
Subject: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [Thojil](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2014 10:25:21 GMT

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Model name : "Strap 130"

Type : Barrel case

Period/date : approx. 1931

Gender : Male

Case Maker : Wadsworth

Case Material : Nickel "Tarnish Proof" (rhodium plated)

Case Serial : 8540089

Case Style no : 315-80

Caliber : 315

Movement Maker : Gruen?

Movement Serial : 192252

Bracelet : Original nickel band "Flex No. 25" marked "Sturdy".

Other info : Shown in the Guild Book Supplement 9-31 Page 12A as part of the "Sturdy Gruen Wrist Watches for Young Men" range.

Edit: data updated following new information below

File Attachments

1) [Img_0615b.jpg](#), downloaded 2197 times



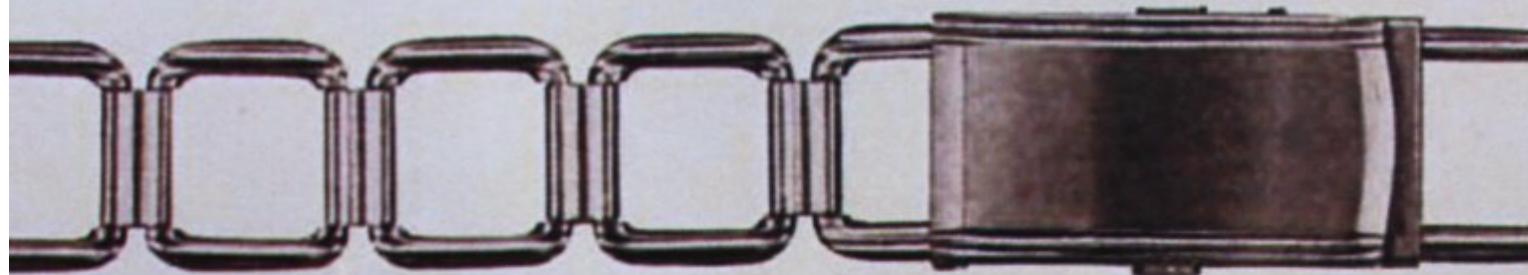
2) [Img_0618b.jpg](#), downloaded 2137 times

15 jewel movement
Gold filled case, with tarnish-pr

(Strap 60, White)



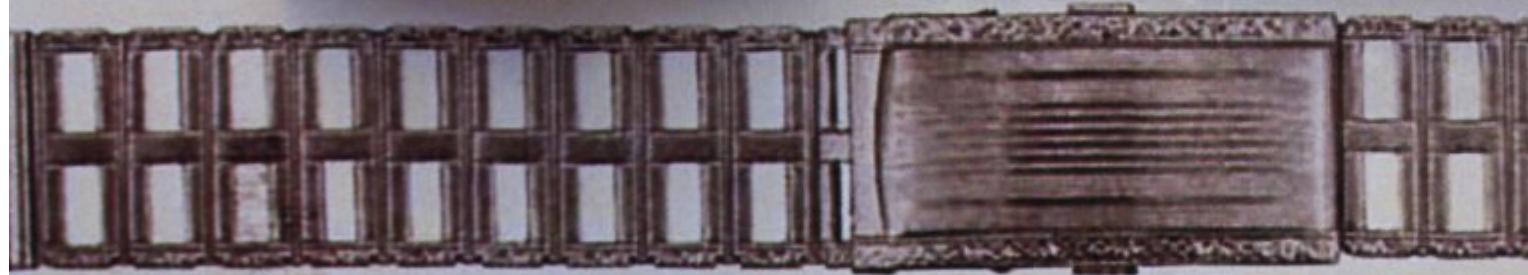
3) [Img_0617b.jpg](#), downloaded 2187 times



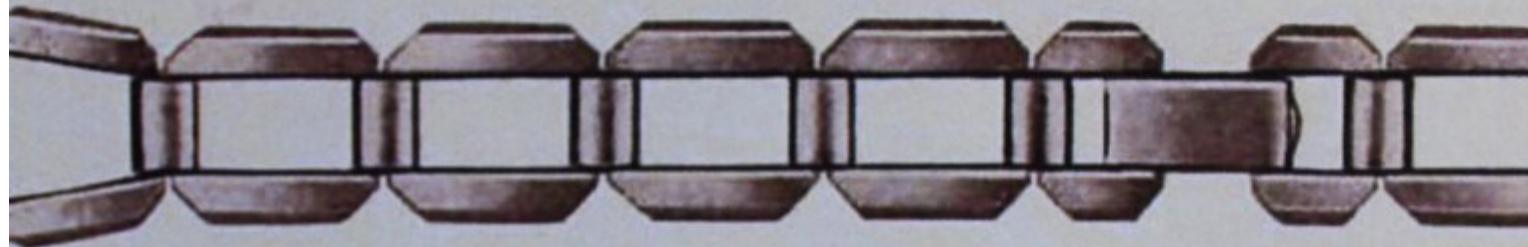
Flex No. 51—White, green or coin gold filled, 5-fold



Flex No. 71—14k White or coin gold filled



Flex No. 25—Tarnish-proof nickel band, 5-fold



Flex No. 88—Precious metal band of rhodium finish

4) [Img_0620b.jpg](#), downloaded 2221 times



Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"
Posted by [timeliz](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2014 11:08:59 GMT

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Very nice, Thojil & awesome looking band...Nice find!

