Subject: Strap 17
Posted by thesnark17 on Fri, 04 Sep 2020 00:02:44 GMT
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Model name : Strap 17
Type : wristwatch
Period/date : 1922??
Gender : Men's

Case Maker : Gruen
Case Material : green gold
Case Serial : 1067788
Case Style no : none

Caliber : 826ss [case correctly marked 827]
Movement Maker : Gruen Guild
Movement Serial: none

File Attachments

1) Strap 17 mvt.jpg, downloaded 3580 times


GALEN

2) Strap 17 back.jpg, downloaded 3441 times


GRU
14K
CINCI

3) Strap 17 dial.jpg, downloaded 3457 times



Subject: Re: Strap 17
Posted by thesnark17 on Fri, 04 Sep 2020 00:18:58 GMT
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I bought this watch in pieces, and the pieces were bent. The back cover was warped and the bezel had some complex bends in it. I felt sorry for the watch; what can I say. I knew it would be scrapped if I didn't intervene.

I spent a lot of time straightening out the bezel and case back, and now they snap on and off quite nicely. The fit could still have been better (or so I thought at the time), but I eventually decided that discretion was the better part of valour. So I put the watch in a drawer and forgot about it...

It needs a crystal, case screws, and a sweep-seconds support spring to be whole again. At the moment, it only runs for a minute at a time before the sweep seconds assembly becomes misaligned.

Looking back at it now, I'm quite proud of how well the case repair went. I would never have thought it was bent at all! I should have taken some "before" pictures.

Subject: Re: Strap 17
Posted by timeliz on Fri, 04 Sep 2020 01:26:31 GMT
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I think it looks fabulous!

I have a couple of these that still need the sweep wheel & arm.
I'm envious.

Subject: Re: Strap 17
Posted by afire on Fri, 04 Sep 2020 05:59:21 GMT
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Nothing's perfect after 100 years of use. It would be absurd to expect otherwise. That's a damned fine looking watch.

Subject: Re: Strap 17
Posted by kastner on Fri, 04 Sep 2020 13:59:00 GMT
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> Nothing's perfect after 100 years of use.

Ain't that the truth! I look at some of my watches that have some wear and think "If I look that good at 70, 80, or 90 years old I'll be ecstatic!"

The watch looks great, nice job on the case.

Subject: Re: Strap 17
Posted by afire on Fri, 04 Sep 2020 16:06:35 GMT
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Another thought... I've owned two of these, and seen probably two or three others. All have had the same dial as yours. Yet every illustration shows a dial with italic font.

Subject: Re: Strap 17
Posted by afire on Mon, 12 Apr 2021 17:28:18 GMT
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Here's my current example. More or less the same as thesnark17's, but with the other version of hour hand. An it has its original 14k green gold filled Kreisler bracelet, which Gruen designated as the "Guild Band":

Subject: Re: Strap 17
Posted by Case on Tue, 13 Apr 2021 01:42:32 GMT
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Oh so nice! Always a fan of these models. In totality, such a timeless look.

Subject: Re: Strap 17
Posted by afire on Mon, 16 May 2022 21:01:09 GMT
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Another picture of mine. This time sporting a Lord Wadsworth bracelet I picked up the other day. Both this watch and this bracelet are listed in the 1929 Guild Book, so they are an appropriate pairing.

If you are also a Hamilton collector, you may recognize this in a slightly modified form as the Clinton bracelet. Or, if you're an Illinois enthusiast, you would see it as a Frontenac bracelet.

Subject: Re: Strap 17

Posted by Jenneke on Mon, 16 May 2022 21:21:05 GMT
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Nice find. Are these bands comfortable?

Subject: Re: Strap 17
Posted by afire on Mon, 16 May 2022 22:12:51 GMT
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The Guild Band isn't particularly comfortable, with it's sharp angles. But the Lord Wadsworth band definitely is. They're fun to wear once in a while, but honestly, the contrast of dark leather is hard to beat for looks.

Subject: Re: Strap 17
Posted by Ephemerald on Tue, 17 May 2022 03:07:56 GMT
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I think it looks really good & ya can't beat 10 bucks, had my eye on it, thanks for sharing. Nice score.

Subject: Re: Strap 17
Posted by afire on Tue, 17 May 2022 14:39:59 GMT
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Ephemerald wrote on Mon, 16 May 2022 22:07I think it looks really good & ya can't beat 10 bucks, had my eye on it, thanks for sharing. Nice score.
And that was a relist. I don't remember how it was listed the first time around but I passed. When it showed up with a $10 BIN, I couldn't resist and I'm glad I didn't. Sure, it's got some where, but in real life to the naked eye, it's pretty hard to detect.