records in the U.S. Archives in Washington, D.C. This number was the closest number that we found and it was issued to Company C of the 4th Ohio Volunteer Infantry in October 1863. The data was found in Record Group 94.

U.S. , Cal. .30, Model 1903, serial number 1 318 278, M1903 (Sporting Model). Sold , Leo H. Wells, Wallaston, Massachusetts. March 3, 1930.

U.S. Model 1896 rifle, serial number 101373, Cal. 30, Issued Company B 4th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. Date: 1898.

U.S. , Cal. .30, Model 1903, serial number 1 526 153, Type: Rifle, U.S., Cal. .30, 1903, A1, 1935 National Match, 1939, New with Target and Star Gauged record. Sold Mr. Dirk John Vanderwal, C/O E. D. Stuart Secretary, Santa Paula Rifle Club, 1245 Main Street, Santa Paula, California. Date: January 19, 1940.

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U. S. Model 1903 rifle, serial number 55152, Type: Rifle, U.S. Model 1903. Issued 26th Infantry and turned in to Rock Island Arsenal. December 7, 1911. The start of the 20th century found the United States Army pressed to meet military commitments in Cuba, the Philippines, and Puerto Rico. In 1901 Congress authorized five additional Regular Army infantry regiments including the 26th.

They started in the Philippines and spent 20 years of service deployed in the Southwest Pacific, the Mexican and Indian frontier and in Europe. The unit received its first battle streamer during the Philippine-American War. They later served in Expeditionary forces and World War I.

U.S. Model 1911 COLT Automatic Pistol, serial number 720838. Shipped To: Naval Supply Depot, Naval Operating Base, Sewalls Point, Virginia for Navy Requirement 485 of 1940. January 23, 1940. 25 Boxes Nos. 1 to 25 inclusive were shipped from Springfield Armory, Springfield, Mass. The boxes contained 1225 Colt B-1 Pistol, Auto., Cal. .45, M1911A1. The Colt Pistols were packed in each box by the Colt Firearms Company of Hartford, Conn. There were three shipments to complete the Bureau of Ordnance Requisition No. 485 of 1940 Box number 2 contained serial number 720838 along with 49 other pistols serial numbered 720803 through 720852. There were two Packing memorandums number 7788 and number 8203 that stated the contents in box 2 as having serial number 720838. Shipping tickets were assigned for these weapons.

The information in Record Group 74 contains extensive ordnance data for the years 1940 through 1942. The records indicate the Naval activity at NAVOP, Norfolk, Virginia was definitely ordering as many weapons as

possible. They included sidearms, as well as Springfield Model 1903 rifles, Lewis Guns, shotguns, and many parts and other models of weapons.

COLT Banker Model revolver, serial number 359375, Lost report: Railway Mail Service Division 15 (report of loss of a large shipment of Colt Banker Revolvers). December 15, 1948.

U.S. , Cal. .30, Model 1903, serial number 1 498 105, Rifle, U.S., Cal. .30, M1903A1 National Match. Sold Penn. State Arsenal, Harrisburg, PA . June 8, 1937.

U.S. Model 1898 rifle, serial number 219562, Cal. 30, Type: Rifle, Cal. 30, M1898, Issued Company I, 44th U.S. Volunteer Infantry. Date: 1899.

U.S. Model 1898 rifle, serial number 132 909, Cal. 30, Type: Rifle, Cal. 30, M1898, Issued Company F, 4th Illinois, U.S. Volunteer Infantry. Date: 1898.

U.S. , Cal. .30, Model 1903, NRA Sporter, serial number 1 285 404, Type: Rifle, U.S., Cal. .30, M1903, U. S. Sporting Model. Sold A.C. Dirzuweit, Baltimore, Md. Date: May 2, 1928.

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LETTERS AND EMAILS RECEIVED AND ANSWERED.

Can you also check on number 939, same type of 1860 Colt U.S. Richards Conversion. This gun was found in Arizona in the 1940's by my grandfather, when his horse stepped on it and flipped it out of the dirt. At the time, they were living on their homestead ranch that was in the area between Prescott and Kingman, AZ. It had a broken main spring, the loading gate was open and it had three loaded rounds still inside. The grips were gone, presumably rotted off. Found with it were an old metal canteen and parts of a saddle.

Re: Colt Richards Conversion Serial Number. We searched our records and have no data. We found numbers 953 and 961.

Editor

Dear Springfield Research, I am researching a Model of 1922. Is Issue #96 of the U. S. Martial Arms Collector magazine still available? It has an article by the late Fred Ewalt in which he lists the variations of the 1922 Series Springfields by relative scarcity. Thank you.

Unfortunately all issues are sold out and we do not have a file copy. The number 96 issue is also over 10 years old. Editor.

Will the basic letter include where the revolver went when it left the Springfield Armory? Thanks so much for your time and patience.

Yes it will have data on date and shipment from the armory. Editor.

I have a Colt .38 Bankers Special Serial Number 359375 that should have been shipped to the Springfield Armory. It has a GWE inspection stamp and the back strap is marked RMS PO DEPT, the butt is marked No. 16821. Will you check and see if you have data on this pistol. I am still a current member of the Springfield Historical Society and appreciate the service you provide. Thanks.

Yes we have data on that pistol and a letter can be written Editor.

We have a Marine Corps sniper in that I am wondering about. It is a 1903 Springfield Armory serial # 1521041 and was from the Burt Kellerstadt collection, and I know he had a reputation for being pretty astute. Do you know a "Larry Reynolds" who wrote an article for the US Martial Arms Collector (I assume in 1994); his article seems pretty good overall and was wondering your thoughts on it.

