

BOBBY VANCE
385 County Road 225
Briggs, Texas 78608

October 15, 2020
Poulin's Antiques & Auctions
199 Skowhegan Road
Fairfield, Maine 04937

Re: Colt Walker revolver
C Company N^o 126

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for sending your Colt Walker, frame serial number C Company N^o 126 to me for an examination. Following is my assessment of this revolver. I had my original Colt Walker, C Company N^o 2, the earliest known Colt Walker revolver existing, to compare it to.

Despite the array of company numbers, i.e.. C Company N^o 126 on the frame, B Company N^o 123 on cylinder and D Company N^o 138 on the barrel, this revolver exhibits all original Colt Walker parts in my opinion. The hammer and loading lever are original casehardened finished parts and are most certainly arsenal spare parts furnished by the Whitneyville factory as a part of the contract for the 1,000 Model Colt Walker revolvers to a United States Arsenal. I am of the opinion that the various components of this revolver are those assembled from various salvaged parts from unservicable Walker revolvers that were returned to the arsenal.

The barrel (marked D Company N^o 138) has considerable original blued finish and the bore is very fine with no rust pitting. The US/1847 marked on the right side of the lug is proper. The loading lever almost all of its original casehardening and is very likely a factory spare part. The lever T-spring has the tip broken off but appears original to the barrel. The unmarked wedge appears original as well.

The cylinder (marked B Com-y N^o 123) is an original cylinder showing a significant pressure ring from the cylinder scene as well as a very clear number marking. The single original safety pin is present. The usual serial number is not visible on the rear of the cylinder, but the cylinder is unquestionably an original Colt Walker cylinder. The face of the cylinder shows two dot impressions, the significance of which will be expanded upon further.

The frame (marked C Company N^o 126) appears to be an arsenal re-casehardened finish – the "...y N^o..." portion of the frame marking is very light now but in my opinion is an original frame that likely came from a damaged complete revolver and therefore returned to the arsenal.

The backstrap and triggerguard are not company marked nor does the triggerguard strap show any assembly number as is normally seen on a complete revolver. The thicknesses of the parts where the numbers usually are placed do not show any evidence of being filed down. Thus in my opinion, these two parts are also spare parts pressed into use when this revolver was reassembled with salvaged and spare parts to complete this revolver and the arsenal saw no need to number them.

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The hammer and trigger show a single "dot" on each part. This would suggest the two were fitted together by an arsenal workman and complement the two dots present on the face of the cylinder. The bolt sometimes will show a number or sign of fitting but that is not present on this part. The bolt and trigger spring appears original, as does the mainspring. It should be noted that the leaf of the bolt and trigger spring that bears against the bolt is cracked not providing spring tension against the bolt.

The walnut grips are in fine condition and appears to be an original spare part with considerable finish remaining. There are two small holes on the inside that may have been attached to a fixture for final fitting and/or finishing. It should be noted that on my benchmark Colt Walker, C Company N^o2, that there are similar holes inside the grips.

It appears to me that this revolver of yours is composed of parts from salvaged Colt Walkers as well as with spare parts that were a part of the original contract. This revolver has seen little use since its reassembly but is an original Colt Walker revolver.

Sincerely,

Bobby Vance