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Model 1894 U. S. Carbine Serial Number 784029

A careful inspection has been made of this rare Winchester, inside and out, and it has been determined it is all original or made by Winchester and or inspected and worked by the U. S. Ordnance department.

An inside inspection shows various inspectors, assemblers and fitters stamps, done at the Winchester factory. On the bottom of the barrel are numerous stamps, including "UP", "N.S." and "Δ". The mark "UP" shows this gun was "U lined - proved", meaning after proof firing a visual inspection or well as gauging the numerous components had been passed.

The mark "N.S." stands for nickel steel, the material used to make the barrel. Winchester general inspection stamp was "Δ", showing an overall, general inspection had been made of the barrel, receiver and other components.

On the receiver, under the forend, are another general inspection mark and "76".

Numbers with a dash under them were used to identify the assembler who worked on the gun.

Stamped on the back of the forend under the receiver is the number "46", the mark of the worker who fitted the forend.

Under the upper tang is the

stamp "①", which shows the receiver was forged of soft steel made by the Ellingsworth steel company. After the receiver was forged, trimmed, machined, polished and worked, the receiver was case hardened for durability and wear resistance.

On the end of the lower tang, inside, is the mark "3.6", which was the mark of the fitter who worked on some of the parts now and on the lower tang.

Stamped on the front of the stock, under the receiver is another general inspection mark and the number "55", the work of another Winstate craftsman.

On the inside of the buttplate is the forging die number "5267".

The fitter who adjusted the trigger and hammer relationship stamped his number "8" on the lower tang just ahead of the trigger.

This fitting was one of the most critical and important jobs on a gun.

The barrel and tang markings are correct and original, as are the Winstate Proof marks on the barrel and receiver.

On the top front of the receiver is the "U. S." mark and "flaming bomb", indicating inspection approval and ownership by the U. S. Ordnance department.

In addition to the markings on the top of the receiver, on the bottom of the

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recess is seen rather marking, "2 M 72", probably stamped when the gun was issued. The exact meaning of this mark is unknown, but it is probable it was a military identification mark.

Twenty inch round barrels and full magazine were standard for 1894 Carbine, as seen here. Magazine held six cartridges.

The front sight bases of carbines were forged or part of the barrel, and the sight blade pinned to the sight base in a brass-faced blade. A standard Carbine rear sight was provided and is graduated from 0 to 50.

Most popular for the 1894 was the 30 W. C. F. cartridge, most popularly called the "30-30".

Saddle rings were standard for early 1894 Carbine, and the saddle ring and its retaining stud are original.

In an effort to conserve scarce walnut, reduce manufacturing costs and weight, gumwood was used for stocking a few of the standard Winitates. This is the wood on number 784029, and it remains in excellent condition with a good degree of the original varnished finish.

Receivers of the model '94 were case-hardened, and this hardness resulted in a rather shallow blued finish. On most guns very little blue remains on the receiver, as

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Most of the original blued finish remains on the barrel, magazine tube and other blued steel surfaces.

U.S. Carbiner in the 1894 model are rare; most collectors have never seen one of these Winchester, and of the small number ordered for use in World War One, very few have survived. It is estimated that less than two thousand of these were produced, both from Winchester and from other sources.

On my estimation, there are less than one hundred of these guns in existence.

I discuss World War One models 1894 in my book "The Winchester Book" on pages 441 and 442. Records show this 1894 was made in 1915.

Number 784029 is a rare collector Winchester; it belongs in either a Winchester collection or collection of martial arms.

Because of the rarity, historical importance and condition, this Carbine will be a star in any fine collection or museum.

George W. Allen