Burt Kellerstadt was a very knowledgeable collector with a very comprehensive collection and data base. Larry Reynolds has excellent historical data and a lot of serial numbers on 1941 snipers. His article was excellent. We have no data on that rifle. Our data on the Model 1903 Sniper made at the Broad Street Armory is based on an extensive conversation with Mr. MacDonald, one of the armorers that made the sniper rifles and original descriptions of rifles on hand and available to be converted. The rifles were all of match quality and included low numbers as well as high number receivers that were

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converted with new C stocks, bolts blackened and serial numbered, National Match butt plates, special hand guards machined to accept the Unertl O and E scope bases, and had many National Match parts. They were fitted with Unertl 8 power scopes with USMC markings and serial numbers with black finished mounts. Some barrels may not have had the Star Gage marks but all were match quality rifles in the inventory. The scope blocks were 7.2 inches apart (center to center) for the Unertl scope system. The scope cases were not issued until after the war effort. Hand guards may have a chalk identification on the under side. We have seen some rifles that are in our data base with national match records. It is believed that these were made up at a later date as the National Match rifles were sold to individuals and not recorded in the allocation descriptions of rifles in the Armory program. The rifles were part of the high quality program and were subjected to very hard use and reuse in other military operations. Editor.

My name is Goran Linder and I live in Sweden. I have got most of the different revolvers ordered by the Army during CW. Many others too. It would be nice to check where my Colts and Remingtons were sent. Are there also info available for other revolvers too. You know, Starr, Whitney, Freeman, Wesson&Leavitt, Pettingill, Metropolitan, Savage, Warner etc... ??
Best Regards, Goran.

Yes, we have many numbers on most of the hand guns used in the U.S. Civil War. We can provide data on your serial numbers and letters can be ordered by any subscriber. Editor.

Attached are documents on American

Indians: Pvt., Co. 8s E & D Indian Scouts Chief Sleeping Bear Brother of: Princess Monaseetah "Meotzi" Interpreter For Gen Custer (Cheyenne Indian).

Data includes: Pvt Chief Sleeping Bear, Death Date: 6 Nov 1926, Cemetery: Saint Thomas Catholic Church Cemetery, Burial or Cremation Place: Corn Creek, Mailed County, South Dakota. A series of documents and other data show possible linkage between General Custer and the American Indian family.

Thank you for the data. We have arranged a meeting with the U.S. Archives to determine if we can use this data in accordance to their regulations. It is of great interest. Editor.

I noted with great interest your article on page 144-12 about a specific Navy colt; I had contacted you all some years ago about information on my 1851 Navy Colt which is US marked; at the time, you had no data available. I note that the Colt in your article is s/n 62467; my Colt is s/n 62780. Is it possible that information about my Colt may be in the same documentation that you traced the Colt in the article? How can I proceed? Do you want me to send via US Mail a specific request to you or is email adequate?

Thanks for your research and comments on articles in the US Martial Arms Collector.

We have researched this data and will try to get as much data as we are able. We have no data on serial number 62780.

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We have found no data concerning documented correlation of the data for serial number 62780. Editor.

In reading through the 'LETTERS AND E-MAILS RECEIVED AND ANSWERED' in my newly-arrived issue #144 there was an inquiry concerning a Springfield .45-70 "TRAPDOOR" Carbine, S/N 37018, which had a stamping on the butt stock reading "S.P.F. C 74". This attracted my immediate attention since that is the way the Pennsylvania State Police (circa 1905, the year they were formed) identified the 420 "obsolete, surplus" .45-70 Carbines purchased directly from the Springfield Armory, via the U.S. War Department (at a price of \$3.00 each, including tools and a generous supply of ammunition). They were distributed among the four (4) newly-formed "Troops" [A, B, C, and D], and the stampings were applied with 1/4"-high tool stamps, indicating S.P.F. [State Police Force] C [Troop C] 74 [Trooper #74]. Unfortunately I have no photos, no files, or anything else left from my original files on the "PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE 'S.P.F.' SPRINGFIELD TRAPDOOR CARBINES" (beginning in 1905). My M1873 Carbine Serial Number was 21029 and stamped "S.P.F. C 79").

Thank you for the data on our inquiry. Readers interest and accurate data on a historic is always welcomed. Editor.

It is my understanding that my friend and fellow collector, from Lubbock, TX, has been in contact with you regarding my NM 1903, S/N 1271603. I can certainly provide more pictures and/or details of the rifle if it would be of interest to you. It's quite the example of a NM. A shame there is so little

history on it. I am in looking at a sporterized NM 1903. The condition and details of the additional work, leave me with the impression this rifle may have some additional history. I've been told the rifle may have once belonged to a wealthy man, of some standing. Not sure if that is true. But the rifle retains all the attributes of a 1924/25 NM 1903. The serial number is, 1264876. The rifle has been hot salt blued, and a contemporary scope and Noske mount added. A really nice rifle that has appeal on its own merits. I'd like to see if your records show any history on it, if so...how may I proceed with the payment process for additional information.

The following data is in our records. We have data on serial number 1264876. It is a National Match and a letter can be ordered. We have no data on 1271603. There is another rifle with a close serial number. (serial number 1271602 is listed as a National Match). Editor.

Where can I access regimental records for the 5th and 6th U.S. Volunteers?
Galvanized Yanks in Colorado – 1864 – 1866.

We do not have any records in that type of format. An individual serial number can be searched for data on it use and military unit. Editor.

Please let me know if you have any data on Krag serial number 342910. It has a serial number that is over stamped with a 9 over the original 8 in the 1898 marking.

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We have no data on number 342910. We did find 342790 (1899 Carbine) and another 99 over stamp that is serial numbered 420815. We also found serial number 20900 that is listed as an 1898 rifle with no over stamp marking, and number 420457 that was a Model 1899 Carbine without any over stamped markings believe that all over stamped receivers are quite rare. They are one more of the Krag's that are known to exist. Unfortunately, we do not have extensive data on ordering notes for the marking work or other details. The receivers were marked at Springfield and all receivers were used to make Model 1899 Carbines. The serial numbers were not consecutive and known weapons are all carbines. Any comments by our readers are welcome. Thanks, Editor.

SHIPPING COMMENTS

We mail all magazines and letters by first class mail. This is a result of time delays in the past. The magazines and letters are mailed and appear to be delivered by the U. S. Post office in two to three days. Please let us know by email if you have any questions, corrections, and any address changes.

We welcome any comment that will aid in the delivery of any Springfield Research Service product.

COVER

Cover photo shows the rare single weapon made for West Point in 1874.

Below: Krag carbine with unusual markings. LGS and 10/3/14 markings on



the right side. No cartouche is shown. The rear sight is a model 1901 carbine.

