

Rob

35 WCF

95

Proprietary
on re. offset for width -

63 95

Cr. butt.

eyes for wire studs

"B" Cored wood - #FF w/ 'eyes' inlay -
Very tough wood
24" ft - very dense - triple stripes

left lower tray

8148 X 4?
CPS

A-1 elev - w/ pt-dtle
scr - both reversible
std serrated sides -

Flat roof ft -

Trans brk 4 at sec on ft. -

strut to table side
on B.P.
BP

on lean loop Δ - 20

on strut side
BP

on lean limb - Δ - 2

95

98% ft - 80% rev -
Core wood frame

8148

wide ft - BNS
35 WCF (VP) Δ

BF

* may, alt wip, fills & another

for
che
c 4562 on Rev. rev ft - 50

The following document has been extrapolated from the above notes originally written by George Madis (and provided to me via fax by his wife Pat on April 15, 2004). The above notes were drafted by George during a physical examination of this rifle for subsequent drafting of an authentication letter. As a student of George, I have attempted to draft a facsimile authentication letter in the style as I believe George would have written it, and have based on the data and facts per his notes. –Rob Kassab

Model 1895 Deluxe Rifle Serial Number 63909

I have carefully examined this rare rifle, inside and out, and have determined it is all original as made by Winchester.

According to the remaining records, this serial number was assigned to this rifle in 1911.

Outside barrel markings and caliber markings are correct and original. Under the barrel are seen various markings stamped into the metal—“BNS”, “VP” inside an oval, “35 W.C.F.”, and many other markings of fitters, assemblers and inspectors. “BNS” designates the type of nickel steel used to make the barrel; “VP” inside an oval stands for “viewed-proved”, indicating the gun had been proof-fired and visually inspected as well as gauged and approved. “35 W.C.F.” indicates the caliber.

Under the forend, on the receiver, we find the marking “T” inside a triangle, along with the letter “33”. Winchester’s general inspection mark was the letter “T” inside a triangle, and the number “33” is the stamp of an assembler or fitter.

On the lever loop is seen Winchester’s general mark “T” inside a triangle, along with the number “20” which was the stamp of an assembler or fitter.

On the lever link again we see Winchester’s general mark “T” inside a triangle, along with the number “2” which was the stamp of an assembler or fitter.

Assembly numbers on the Model 1895 do not usually correspond to the serial number or other numbers; by the time the model was in production, only a fitting number was used on the stocks.

On the stock, under the buttplate, is found “95”, designating the Model 1895, and the assembly number “8148”. A shallow hole is bored under the buttplate to change and improve balance.

Stamped in the inside toe of the steel buttplate is the corresponding assembly number “8148”. The same number, “8148”, is again seen on the left side of the lower tang under the stock along with “X” and “CPS”. The “X” marking was used to alert the various Winchester workmen that special care was to be given to the fit and finish to all components of the rifle. The “CPS” marking designated the type of nickel steel used to make the receiver.

A round, twenty-four inch barrel was factory fitted to this rifle. For the caliber of this rifle, 35 W.C.F., round barrels of this length were considered standard.

The front sight consists of a ramp which is forged on the barrel and a front sight dove-tailed into the ramp. At the rear of the barrel, a sporting rear sight with the elevator bearing patent date markings “PAT. FEB. 5, 1901.” was fitted by a dove-tail into the barrel.

The most rare and outstanding feature of this rifle is seen on the stocks. This rifle was fitted with deluxe dense grain walnut carved in "B" pattern. Special fancy grain walnut is of especially great rarity in the 1895, as only one or each 900 guns had special wood. In a count of total production, only one of each 1100 guns had carving or checkering.

Collectors and dealers agree original factory carved stocks are extremely desirable, of great rarity and seldom seen on any old Winchesters.

A case hardened crescent buttplate was factory fitted to the buttstock, along with screw eyes which were fitted to the forend and buttstock to accommodate a Winchester sling.

A high degree of original finish is seen on the stocks, on all of the blued parts of this rifle, and vivid case colors are seen on the hammer and buttplate.

The rare B-carved deluxe stocks, its age, and its unusually fine condition, make number 63909 an outstanding addition to any collection or museum.