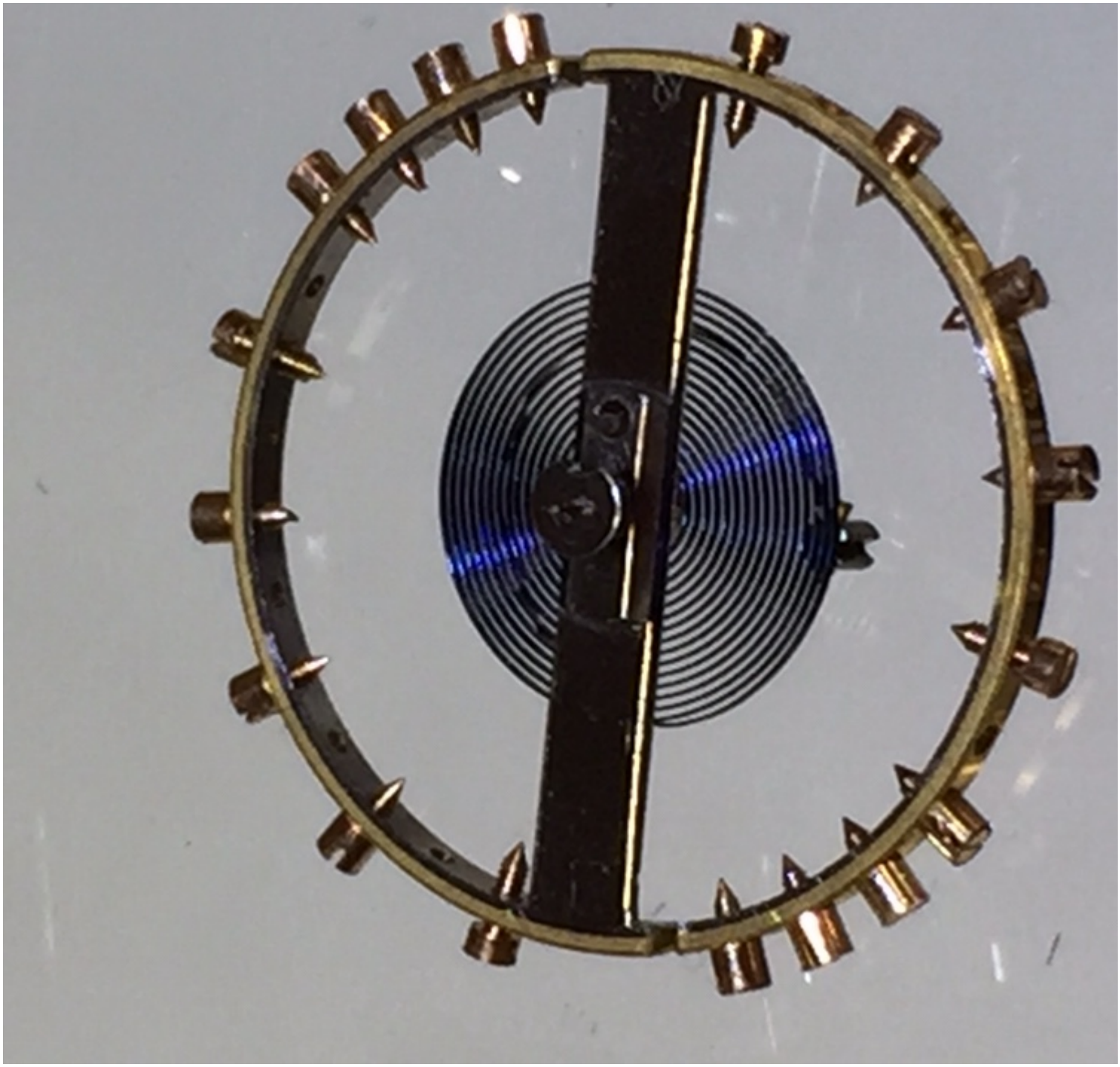
Subject: Wanted: info/source for balance staff, 1907 VE pocket watch
Posted by Case on Fri, 23 Aug 2019 13:31:42 GMT
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Restoring an early 21j Verithin VE 17L Gruen Madretsch, need a balance staff. This one was made in late 1907, believe I have seen others call these models "Gen 1.5" verithins. It has the roller plate & jewel integral to the balance spoke. Tried a V1 staff but doesn't match. Any advice or leads appreciated!