Our readers are welcome to provide any comments on the above carbine serial number 127926. The number indicates manufacture in 1898. The carbine is in an 1899 configuration with carbine front sight and hand guard.

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THE BROWN-MERRILL BOLT ACTION RIFLE

Marc Gorelick

*Potomac Arms Collectors Association
Virginia Gun Collectors Association*

When the Civil War ended, the U.S. Government had an incredible surplus of arms in its inventory.



*Fig. 1 - Brown Rifle
Photo Bill Chronister*

One such company was the Brown Manufacturing Company of Newburyport, MA. The Brown, or Brown-Merrill, bolt action rifle was converted from British Model 1853 Enfield percussion rifles, many of which were imported by the Confederacy during the Civil War. The Brown was manufactured from 1869 to 1873. It is a single shot, bolt action, breech loading rifle that fired a .58 caliber rimfire cartridge. Some examples were also seen in .58 centerfire. The bolt mechanism is similar to the Prussian Dreyse rifle and French Chassepot rifle. There is a short bolt handle at the back of the bolt. When it is lifted up and pulled back, it cocks a small hammer immediately behind it and opens the chamber for loading. The user inserts a cartridge into the breech, closes and turns the bolt to lock the action, and fires the gun. There is a small bolt locking latch on the right of the receiver. The rifle is 54 3/4" long, and three Enfield style iron barrel bands fasten the 34" barrel to the stock.

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The conversion was covered by George Merrill's U.S. Patent Number 119,939, dated October 17, 1871. The original .577 caliber blued barrel was screwed into the receiver. A bolt mechanism was added to the rifle. The full-length Enfield stocks were altered from their original side lock configuration – a lock plate inletting and the left stock escutcheon screw holes were neatly filled using matching walnut wood. The rifle retains the brass Enfield-style furniture. It has an iron cleaning rod.

The only markings on the gun are on the bolt and read:

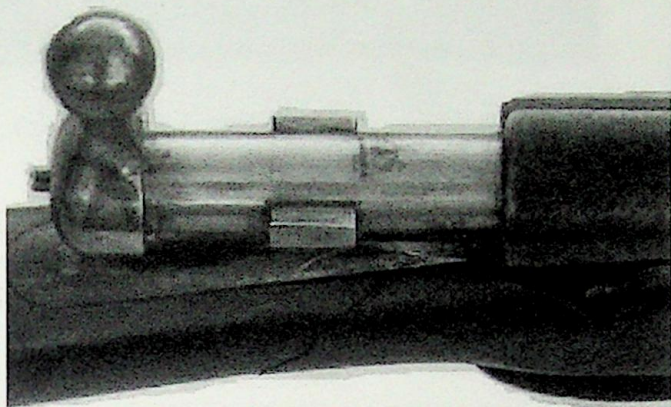
BROWN MFG. CO. NEWBURYPORT,
MASS.
PATENTED OCT. 17, 1871

*Fig. 2 - The Brown action with bolt open.
Note the hammer behind the bolt, the end of
the firing pin and the small bolt locking
latch in front of the bolt handle. Note where
the original lock plate was expertly replaced
by wood.*

*Photo Bill
Chronister*



Fig. 3 – Brown rifle with action open and rear sight leaf raised. Note that the hammer was cocked by the opening of the action. Note the locking lug in front of the bolt handle. Photo Bill Chronister



In 1872 the Brown, in .50-70 caliber, was submitted to the U.S. Army Ordnance Department for its trials. The Brown was listed under the name of its designer, Merrill, and was tested with 98 other weapons by the 1872 Small Arms Review Board, also known as the Terry Board for its chairman, Brigadier General Alfred Terry. The board rejected the Brown in the first round with its testing incomplete, and did not recommend it for further testing or troop trials. Instead, the Ordnance Department chose the Erskine Allin design for the Trapdoor Springfield IN .45-70 caliber, a breech loading rifle that was based on an earlier Allin conversion of older rifle-muskets.

Unfortunately, the Brown-Merrill never completed its safety test. The report noted problems with escape of gas. The report also noted a problem with misfires and that as the gun was fired it was becoming increasingly hard to open it. The section of the report ended, "The piece was then withdrawn for alteration."

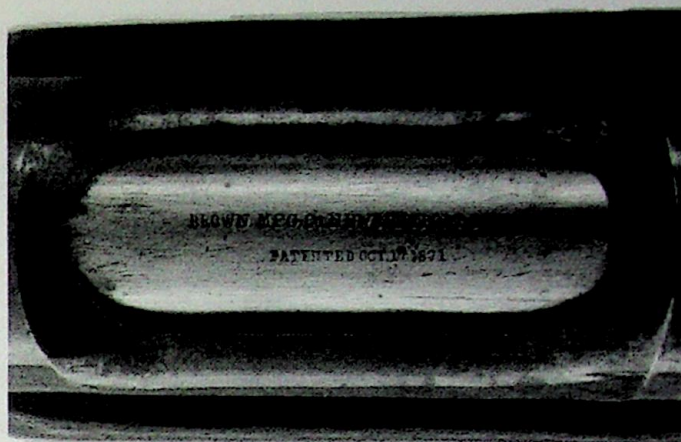


Fig. 4 – Brown Manufacturing Company and patent markings on the closed bolt. Photo Bill Chronister

Although the Brown Manufacturing Company never obtained a military contract, they sold their rifles to the civilian market. There is evidence that Browns were used by the Fenians during an ill-fated 1870 attempt to invade Canada through Vermont. The Bannerman Company in New York sold Browns. For instance, the 1927 Bannerman Catalogue, page 31, lists a "Fenian Raiders" Brown B/L Rifle" for sale for \$8.75. Depending on the source, between about 1,000 and 2,000 were produced. According to an 1872 Newburyport newspaper article, Brown had received and completed a contract to convert 2,000 Enfield rifles to breechloaders.

