

THOMAS HUNTER, PRES.
R. B. HUNTER, 1ST V. PRES.
S. C. HUNTER, 2ND V. PRES.

THE HUNTER
ONE-TRIGGER

JOHN HUNTER, SECY.
J. C. HUNTER, TREAS.
W. M. HUNTER, MGR.

Manufacturers of the
L. C. SMITH
HAMMER, HAMMERLESS AND EJECTORS.
ALSO
THE HUNTER ONE-TRIGGER
GUNS.



A B C CODE 5TH EDITION
CABLE ADDRESS "HUNTER" FULTON

Fulton, N.Y.

*L.C. Smith Trap Grade
Serial Number 127418
Finished December 13, 1929*

Certificate No. 09411

The Hunter Arms Company, Inc. manufacturing records for Serial Number 127418 are contained in the Shipping Records and show that it is a 12 gauge Trap Grade with a set of 32-inch barrels and a second set of 28-inch barrels. It was started on October 25, 1929, proofed on December 6, and patterned on December 9. It was finished on December 13, 1929 and shipped on December 14 to Bacharach-Rasin (Baltimore) to complete order number 30510. The letters RE in the ledger indicate that has a regular weight frame and automatic ejectors. No other information is available for this serial number. Information on the type of stock is not provided in the ledger, and the Miller Trigger was not installed when Serial Number 127418 was manufactured. The Research Division assumes no responsibility for the recorded accuracy at the factory.

The Trap Grade was advertised as being built to be "suitable for both trap and field." When introduced in 1913, its base price with automatic ejectors was \$66. When it was sold in 1929, a Trap Grade with the configuration of Serial Number 127418 would have retailed about \$135.

Damascus steel barrels were available from 1913 to 1917, but nearly all Trap Grade L.C. Smith shotguns had Crown fluid steel barrels. Usually, a small amount of engraving was placed on the barrels near the breech. The right barrel was usually roll-stamped L.C. SMITH TRAP GRADE and the left was marked HUNTER ARMS CO. M^FR'S FULTON, N.Y. U.S.A. Some variations to these markings have been reported.

The locks were hand-engraved with a trap-shooting scene on the left lock plate. A hunter in the field shooting at a flying bird was placed on the right lock plate. L.C. SMITH was engraved on both lock plates. Additional line and scroll engraving was placed on the frame, top lever, forearm iron, barrel extension, and trigger guard. A few variations to these patterns have been reported. The frame and locks were color case-hardened. The stocks were usually made from best quality American walnut containing some figure. The stock and forend were checkered.

Trap Grade shotguns were manufactured in 10, 12, 16, and 20 gauges and .410. Total production during the period of 1913 to 1939 was 3,355. Production of 12 gauge Trap Grades was 2,684. About 60% of the Trap Grade shotguns (2,013) were fitted with automatic ejectors.

The L.C. Smith Collectors Association invites you to keep up with the organization's events and latest information on shooting and collecting L.C. Smith shotguns by visiting www.lcsmith.org.

Sincerely,

James Stubbendieck
Research Division
L.C. Smith Collectors Association





Only 34 Trap Grades w/ 2nd set barrels 1.22%

From the Records...

L.C. Smiths Shipped with Two Sets of Barrels

by Jim Stubbendieck

Today, it is not uncommon to find L.C. Smith side lock shotguns with two sets of barrels. However, while compiling the production records data, I was surprised to see how few were originally shipped with two sets. The accompanying image of a portion of a ledger page clearly shows that the Specialty Grade was shipped with 28- and 30-inch barrels while the Crown Grade was shipped with one set of 32-inch barrels. Recording barrel lengths in this manner was consistent throughout the Hunter Arms Company and L.C. Smith Gun Company ledgers.

As one would expect, the table shows that a greater percentage of the higher grade shotguns were shipped with a second set of barrels. A greater percentage (0.26% vs. 0.17%) of the pre 1913 shotguns, compared to the post 1913 shotguns, were ordered with the second set of barrels. In several cases, the second set of barrels was a different grade than the shotgun. For example, the second set on an Eagle Grade were Trap Grade barrels.