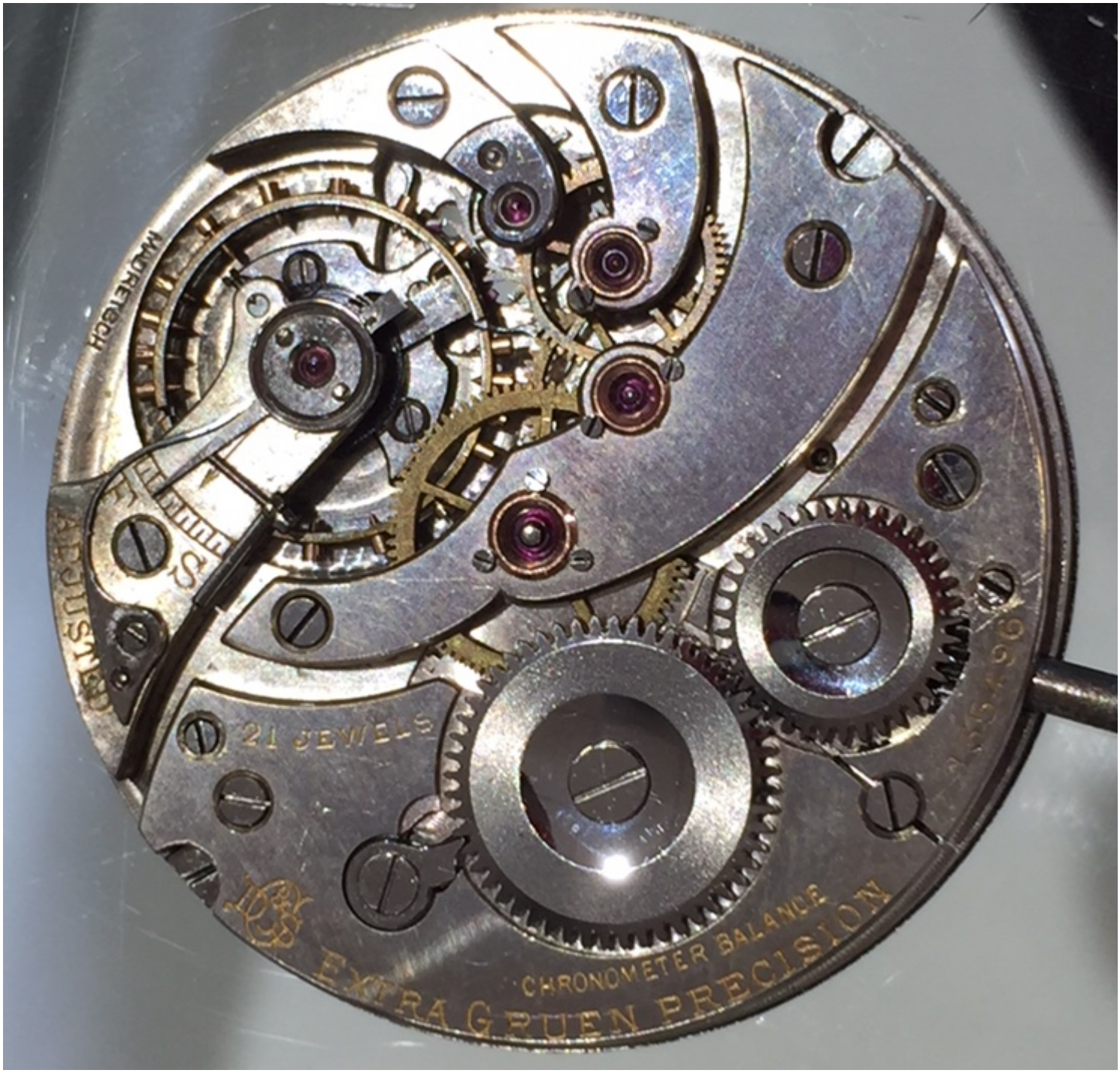
Dan

File Attachments

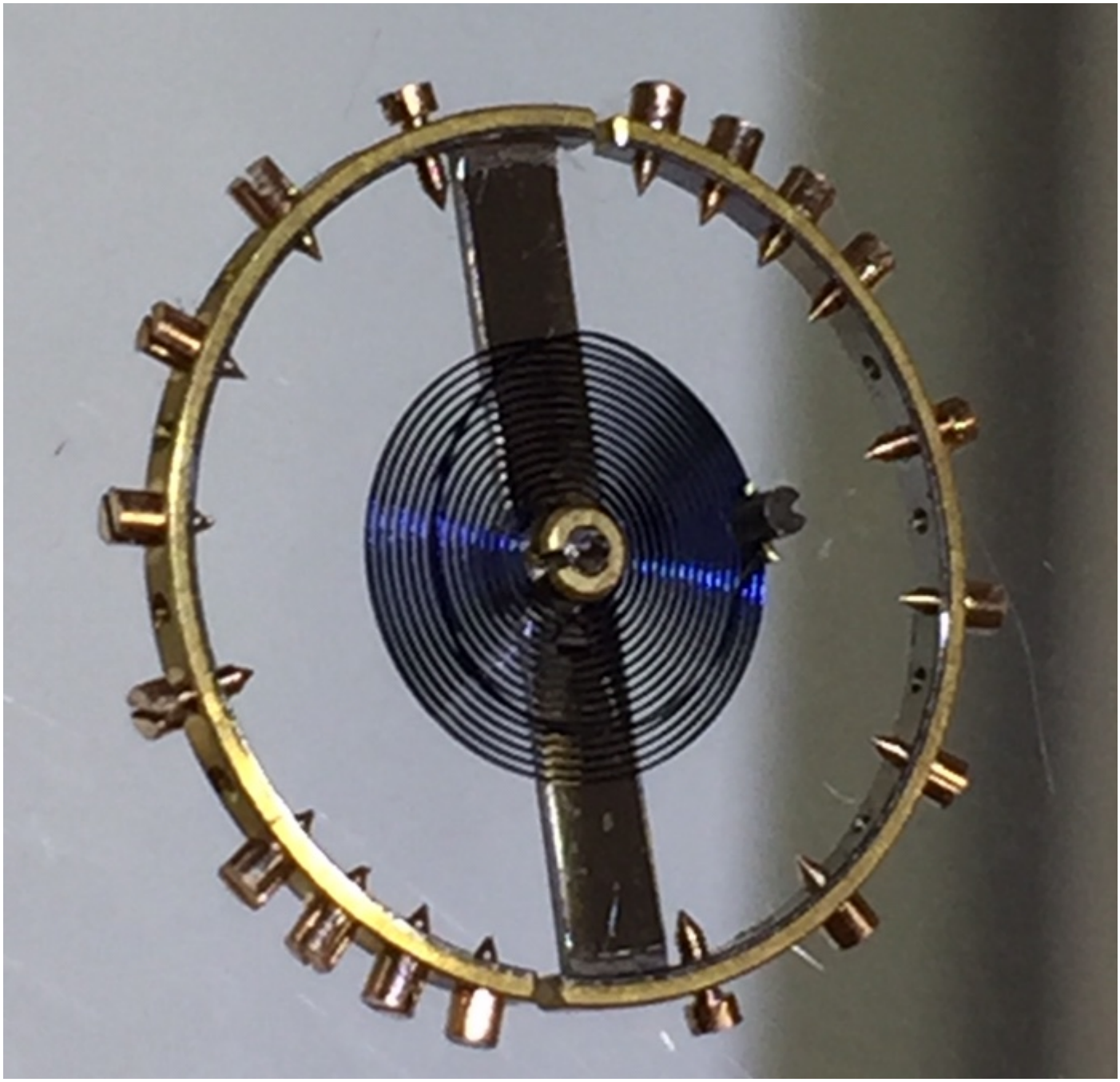
1) 03DDA71D-1FDA-4AAA-9BA8-8AEA4FA8285E.jpeg, downloaded 3713 times



