Subject: Carre B2
Posted by Jenneke on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 15:14:53 GMT
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Model name : Carré ?
Type : Pocket watch
Period/date : ca 1931
Gender : Men and Women

Case Maker : Wadsworth
Case Material : white metal
Case Serial : B2925
Case Style no : 107

Caliber : 315 or 885?
Movement Maker : ?
Movement Serial: 222747

Other info : checkerboard guilloche dial. U.S.A. pat. appl'd for. Inscription WEB. Movement is a Gruen Guild unadjusted.

File Attachments

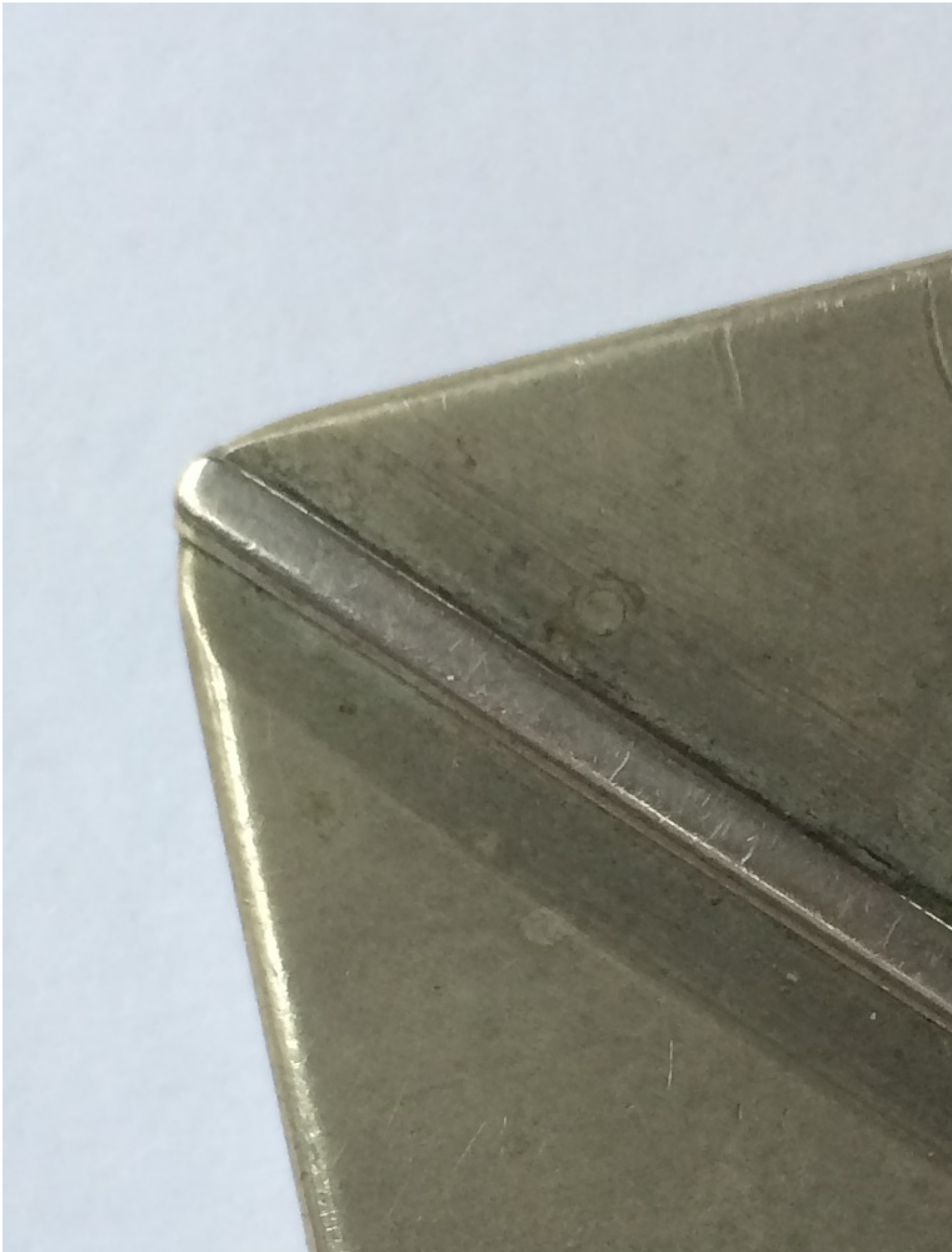
1) Carre movement.jpg, downloaded 3628 times



