Subject: Re: Hexagons in the Master Book

Posted by afire on Thu, 09 Apr 2015 19:19:18 GMT

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Barney Green wrote on Thu, 09 April 2015 08:27I am wondering why I can't find a single Hexagon in the Master Book is there anyone here who knows a good reason? Was that watch too early to be included in the MB?

That would be my guess. It seems to me that the Master Book entries start in the early '20s. Strap 1 shows up in ads at least as late as 1922, so that would be roughly my guess. Sometimes the only way to find matches (if at all) for watches from this era is to periodically search for 1918-1922 Gruen ads. No matches right now, but item 251885260943 might interest you. The hexagon illustrated isn't a match, but the text suggests a range of hexagons.

Barney Green wrote on Thu, 09 April 2015 08:27Also the movement gave me a hard time to identify it. Does the "W" after 18K stand for white gold or for Wadsworth, any opinion or insights?

The "W" indeed stands for white. You also sometimes see "14K.G." on green gold cases. Definitely not Wadsworth, as cases with the Cincinnati marking are in-house cases made by Gruen's own case shop.

I would have guessed the movement to be a caliber 137. At least on other early Gruens I've seen, that number on the bottom often matches the caliber. And I have no idea what the "1/2" designates. Furthermore, I don't even know whether there is such a thing as a caliber 137. So take that with a block of salt. The earliest parts catalog I have a copy of is 1926 and there is no 137. But I think Mike has mentioned an earlier one (1918)? Might be worth checking out if you're unsure of your ID.