U.S. Martial Arms Collector 145-13

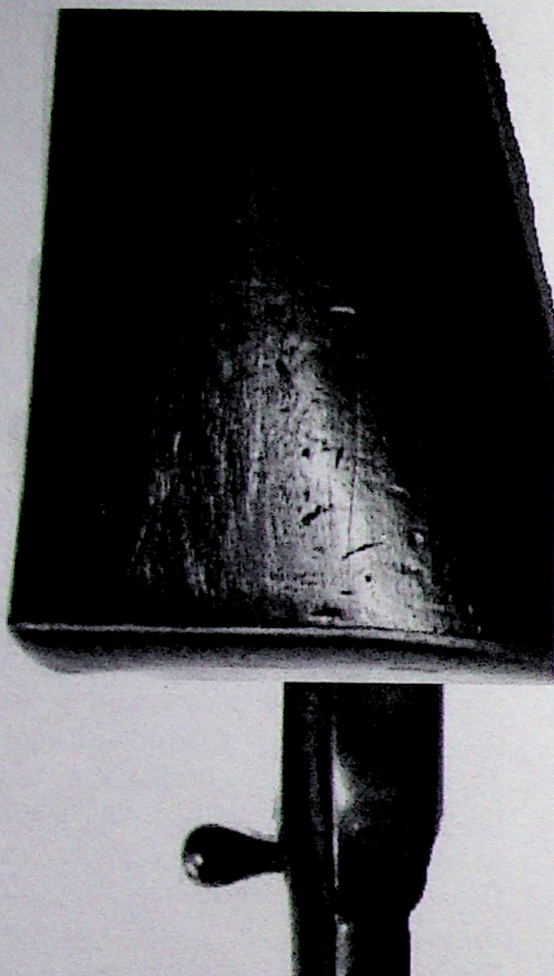


Fig. 5 & 6 – Brown rifle butt and trigger guard. Note brass Enfield buttplate and trigger guard.



Fig. 8 – Front barrel band, front sight and cleaning rod. Top view rear sight. Numbers on the right side of the leaf are 5, 6, 7, 8.

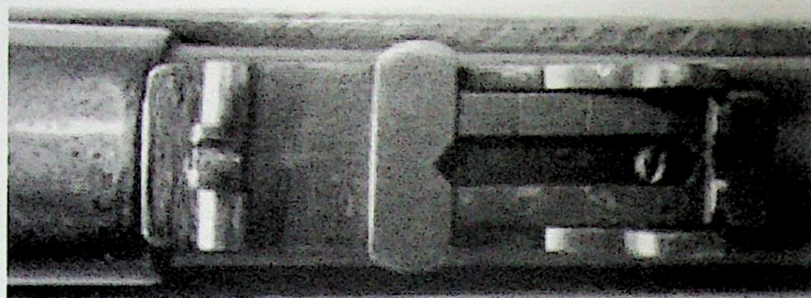
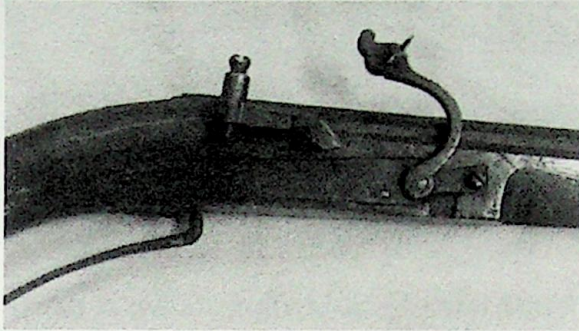


Fig. 7 – Top Rear Sight. Flip up design with elevation adjustment and step adjustments. (5, 6, 7, and 8. Fold down position shown. No windage adjustment capability.

Note: The bolt design is one of the earliest models tested by the U.S. Military and offered a completely new design in comparison to the trap door designs being made at the Springfield Armory. The tests showed some inadequacies in operation. The new design and the bolt idea may have changed our 22 (approximately) years of use and many different modifications and models made on technology by Erskine Allin. The next model of a U.S. standard rifle resulted in the Model 1892 (1894) rifle with a bolt action receiver. It was greatly enhanced with a 5 round magazine and a new .30 caliber cartridge. It also introduced the payment of a royalty for each standard weapon manufactured for the United States military. The royalty was paid to Norway for the Krag Jorgensen design. The United States used models of the Krag rifle and carbine into World War I.

Heroism in King Phillip's War: John Hoare

By Jack Sullivan



Above: Early Match Lock musket of the type used in the King Phillip War.

The early Puritans often saw Native Americans as savages. A key conflict of the time was King Philip's War which raged between Indians and New England colonists beginning in 1675. Caused by settlers competing for resources of land, hunting, and fishing, hostilities broke out in the Massachusetts town of Swansea and spread as far north as New Hampshire and as far southwest as Connecticut. Indian forces were led by a hereditary chief named Metacom, called by the colonists "King Philip." The war has been cited as one of the bloodiest and costliest in American history. Property damage was extensive. One in ten combatants on both sides was killed or injured.

One of the most famous incidents of King Phillip's War was the abduction of Mary Rowlandson, a colonialist who was carried off during a raid conducted by Metacom himself. She subsequently was held prisoner in an Indian camp close to present day Princeton, Mass. Enter John Hoare, a prominent and respected Massachusetts lawyer. He

determined to rescue her where others had failed.

Hoare had come to Scituate, Mass., from England about 1643. He subsequently moved to Concord, Mass., where he set up as a lawyer. Although a member of the Puritan Congregationalist Church, Hoare apparently was not a rigid believer. According to one report he was barred by authorities from practicing law for a year for failure to attend church and for making disparaging remarks about a local minister. Hoare also had a reputation for being friendly with Indians, an attribute that might have encouraged him to attempt to rescue Mrs. Rowlandson. He had even built houses for Christian Indians of the Nashobah tribe on his own land.

Hoare's mission required him to ride into the hostile Indian camp unarmed and to haggle with warriors over Mrs. Rowlandson's release. The Indians apparently were anything but welcoming. In her written account of the incident published at the time to great attention in both America and England, the Rowlandson woman praised Hoare for his "forward spirit." She reported that she initially thought he had been killed in trying to rescue her. In reality, the Indians had simply shot arrows over and under his horse, "pushing him this way and that way, at their pleasure, showing what they could do." Their intimidations apparently had little effect on Hoare's resolve to free the captive housewife. Eventually the Indians tired of their sport and were willing to sit down with him to discuss her release.