2) FE4ADE23-2D8E-4722-BED3-8EAEBB16FC8E.jpeg, downloaded 3500 times



3) 383F7DC9-80BD-4A91-9FFA-CFA38D1EDEA2.jpeg, downloaded 3556 times



Subject: Re: Wanted: info/source for balance staff, 1907 VE pocket watch
Posted by thesnark17 on Thu, 29 Aug 2019 23:41:11 GMT
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What does your "V1" staff look like? Specifically, is it smoothly cylindrical, or does it have a pronounced step in it?

I ask because I have seen both types labeled (in Gruen factory packaging) as "V1". I assume that the smooth type is the correct staff as the other type is very close (or identical?) to the V4 staff.

Subject: Re: Wanted: info/source for balance staff, 1907 VE pocket watch
Posted by Case on Fri, 30 Aug 2019 02:21:52 GMT
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Thanks for the reply, and you're right: the correct one would the smoothly cylindrical one. The one I'd sourced previously was one with a shoulder.

Subject: Re: Wanted: info/source for balance staff, 1907 VE pocket watch
Posted by Case on Fri, 30 Aug 2019 20:48:23 GMT
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Found an orphaned V4 ca1915-16. Different balance/pallet vs. 1920s V4 I have. Looks close to my 21j down to the pallet bridge, which is rounded on the ends vs pointed. We'll see.

File Attachments

1) 6BA10C2E-650C-4FC0-B4DB-E759306FE3CE.jpeg, downloaded 3277 times



Subject: Re: Wanted: info/source for balance staff, 1907 VE pocket watch
Posted by thesnark17 on Sat, 31 Aug 2019 14:12:36 GMT
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If you find that that fits, could you let us know? V1 staffs are unobtanium, but early V4 movements are cheap!

Subject: Re: Wanted: info/source for balance staff, 1907 VE pocket watch
Posted by kastner on Sat, 31 Aug 2019 15:13:42 GMT
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I looked at my parts drawers and have V4s and V7 staffs but nothing marked V1. However, I do have the attached for a Precision Ultra Very Thin 17J. I don't think that it is right, but I offer it up for consideration.

