

J.T. CALLAHAN  
ARMS HISTORIAN

53 Old Quarry Road

West

**SAVAGE ARMS CORPORATION**

UTICA, NEW YORK, U. S. A.  
MANUFACTURER OF SPORTING ARMS  
OWNER AND OPERATOR OF J. STEVENS ARMS CO.

SAVAGE  
STEVENS  
A.H. FOX

ES AND SHOTGUNS



A. H. FOX DOUBLE BARREL SHOTGUNS

May 7, 2008

109

Thank you for your letter and interest regarding your Savage .45 caliber pistol.

Earlier this week in the original records, I located in the serial ledgers, the entry for your pistol with S/N 159. The record shows that this pistol was shipped from Savage's original Utica, New York factory on April 14, 1922 to the E.K. Tryon Co. of Philadelphia, PA.

The Savage .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol was developed for the military trials held in 1907 at Springfield Armory, in Springfield, Massachusetts, to select a new standard service side arm. The design of this pistol is attributed to E.H. Searle, who was previously an ordinance officer at Springfield Armory and had been developing the design since 1903.

After initial testing of all entrants, both foreign and domestic, the Savage and Colt designs remained as finalists. Throughout the next several years additional testing and re-designs were submitted and tested both on the range and in the field with the cavalry. The final test occurred in March 1911, with the Colt entry being selected in part on the basis of accuracy, endurance and less recoil.

Most of the guns were returned to Savage, who re-conditioned them and made them available to the commercial market through E.K. Tryon, with one group sold on August 14, 1922 and the remainder sold on August 31, 1922. A few were sold individually here and there and on random dates.

To quote Daniel Stern, author of the book "Ten Shots Quick"; "The .45 fought a gallant but losing battle to the ever improving Colt, but held off defeat until May of 1911.

I hope this information is of help and interest to you.

Sincerely,

John T. Callahan

5883/jtc