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [JackW](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2014 15:47:01 GMT

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Very nice!

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [Bazzab](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2014 18:57:42 GMT

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Nice Watch

I not sure about the case maker, It would seem that Western Watch Case went out of business in the 1900's according to Pocket Watch Repair Site.

<http://www.pocketwatchrepair.com/histories/case-companies/ca se-companies-10.html>,
and may have been sold to The Illinois Watch, But I cant, at the moment confirm this.

It could have also connected with the Illinois Case Co, which would seem more likely, but I cant confirm this either!

WWC seems to have been a Trade name for Wadsworth according to the NAWCC

http://mb.nawcc.org/showwiki.php?title=Wadsworth_Watch_Case_Co

I also have the same model in a WWC marked case, my Movement no is lower than yours, but the case number is higher, not sure what that means, just thought I would add it

B

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [Gary](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2014 19:14:40 GMT

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Nice! I'm surprised to see the nickel band and back in such good shape, no corrosion.

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [Thojil](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2014 23:22:03 GMT

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GaryM wrote on Mon, 06 January 2014 20:14Nice! I'm surprised to see the nickel band and back in such good shape, no corrosion.

Well, the brochure promised "tarnish-proof" nickel. Maybe not all Marketing messages are just bla bla

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [Thojil](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2014 23:27:26 GMT

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Bazzab wrote on Mon, 06 January 2014 19:57 Nice Watch

I not sure about the case maker, It would seem that Western Watch Case went out of business in the 1900's according to Pocket Watch Repair Site.

<http://www.pocketwatchrepair.com/histories/case-companies/case-companies-10.html>, and may have been sold to The Illinois Watch, But I cant, at the moment confirm this.

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I also have the same model in a WWC marked case, my Movement no is lower than yours, but the case number is higher, not sure what that means, just thought I would add it

B

Thanks B, that was all I could find in a short time. The watch being from the 1930's and the fact that Wadsworth was one of the main case suppliers to gruen make Wadsworth as the manufacturer more likely then.

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [JackW](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2014 23:42:02 GMT

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opening can o'worms...3....2....1.....

Barry, I would like to point out that this case is not marked Gruen yet it matches exact to the images that Thomas has posted. It does have the caliber and case style number (tm) - Barry and Mike (LOL!). My point is back to this discussion - [LINK](#).

Cheers!

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [Gary](#) on Tue, 07 Jan 2014 00:03:34 GMT

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Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [C. Hurt](#) on Tue, 07 Jan 2014 01:46:16 GMT

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It's a Wadsworth case and it's correctly marked for what was an "entry level" watch.

"Tarnish Proof" nickel had a thin rhodium plating to help prevent the corrosive reaction that nickel often shows when exposed to acidic perspiration. The case on thojil's example is in extraordinary condition.

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [Bazzab](#) on Tue, 07 Jan 2014 02:07:33 GMT

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JackW wrote on Mon, 06 January 2014 18:42opening can o'worms...3....2....1.....

Barry, I would like to point out that this case is not marked Gruen yet it matches exact to the images that Thomas has posted. It does have the caliber and case style number (tm) - Barry and Mike (LOL!). My point is back to this discussion - [LINK](#).

Cheers!

LOL

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [Bazzab](#) on Tue, 07 Jan 2014 02:10:53 GMT

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C. Hurt wrote on Mon, 06 January 2014 20:46It's a Wadsworth case and it's correctly marked for what was an "entry level" watch.

"Tarnish Proof" nickel had a thin rhodium plating to help prevent the corrosive reaction that nickel often shows when exposed to acidic perspiration. The case on thojil's example is in extraordinary condition.

Thanks for confirming what I had previously stated and the additional information

B

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [afire](#) on Tue, 07 Jan 2014 04:21:12 GMT

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C. Hurt wrote on Mon, 06 January 2014 19:46" Tarnish Proof" nickel had a thin rhodium plating to

help prevent the corrosive reaction that nickel often shows when exposed to acidic perspiration. Interesting. That explains why these cases are so very white (relative to the comparatively cloudy gray I usually associate with nickel in other applications).

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [Gary](#) on Fri, 10 Jan 2014 02:40:13 GMT

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Another one pertaining to the open can of worms.

291054498133

Cheers!

Subject: Re: Gruen "Strap 130"

Posted by [C. Hurt](#) on Fri, 10 Jan 2014 02:55:52 GMT

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GaryM wrote on Thu, 09 January 2014 20:40Another one pertaining to the open can of worms.

291054498133

Cheers!

Aftermarket Star Watch Case Co. case, usually seen with Elgin or Waltham movement. Not sure if the bezel is nickel or brushed chrome plate.