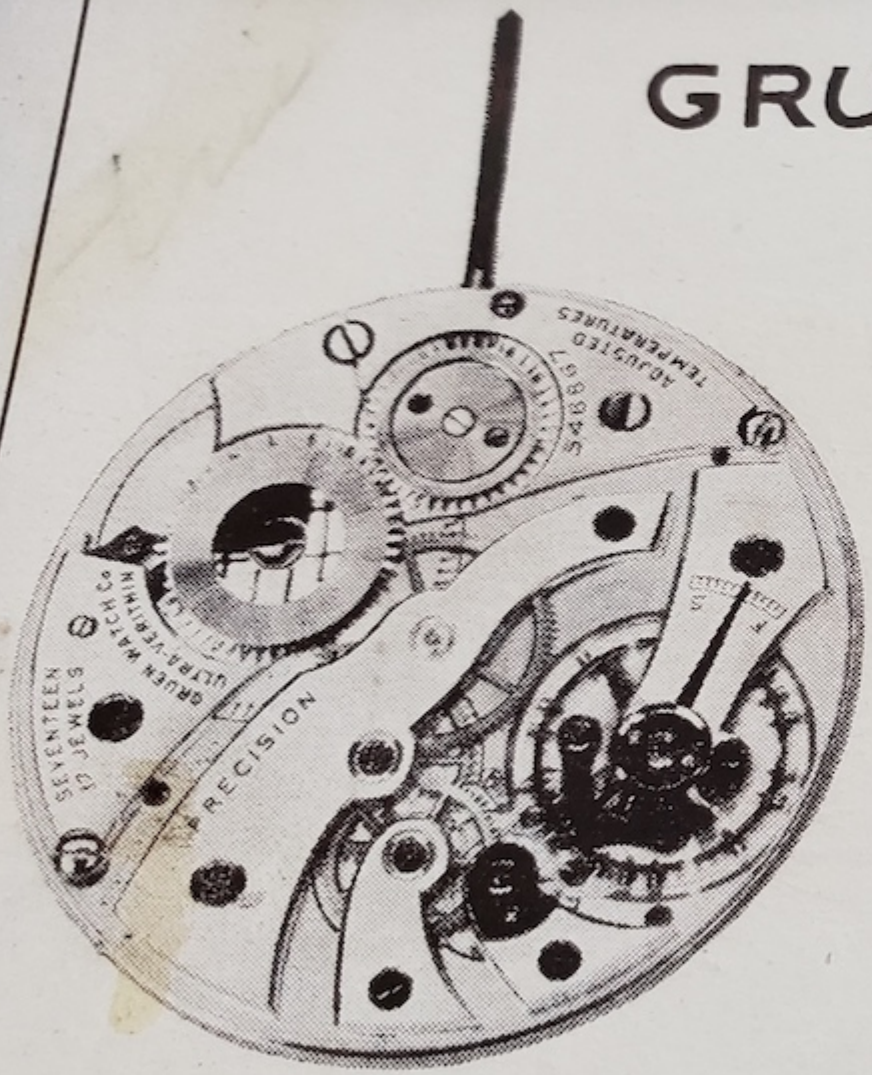
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File Attachments
1) 20190831_075611.jpg, downloaded 3244 times

