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Special Order 1895 Second Model Rifle/Carbine Serial Number 398779

I have carefully examined this rare rifle/carbine, 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/carbine in 1920.

Outside barrel markings and caliber markings are correct and original.

According to Winchester records, the Winchester proof marks, a "W" and a "P" superimposed in an oval, were first used on centerfire guns in 1905 and were stamped on the barrel only. By 1908, this proof mark was applied to barrels and receivers. This proof mark is found on the front top of the receiver, and on the top of the barrel in front of the rear barrel band. The caliber marking ".30 GOV. '06." is also seen on the front top of the receiver, just behind the proof mark.

On the lever link is seen the Winchester general inspection mark "I" inside a triangle.

On the receiver, near the trigger is a number "2" which is a fitter's mark.

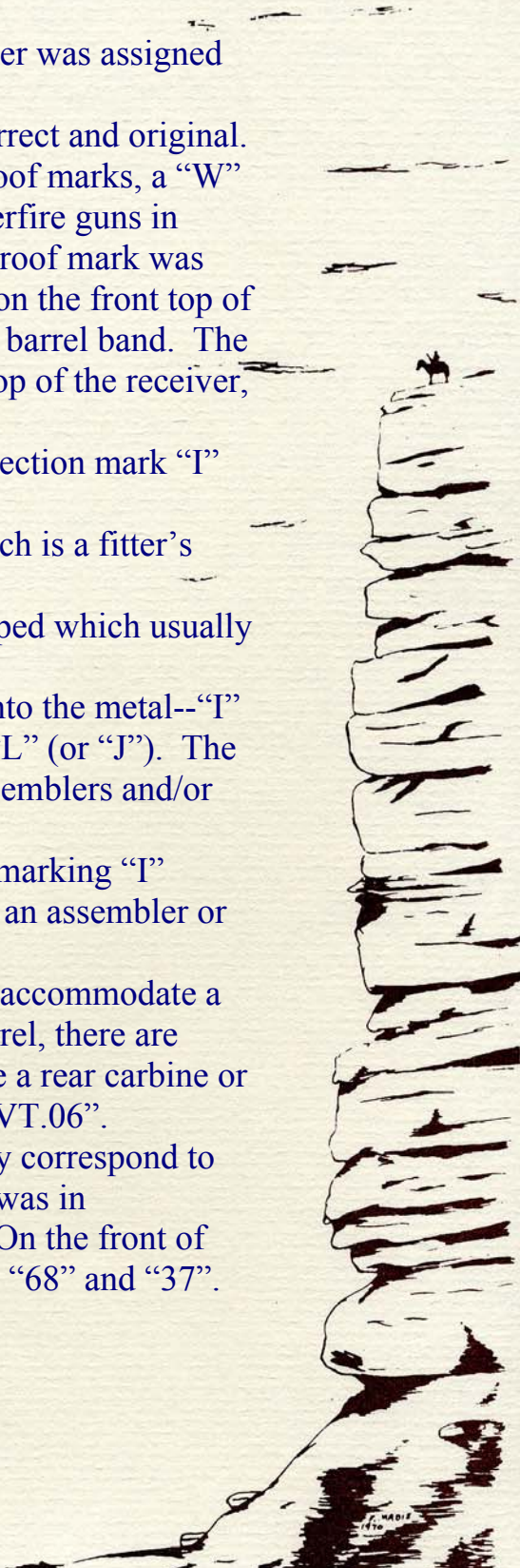
On the bottom of the lower tang, a letter "B" is stamped which usually indicates minor engineering differences.

Under the barrel is seen various markings stamped into the metal--"I" inside a triangle, along with the number "5" and the letter "L" (or "J"). The number "5" and the letter "L" (or "J") are the stamps of assemblers and/or fitters.

Under the forend, on the receiver, we again find the marking "I" inside a triangle, and the number "6" which is the stamp of an assembler or fitter.

Under the upper hand guard (which has no cutout to accommodate a rear sight as we see on standard carbines), on top of the barrel, there are threaded holes (with filler screws in place) to accommodate a rear carbine or musket-style sight, along with the caliber marking ".30 GOVT.06".

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 fitting numbers were used on the stocks. On the front of the stock, in the receiver area, are found assembly numbers "68" and "37".



On the stock, under the buttplate, a hole is bored to accommodate the brass/bristle wiping brush and string under the trapdoor buttplate.

A special, round, twenty-four inch barrel was factory fitted to this rifle/carbine. For '95 rifles in caliber 30-06, round barrels of this length were considered standard. For carbines in this caliber, as well as for all other calibers, a twenty-two inch round barrel was standard. The barrel used on this '95 is the same style barrel as used on the Model 1895 NRA musket in the same caliber. Further evidence of this is at approximately 4-1/4" from the muzzle where there is a round "half-hole" factory-machined into the bottom of the barrel. On the NRA musket configuration, this was used to clear the front forend retaining screw.

As on the NRA Musket barrel, the front sight consists of a ramp which is forged on the barrel and a steel blade, tin-faced sight pinned into the ramp. At the rear of the barrel, a Lyman two-leaf folding rear sight with a white triangle and large "Vee" notch was fitted by a dove-tail into the barrel. On the receiver, a special-order early-style (without address markings) Lyman Number 41 windage-adjustable receiver sight was factory fitted. This beautifully-made sight has a graduated scale with a rack and pinion elevation adjustment wheel and a flip-down peep aperture.

This rifle/carbine was fitted with select straight-grain oil-finished walnut in standard carbine configuration, except, as previously noted, there is no provision in the upper handguard for a rear sight. This lack of provision for a rear sight is rarely seen on carbines since most carbines came standard with a saddle ring which precluded the installation of a receiver sight.

A carbine buttplate with trapdoor was factory fitted, along with sling swivels which were fitted to the buttstock and made integral to the barrel band to accommodate a Winchester sling.

A high degree of original finish is seen on the stocks and on all of the blued parts of this rifle/carbine; overall, it is in virtually "like-new" condition.

The many rare and unique features on number 398779, its age, and its unusually fine condition, all make an outstanding addition to any collection of rare Winchester arms.

This letter was created from written notes (see attached) taken during the disassembly and physical inspection of this rifle by George Madis prior to his death.

Attested To:

Patricia Madis

Low Rot-

45/

398779

Prof. note on top of re. & ahead of low rot
under hole -

Δ 5 Low 5

rec. under hole - 6 Δ

under low rot - holes for sub. soft loose filla sens -
30 60 UT.06

ft. of
stubs in

Rec.

68 - 37

~~upward from bed with out~~

Slings loops - ft. ft. bed + btm. of stub
NXP metal

24" red rip type boll -

to 1/2 hole. for basket f.e. bed - 4 1/4" from
muzzle

W air
brown brittle
bed + string
wire
under
trapdoor

rough ft. at foxhole boll - still blade of the force

lymer ~~then~~ screw
rec - sens → 42 -
edge, still 1/0 pot det.

28" - Bentwood
to ft. board -
23 7/8 -

adj. from wire & 1/2 small flip - dm prep

NXP
musk
4 1/4"

on low - Δ for rec. near surge "2"
on low list Δ

"B" on low top dent. shot hole neck. inj. with

ailed first - hooded screw at fence boll st -

oiled first

only new on low in on ft. of low from opening -
98% + blue nit pits -