2) Carre style no.jpg, downloaded 3623 times



3) Carre closed.jpg, downloaded 3689 times



4) Carre front.jpg, downloaded 3713 times



5) Carre back inscription.jpg, downloaded 3671 times



6) Carre case back.jpg, downloaded 3610 times


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Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by Jenneke on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 15:18:43 GMT
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The case material is unknown. Could this one have a missing skin? A.k.a.does B2 in the serial have a meaning. In the guild book a Carre with lizard grain leather is shown with number 5b2.

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by Barney Green on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 15:45:14 GMT
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I have not seen other serial numbers for the carres, so it might be a coincidence, but the B2 prefix might as well be indicating the case style.
The B was used to indicate leather coating,whereas H was laquer. Other letters were indicating pure metal finishes. Would really be interesting to see other case serials.

I definitely believe that your watch is missing a leather skin.

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by kastner on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 17:12:28 GMT
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I think that the Carre is a really fun watch, thanks for sharing yours Jenneke.

I have SNs E1734 and E1314. I've never thought they had coatings (and am on the lookout for ones that do)

The one with the replacement button also has a custom belt clasp. I like having original watches and wasn't thrilled when I first saw this at auction. But after thinking about it more I came to appreciate that someone really used this watch and fixed/modified it for his needs.

,

File Attachments
1) Carres.jpg, downloaded 3613 times



2) Carre Clasp.jpg, downloaded 3487 times



Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by Jenneke on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 19:12:25 GMT
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Aha, E numbers! In the Gruin guild supplement there is a "Plain butler finished tarnish proof nickel case with 15 jewel movement." And the name is Carré 5 E.

Cary has some enameled ones. Curious to see what kind of style numbers are on those.

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by Barney Green on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 19:39:04 GMT
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If they would start with an H that would already be a kind of proof for the theory.

The brushing of Kastners E series shows that this was the intended surface. It is missing on the B, I am almost sure it originally was a leather coated one.

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by JackW on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 20:01:52 GMT
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Very nice watches! I have plans for acquiring a Carre someday....

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by timeliz on Mon, 01 Jan 2018 20:12:18 GMT
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Carre is on my want list too!

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by Thojil on Thu, 04 Jan 2018 14:24:37 GMT
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Jenneke wrote on Mon, 01 January 2018 20:12Aha, E numbers! In the Gruin guild supplement there is a "Plain butler finished tarnish proof nickel case with 15 jewel movement." And the name is Carré 5 E. Cary has some enameled ones. Curious to see what kind of style numbers are on those.

I kept many pictures, but unfortunately only few of them show the case numbers.

E2351 - brushed steel case

E3489 - brushed steel case

And B1121, which looks to be a steel case originally, but not sure? It doesn't seem to have this clear thinning on the edges as with Jenneke's Carre to allow for the leather.

File Attachments

1) Gruen 4.1.jpg, downloaded 3267 times



2) Gruen 4.3.jpg, downloaded 3262 times



3) Gruen 4.2.jpg, downloaded 3215 times



Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by Barney Green on Thu, 04 Jan 2018 15:39:18 GMT
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May be that the B1-watch was recased in a brushed steel one?