Many L.C. Smith shotguns were shipped back to Hunter Arms to be fitted with a second set of barrels. Unfortunately, these were

seldom recorded in the ledgers. I have written a number of research letters for shotguns with two sets of factory barrels (same serial number, type of steel, forend, etc.) that were originally shipped with a single set. In some cases, the ledger contains a notation that the shotgun was returned to the factory on a given date, but the reason for the return was not recorded. I think that it is relatively safe to assume that this is when they were returned to be fitted with the second set. I believe that more were returned to the factory for the second set than were originally shipped with a second set.

Are shotguns shipped with two sets of barrels more valuable than those returned to the factory for the second set? Many think that they are. Why should they be if they are identical to the original set? In either case, L.C. Smith shotguns originally shipped with a second set of is uncommon. Only 698 of 356,164 side lock L.C. Smiths were shipped with a second set of barrels which equals 0.2%. That is equivalent to 1 in 500.

GUN RECORD HUNTER ARMS CO., INC.

GUN NO.	GRADE	TYPE	GA	LTH.	STARTED	PROOF T.	PATTERN	FINISHED
873 51	Specialty	REO	{12 28}	12	30	11/7/25	11/7/25	11/25/25
52	Crown	REOTBV	12	32	11/27/25	12/8/25	12/8/25	12/8/25

Table 1. Number and Percentage of L.C. Smith Side Lock Shotguns Shipped with Two-Barrel Sets.

Pre 1913 Grade	Number	2-barrel	%	Post 1913 Grade	Number	2-barrel	%
A-3	19	1	5.26	De Luxe	30	3	10.00
A-2	213	5	2.35	Premier	27	4	14.81
A-1	752	7	0.93	Crown	862	15	1.74
Monogram 1	306	152	4.90	Eagle	532	13	2.44
Pigeon Gun	1,397	19	1.36	Specialty	6,911	100	1.45
No. 5	532	9	1.69	Trap	3,346	34	1.02
No. 4	495	9	1.82	Olympic	26	0	0.00
No. 3	3,042	58	1.91	Premier Skeet	515	0	0.00
No. 2	12,483	77	0.62	Skeet Special	778	12	1.54
No. 1	9,211	16	0.17	Ideal	26,686	116	0.43
No. 0	29,061	45	0.15	Field	199,384	108	0.05
No. 00	57,096	32	0.06	Marlin	2,227	0	0.00
XX & XX	233	0	0.00	Post 1913 Total	241,324	405	0.17
Pre 1913 Total	114,840	293	0.26	Grand Total	356,164	698	0.20

1 Monograms were made until 1945

2 One 3-barrel set



CODY FIREARMS MUSEUM
Serial Number Research Request

122314

Request Received: _____ Time: _____ Date: 1-4-96 By SP

Requestor: Ken Hoels

Address _____

Phone _____

Category _____

Paid: _____ How: _____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date: _____

Information Requested:

Winchester _____ Marlin _____ L.C. Smith Jag Grade
RE 127418
(Miller trigger)
12 gauge Ser - 32"
1930 28"

Response Time Requested: _____

Response Data:

Date: 10-25-29
Type: Jag RE
Caliber: 12 ga
Barrel: 32"
Trigger: _____
Stock: _____
Sights: _____
Magazine: _____

Butt: Proof
Pattern: 12-6-29 FN/51
Shipped: 12-9-29 12-13-29
Remarks: LD 12-14-29
Extra det
12 ga - 28"
30510
Purch: Bacharach - Rasin
Co.

Type of Request: _____ Telephone: _____ Walk-in: _____ Written: _____
Other (Specify): _____

Answered by: _____ Date: _____ Res. Svc. Time: _____

This will confirm the information provided to you in your telephone call to the Historical Center. The foregoing information has been provided at your request as a courtesy furnished to our Cody Firearms or other special patrons interested in firearms. It is an abstract from the original Winchester/Marlin/L.C. Smith records housed in our Center. We make no representations concerning the accuracy of the records, the authenticity of the firearm, its value, or its present ownership. Our interpretation of the record we believe to be accurate but disclaim any responsibility for errors that may have occurred in our abstract of the record.

BUFFALO BILL HISTORICAL CENTER