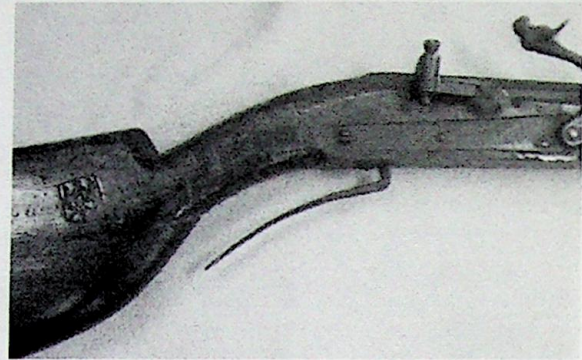
U.S. Martial Arms Collector 143-15

At one point, upon a promise Mrs. Rowlandson could go, Hoare supplied liquor to the Indian "master" to whom the white woman had been given. After a bout of drinking, this same Indian came ranting into the wigwam calling for Hoare, alternately toasting to him as a good man but in the next breath shouting, "Hang him — rogue." For Hoare this must have been a particularly tense moment. After two more days of negotiations, on May 2, 1676, the Yankee lawyer struck a bargain with the Indians and was allowed to leave with Mary and his own Christian Indian companions. After further privations the little band found their way to Lancaster, Mass., and safety.

The story of Hoare's bravery became well known when Mary Rowlandson published a "best selling" account of her days in captivity. The story continued to be told for generations. One author said of the book that it was "long known to every New England family and perhaps secretly read by many a boy in lieu of the present Wild West series...." Hoare became famous in the colonies and in England because of his heroism.

King Phillip's war raged on for a few months more and then the superior fire power of settler militia — muskets against bows and arrows — won the day. Hundreds of Indians who fought with Metacom were sold into slavery and their women and children were forced to become household servants. Metacom himself was killed and his head was cut off and mounted on a pike outside a colonial fort where it is said to have remained for two decades. As for John Hoare, thugs are said to have raided his Christian Indian homes and taken the

residents away to an uncertain fate.



The Match Lock Musket shown is an original weapon from the early 1600's used in the colonies later the United States. The weapons could make a major difference in combat or hostilities between the European settlers and the Native American Indians. The Amer Indians normally had bows and arrows and possible trade axes and spears.

Editor's Note: King Phillip's War, sometimes called the first Indian War, Metacomet's War, or Metacom's Rebellion, was an armed conflict between Native American, inhabitants of present-day New England and English colonists and their Native American allies in 1675–78. The war continued in the most northern reaches of New England until the signing of the Treaty of Casco Bay in April 1678. Metacom (c. 1638-1676) was the second son of Wampanoag chief Massasoit. The war was the single greatest calamity in New England. More than half of New England's towns were attacked. Their identity was separate and distinct from that of subjects of the king.

U.S. Martial Arms Collector 143-16

United States Springfield Model 1903 Rifle, Caliber .30, rifle serial numbers.
The following numbers have been added to the Springfield Research service
data base. Many have been reviewed after being found in newly analyzed
documents.

3	396550	547228	547717
32247	396686	547232	547735
32699	396844	547236	547736
41746	397188	547237	547745
49997	398361	547238	547761
51419	398597	547246	547767
102600	399473	547249	547784
119037	401077	547250	547790
151280	402162	547262	547840
175233	403376	547263	547861
178723	413680	547264	547864
178743	422717	547265	547865
181352	445045	547283	547867
208099	447124	547283	547868
212881	450952	547284	547870
236592	451870	547345	547872
257334	452725	547350	547929
259389	453841	547382	560528
263494	454991	547385	574729
267687	506989	547413	575388
270687	547045	547418	582580
274885	547046	547420	582801
337774	547072	547431	588984
343169	547091	547432	588985
373903	547092	547433	588997
375259	547093	547462	589011
375779	547095	547470	589040
384719	547096	547472	589989
386410	547105	547473	593761
388961	547106	547474	593933
394675	547107	547477	594315
395370	547110	547479	594368
395371	547131	547578	595284
395387	547135	547598	
396468	547140	547638	Page
396485	547186	547668	145-17
396499	547225	547713	

655490	912722	942263	980886
655821	913761	942488	983085
657160	914526	946495	1001445
657553	914998	947670	1005278
660105	915318	948003	1005858
661245	917612	949354	1007982
661590	918124	950090	1027262
662699	926365	950404	1232462
664907	928056	950897	1258056
666754	929060	951186	1261791
667110	929103	951785	
667232	929890	951933	
667732	930321	954747	
669780	930338	955033	
709188	930716	955484	
747054	930923	958065	
747577	931761	963738	
748205	933109	966137	
748221	934039	967396	
749513	936887	967717	
879260	938185	967857	
889977	939482	969636	
890151	940722	975698	
894377	941842	977354	

The serial numbers shown have many low serial numbers that are below serial number 800,000. The cut off for safe use and area of concern for safety was 800,000 for Springfield Armory production. All of these numbers were found in records dated about 1942 and right after the bombing at Pearl Harbor. This represents data on specific Model 1903 rifles that were still in use in 1942 and issued to military units in World War 2. They were not dismantled or destroyed as many documents suggest. The general serial number ranges show production about 1903 though 1917 for low numbers in later years of manufacture.

The numbers also show that some numbers were consecutive when listed in numerical order but no data was found to show anything except random numbers when shown on the original 1942 military forms.

If U.S. Martial Arms Collector Magazine subscribers send an email to check on any of these serial numbers, please note that they are from the current issue 145 of the magazine.