GRUEN WAT

PRECISION

INTERCH



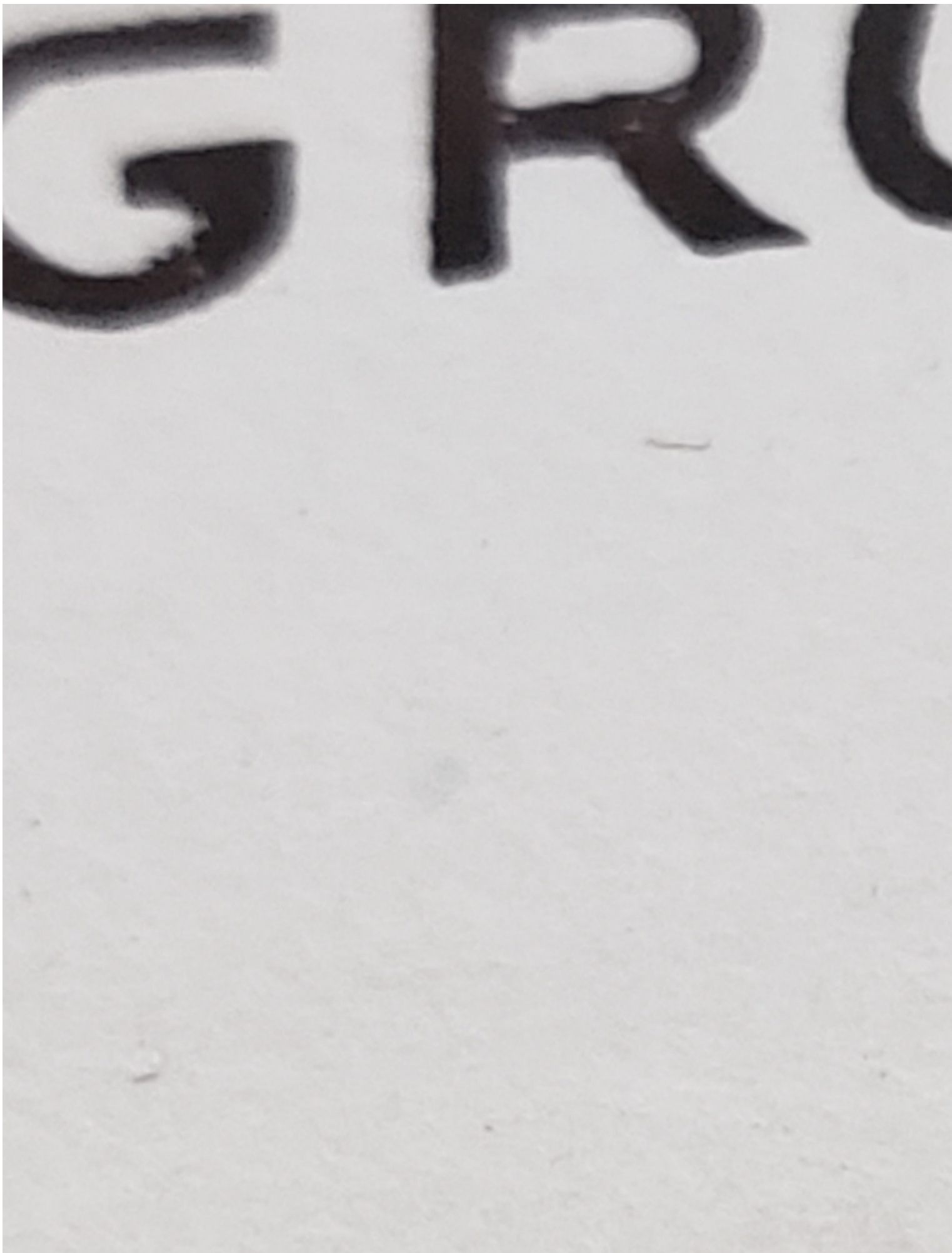
17 Jewels
Precision Adjusted

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1	5110	Balanc
2	5115	"
3		
4	5120	Click S
5	5129	Detent
6	5130	Stems
7	5131	Clutch
8	5132	Windi
9	5133	Clutch
10	5137	Case S
11	5139	Plate

Whe

nted in U.S.A.

2) 20190831_075622.jpg, downloaded 3219 times


GRO

Subject: Re: Wanted: info/source for balance staff, 1907 VE pocket watch
Posted by Case on Tue, 03 Sep 2019 03:00:41 GMT
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That one looks like the one I tried previously, and from the 1925 date on the assortment it's likely for the newer version current at that time.

Taking the donor in for exploratory surgery tomorrow. Fingers crossed! I have a 19j Madrestch as a last resort, but scavenging that would kill me.

Subject: Re: Wanted: info/source for balance staff, 1907 VE pocket watch
Posted by thesnark17 on Tue, 03 Sep 2019 03:02:50 GMT
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I have a 17j Madretsch donor that I could spare. I feel your pain...

Subject: Re: Wanted: info/source for balance staff, 1907 VE pocket watch
Posted by Case on Tue, 03 Sep 2019 17:33:43 GMT
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This story is just too true to be good. Not a match; on to plan C. BTW, the only visual indicator from the top side on the stud carrier is the hole: the Madretsch has a perfectly round hole for the hairspring, while the later (non-matching) movement has semi-circle with one flat side. Difference is visible in images above.

Here's a visual of the broken staff.

Also, thinking longer term of getting this into a CAD file and finding a CM. Such a simple design. Any recos?

File Attachments
1) 1907 Balance staff (broken).JPG, downloaded 3167 times



Subject: Re: Wanted: info/source for balance staff, 1907 VE pocket watch
Posted by Case on Sun, 15 Sep 2019 03:20:02 GMT
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Update on this: I took a Madrestch 19J movement of same design & likely within same year production (sn 130k vs the 135k 21j VE). No dice.

Escapement is identical, but 19j has a standard roller table, so takes the same broad collar v1-V4 staff discussed above. So need to have staff made.

Btw, this staff looks just like a pallet arbor. Can't help thinking that would be much easier to find. Anyone know a way of checking if there's a pallet arbor available that would fit? Tried several websites, but couldn't find a way to search dimensions.