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Subject: Hexagons in the Master Book

Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Thu, 09 Apr 2015 13:27:38 GMT

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Not sure if I put this here or more in the 20s section...

Model name : Plate 24C in a higher grade version

Type : Solid Gold Wristlet

Period/date : ca. 1919

Gender : Ladies

Case Maker : unknown, may be Gruen or Wadsworth

Case Material : 18K white gold

Case Serial : 1022246

Case Style no : 137 1/2

Caliber : 1396 /16 jewels 3 adjusts

Movement Maker : Gruen Watch Specialties Co

Movement Serial: n.A.

Bracelet : none, should be silk ribbon but the watch is prepared for a different band

Other info : Plate 24C from the 1918 "A worthy company of watchmakers" in 18K with rich engravements and lug covering flaps

[Picture Front]

[Picture caseback inside]

[Picture movement]

[Picture sideview]

[Picture ad]

The ad is the closest equivalent I could find. There is the hint that prices did vary according to case and movement so I am assuming that this is one of the varieties the 24C could come in. Apologies because of the dial, I have not yet worked on the watch. It definitely is one of the most interesting in my collection, once I get her a band I will also try to restore the dial.

I 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?

Also 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?

### File Attachments

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1) [Caseback inside.jpg](#), downloaded 587 times



2) [Front.jpg](#), downloaded 539 times





3) [Movement.jpg](#), downloaded 592 times



4) [Sideview.jpg](#), downloaded 577 times





5) [Plate 24C ad The Pioneer Dec\\_14\\_1922.jpg](#), downloaded 600 times



**No. 128**

**Hexagon, hand engraved. \$57.50,  
\$75.00, \$80.00, \$85.00 and \$90.00  
case and movement**

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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 08:27 Also 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.

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Subject: Re: Hexagons in the Master Book  
Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Thu, 09 Apr 2015 20:11:15 GMT  
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Thanks a lot for sharing thoughts about this watch. I did not know the exact start point of the Master book, but also assumed something around 1920.

The ad you have referenced is almost exactly the one I used. Mine is just a black and white print from a newspaper but absolutely the same layout.

OK, if the Hexagons were issued before the Master Book started it would explain why they are missing.

And great that you confirmed the "W" standing for white gold although this is a bit obvious and might not be worth mentioning inside the watch?

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Subject: Re: Hexagons in the Master Book  
Posted by [JackW](#) on Fri, 10 Apr 2015 01:30:36 GMT  
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Nice entry for the database. Thanks!

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Subject: Re: Hexagons in the Master Book  
Posted by [afire](#) on Fri, 10 Apr 2015 02:53:46 GMT



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Barney Green wrote on Thu, 09 April 2015 15:11 And great that you confirmed the "W" standing for white gold although this is a bit obvious and might not be worth mentioning inside the watch? Seem unnecessary, but I'm very confident that's what it stands for.

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Subject: Re: Hexagons in the Master Book  
Posted by [Barney Green](#) on Fri, 10 Apr 2015 06:41:12 GMT  
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Yes, and the "G" for green gold would substantiate this assumption towards a statement.

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Subject: Re: Hexagons in the Master Book  
Posted by [C. Hurt](#) on Fri, 10 Apr 2015 11:50:58 GMT  
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afire wrote on Thu, 09 April 2015 21:53 Barney Green wrote on Thu, 09 April 2015 15:11 And great that you confirmed the "W" standing for white gold although this is a bit obvious and might not be worth mentioning inside the watch? Seem unnecessary, but I'm very confident that's what it stands for.

Not unnecessary to a maker producing four colors of gold plus gold-filled, silver, and platinum cases. I'm sure it was intended to avoid confusion among customers.

I once scored a huge bargain on a pentagon Ultra-VeriThin marked "18 K.W." because the seller didn't believe it was 18 karat gold. He assumed the "W" marking meant it was something other than solid 18K, and priced it accordingly. I did not try to convince him otherwise.

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