U.S. Martial Arms Collector 145-18

PISTOL, AUTO., CAL. .22, COLT, LONG RIFLE SERIAL NUMBERS
Data Has been added to Springfield Research Data Base

1120	1278	1325	1356
1123	1298	1326	1358
1131	1299	1327	1361
1132	1302	1328	1362
1142	1303	1329	1363
1143	1305	1332	1364
1179	1307	1334	1366
1180	1308	1337	1367
1181	1309	1339	1370
1184	1310	1340	1371
1190	1312	1341	1372
1191	1313	1342	1374
1192	1315	1343	1376
1196	1316	1344	1377
1199	1317	1346	1378
1210	1318	1348	1379
1217	1319	1349	1381
1266	1321	1350	1382
1267	1322	1351	
1274	1323	1352	<i>U.S.Martial Arms</i>
1277	1324	1353	<i>Collector 145-19</i>

1383	1431	1457	1509
1384	1432	1459	1510
1385	1435	1460	1512
1388	1436	1461	1517
1389	1439	1462	1518
1393	1440	1464	1519
1394	1441	1466	1522
1395	1442	1468	1524
1396	1443	1469	1525
1398	1444	1470	
1402	1445	1471	
1405	1446	1474	
1406	1447	1475	
		1476	
1408	1448	1478	
1410	1450		
	1452	1483	
1427			
	1453	1487	
1412			
1414	1454	1488	
1416	1455	1493	
1418	1456	1497	
1422	1458	1499	
1428	1463	1503	
1429	1465	1506	
1430	1467	1507	

*U.S. Martial Arms
Collector 145-20*

SPRINGFIELD CADET RIFLE SERIAL NUMBER 26611

There was one Cadet musket manufactured in the 4th quarter of 1873. The musket was manufactured for West Point and is listed in Army and Congressional records as manufactured and later listed as in the stores of the U. S. 5th Artillery unit in 1876. It is a rare find to locate this single gun with the West Point Cadet rack number 34 on the butt plate. The general description was that the weapon would be of the same size, length, and style as the Model 1869 Cadet Musket. The search has been on for almost 40 years to locate this weapon. It was bought at auction and came from the Barnyak collection with proceeds going to the NRA fund. . The collection was owned by the man that operated the Great Western Gun show in California for many years. It disappeared from circulation quite a few years ago and was assumed to be on the East Coast. The weapon is in very good original condition with the long wrist stock, correct early ram rod, 1873 rear sight, early coarse checkered hammer, 1873 lock, stacking swivel, cadet size butt plate, and early stock with no markings.

Right: 1873 Cadet right side with coarse checkered hammer, 1873 rear sight, and cadet trigger guard



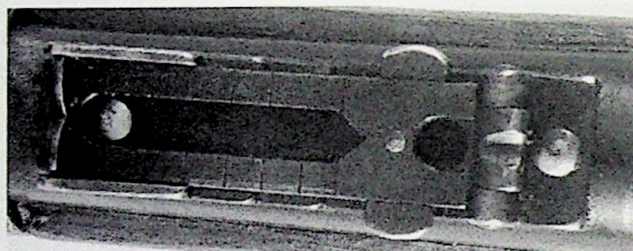
Right: 1873 Cadet rifle with long grip stock, no markings on side and bottom.



Below: 1873 Cadet serial number 26611
made in 1873.



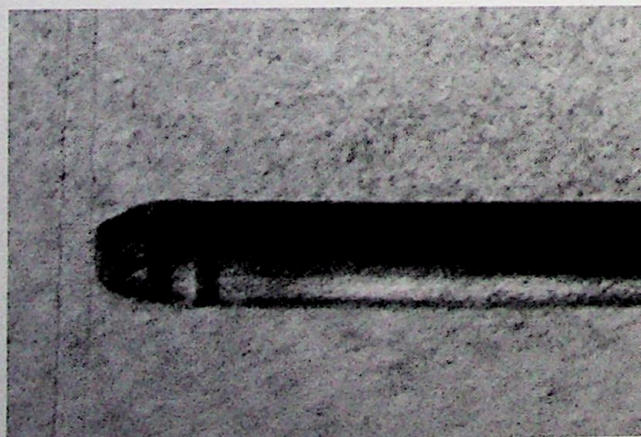
Below: 1873 rifle sight with base
graduations 1 to 4 and slide graduations 5
to 11. Slot less screws.



Right: 1873 cadet ramrod showing 2 shoulders,
early flat head, and the short threaded tip of the
first cadet.



The single early cadet rifle was made in the fourth
quarter of calendar year 1873. It was sent to
West Point and then sent to the 5th Artillery and
noted in December 26, 1876.



U.S. Martial Arms Collector 145-22

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3. Notes on caliber .30 Model of 1918 Pistol (Pedersen Device) by Capt. S. G. Green. Description and copies of drawings of the device. \$ 25.00
4. Ordnance Note 115, October 1, 1879. Arms captured from Hostile Indians. \$ 20.00

5. 1903 Springfield Ramrod Bayonet. Description and drawings. \$ 15.00
6. 1922, M1, and M2 .22 caliber Rifles. Description and copies of photos. \$ 10.00
7. Warner Swasey 1908 and 1913 Scopes. Description and copies of photos. \$ 10.00
8. TM 9-6920-363-12 & P Conversion Kit, .22 Rimfire Adapter M261, For Rifle, 5.56-MM, M16 and M-16A1. \$ 10.00
9. Base Shop Manual U. S. Rifle, 1903A1. Description and drawings. \$ 18.00
10. Ammunition reference Guide United States Armed Forces. 62 pages of descriptions of U. S. Cartridges. \$ 20.00
11. Reprint of FMFRP 0-11A. M40 A1 Sniper Rifle. USMC. \$ 10.00
12. Bench Reloading Tools. Price list and descriptions. Frankford Arsenal \$ 10.00

Note: Please allow two weeks for delivery.