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by Thojil on Thu, 04 Jan 2018 16:38:56 GMT
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That would be an explanation

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by Jenneke on Thu, 04 Jan 2018 19:32:34 GMT
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Found some enamel examples with google:
https:// auctions.bidsquare.com/view-auctions/catalog/id/1928/lot/660 190
https:// www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/vintage-gruen-carre-purse-poc ket-117192751
Both don't have a letter before the number.

And from my serial excel one other example of brushed steel: E3187

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by Barney Green on Thu, 04 Jan 2018 21:29:24 GMT
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Is it enamel or is it lacquer? The second watch is very much like my incoming Alpinova.

Here is a picture of it.

File Attachments
1) Alpinova.jpg, downloaded 3171 times


Alpina

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by C. Hurt on Sun, 07 Jan 2018 22:35:56 GMT
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I believe Jenneke's Carré was originally covered with leather or reptile skin. The narrow groove on the edge of the cover without the opening button was used to secure the skin. Also, I have a leather covered one with case number B2669.

I also have a similar brushed nickel cased example with case number E1923. These are both Wadsworth cases with 315 movements.

I also have one enameled one at the moment that also has the 315 movement but it's in a larger Swiss case marked "Eclipso" which was some sort of joint venture with LIP. These cases do not have the Wadsworth style case numbers.

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by Jenneke on Tue, 09 Jan 2018 18:22:09 GMT
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Well, I don't think the skill of covering a case with leather still exists. I will keep it undressed.

For now I am pretty convinced the character on the case says something about the case model (ie material).

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by JackW on Tue, 09 Jan 2018 18:40:03 GMT
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Jenneke wrote on Tue, 09 January 2018 18:22Well, I don't think the skill of covering a case with leather still exists.
Reapplying leather or even snakeskin is one thing, but I think an even rarer skill is fired enamel work.

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by Jenneke on Tue, 09 Jan 2018 19:26:25 GMT
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Youtube has a lot of jewelry enameling tutorials: f.e. link and even books can be found. Anyone ever tried it?

Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by C. Hurt on Wed, 10 Jan 2018 02:00:17 GMT
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I have used a modern epoxy-based product called Ceramit, which cures at low temp and makes a beautiful glossy surface. It works very well for small repairs, but I've never tried it on as large an area, or one with as many edges, as a Carré.

Subject: Re: Carre B2?
Posted by JackW on Wed, 10 Jan 2018 06:37:29 GMT
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Is there a Gruen watch catelog that the Carre is featured in? Just the master book? I looked at my copy of the Guild Book, and unless I've missed it, no mention. This includes the 1930 update pages too. It must really be 1931 at the earliest for their introduction? What resources are people using for the letter designation for style?

Edit - Never mind, found it on page 3A of the 9-31 supplement.

A larger/higher resolution image is also attached below.

As to enamel work... I was given supplies for true fired enamel work (with the kiln), but have yet to do anything with it. Other than use the kiln for other jewelry aspects. Think I'd want to experiment on a lot of other things before trying my hand at restoring a watch case. In fact, restoring watch dials with fired enamel is not possible. I think that Cary's mention of Ceramit is the material used by the watch dial restoration service in the UK I once contacted. Sounds like what was described to me as part of their process.

File Attachments
1) Carre_cat_image_0931_p3A.jpg, downloaded 2524 times



Covered with genuine pigskin and
brown calfskin
15 jewel movement, $60

2) Carre_cat_image_0931_p3A_sm.jpg, downloaded 3141 times



Subject: Re: Carre B2?

Posted by Thojil on Wed, 10 Jan 2018 08:08:40 GMT
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C. Hurt wrote on Sun, 07 January 2018 23:35I also have one enameled one at the moment that also has the 315 movement but it's in a larger Swiss case marked "Eclipso" which was some sort of joint venture with LIP. These cases do not have the Wadsworth style case numbers.

The patent was actually held by LIP as you can read in this announcement from Sep. 1931. I have shared some LIP adds of the ECLIPSO in an earlier post here

File Attachments

1) Brevet Sep 1931.jpg, downloaded 3047 times

AVIS

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