U.S. Martial Arms Collector 145-23



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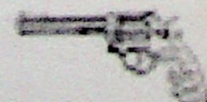
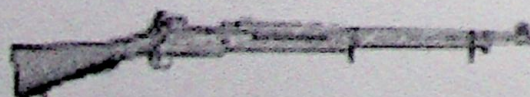


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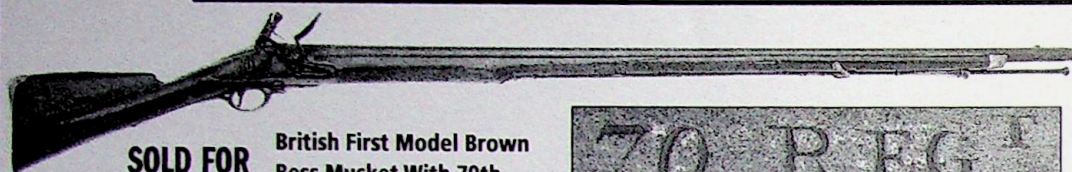


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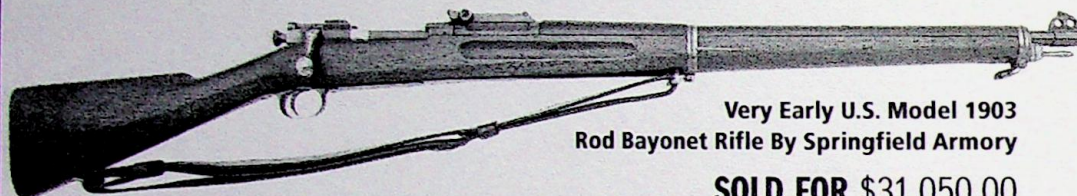
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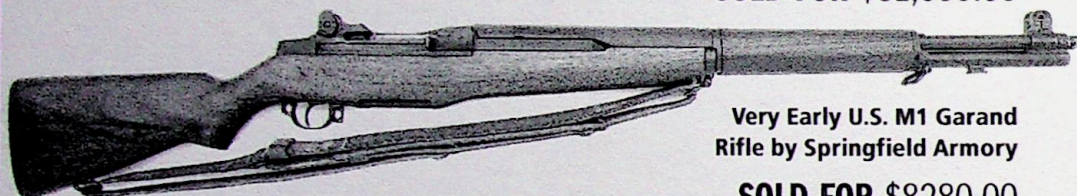
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British First Model Brown
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Regiment Of Foot Marking



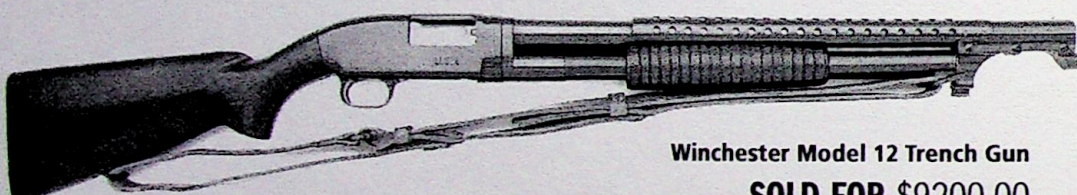
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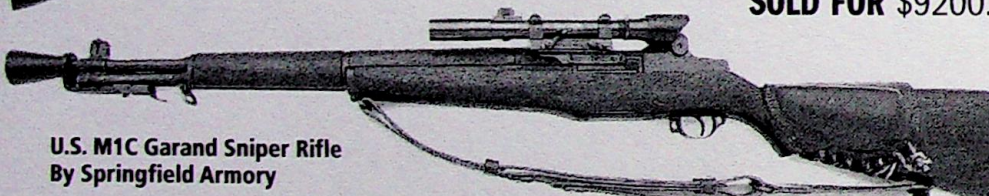
Very Early U.S. M1 Garand
Rifle by Springfield Armory

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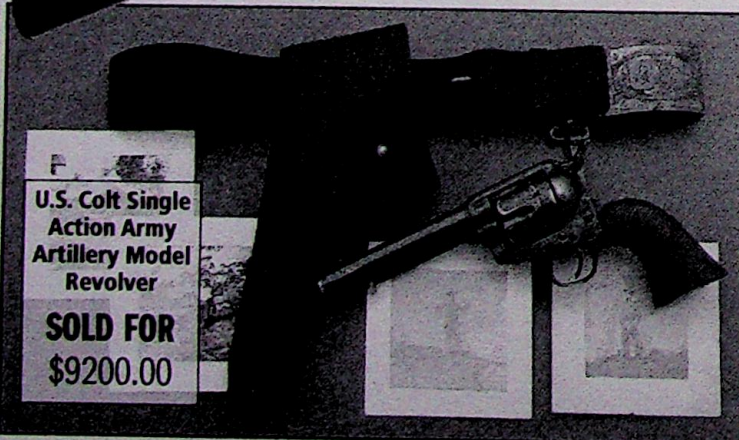
U.S. M1C Garand Sniper Rifle
By Springfield Armory

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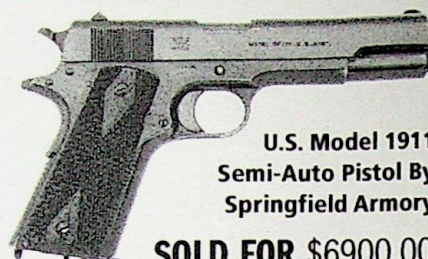
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Co. G, 1st. U.S.
Volunteer
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Rough Riders"

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Revolver

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Springfield Armory

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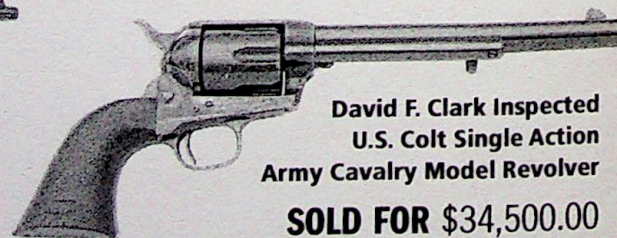
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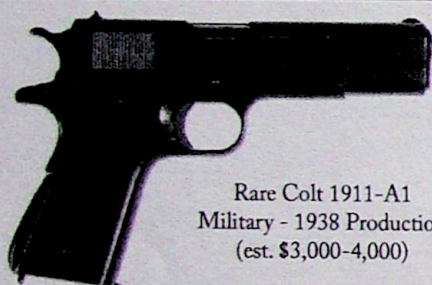
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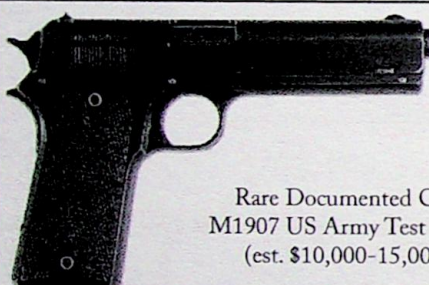
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Rare Colt 1911-A1
Military - 1938 Production
(est. \$3,000-4,000)

Sold for \$51,750



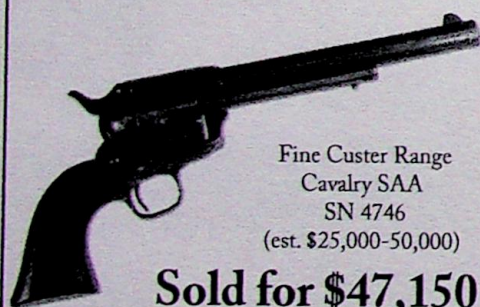
Rare Documented Colt
M1907 US Army Test Pistol
(est. \$10,000-15,000)

Sold for \$18,400



Rare First Production Vickers Manufactured
Pedersen Model PA Self-Loading Rifle
(est. \$10,000-15,000)

Sold for \$16,100



Fine Custer Range
Cavalry SAA
SN 4746
(est. \$25,000-50,000)

Sold for \$47,150



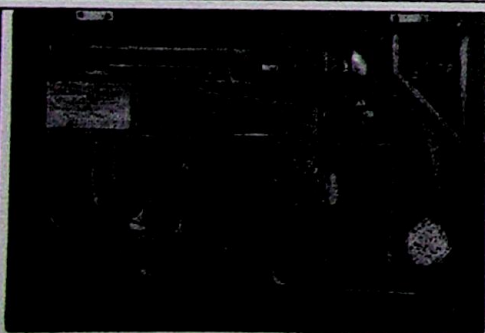
Rare Springfield Model 1903 Mark I w/Very Rare
Mark I Pedersen Device
(est. \$10,000-15,000)

Sold for \$29,900



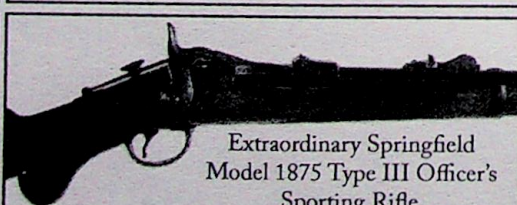
2nd Model Dragoon I'd'd to
Civil War Sargent C.D. Higby
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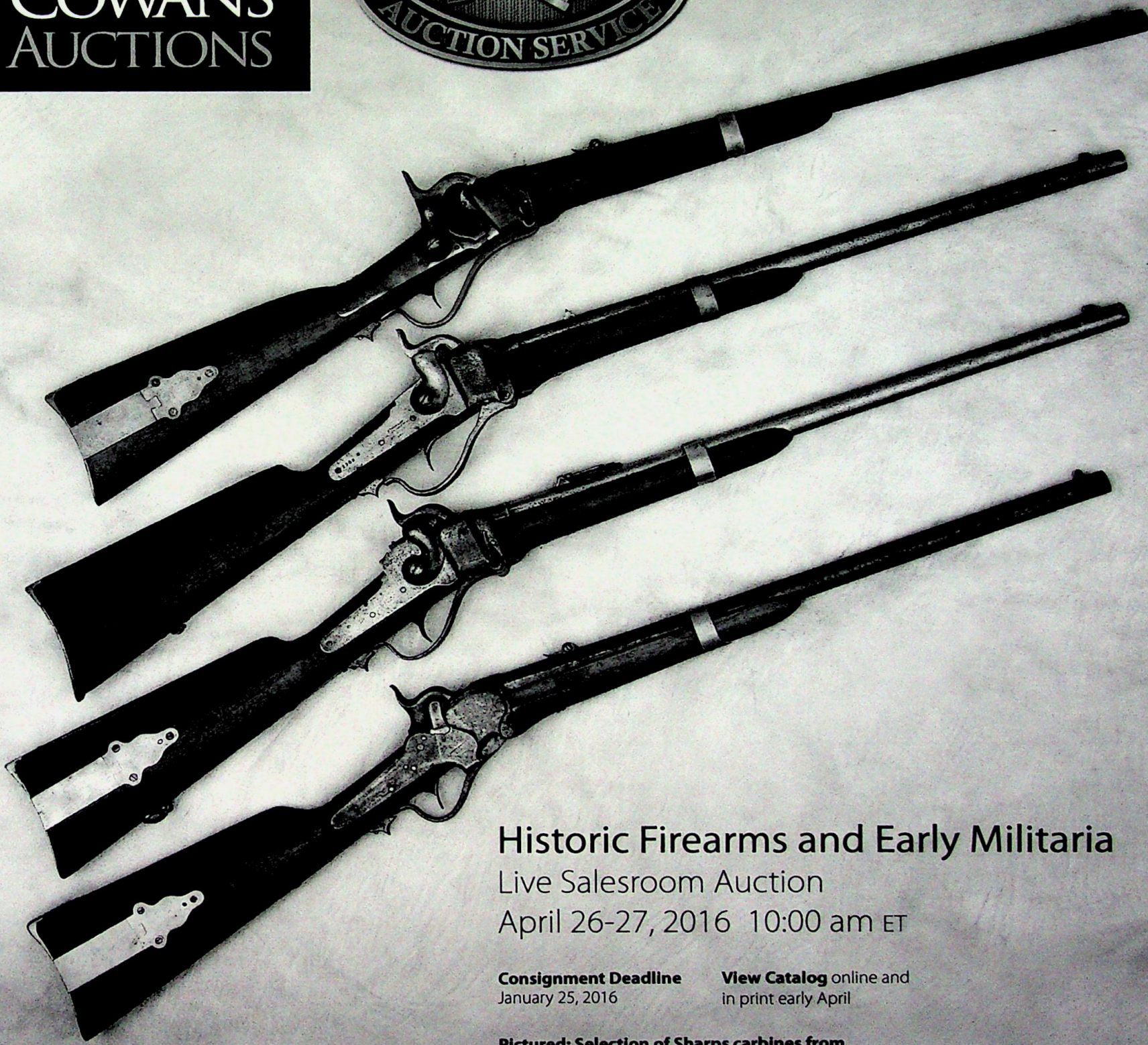
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