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Subject: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch

Posted by [kastner](#) on Tue, 27 Dec 2022 18:53:15 GMT

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Model name : 50th Anniversary

Type : Pocket watch

Period/date : 1924 (The movement was made in 1924, but it is unclear when this watch was cased and sold)

Gender : Men's

Case Maker : Gruen Cincinnati

Case Material : 18kt white gold

Case Serial : 1072311

Case Style no : none

Case Inscription (inside caseback): "Made Especially for Gilbert J Easton"

Caliber : See below

Movement Maker : Gruen

Movement Serial: 204

Movement details from Priceless Possessions of A Few by Fuller.

17-line (approximately 10-size) open face, 23 jewels (21 extra quality ruby jewels, plus two faceted diamond cap jewels over escape wheel and balance wheel pivots on upper plates)

12kt gold plates (total 19 penny weight), individually engraved in floral relief pattern

Steel cup in each counter-bored hole for plate screws

Follow-up die used to slightly bevel around edge of spoke and inside rim of wheels

Gold plated train wheels

Chronometer style balance with solid gold screws

Detachable staff which can be removed without disturbing relationship of balance hairspring, collet, and roller jewel

Jewel pin fastened in balance arm with a bearing twice the length of the usual watch, making it doubly secure against coming loose

Double steel roller

Hand finished visible steel escapement with posing arms

Patent micrometric regulator of continuous equal action

Meantime adjusting gold screws

True isochronal and Breguet hairspring

Finest Swiss mainspring of lasting quality and great elasticity made by hand-rubbing so that the motive power is practically constant whether watch is fully wound or nearly run down

Patented American pendant-set device of very few pieces

Geneva style stop works and cut-away barrel bridges

Eight adjustments to all positions, isochronism and temperature

Fine Silver dial

Patented inverted (Verithin) wheel train construction

Extra finely finished in all details

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## File Attachments

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1) [50th Anniversary.jpg](#), downloaded 2434 times



2) [50th Anniversary Movement 2.jpg](#), downloaded 2304 times





3) [50th Anniversary Movement 3.jpg](#), downloaded 2460 times



4) [50th Anniversary Movement 1.jpg](#), downloaded 2345 times





Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [Jenneke](#) on Tue, 27 Dec 2022 21:43:17 GMT  
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Congrats with your find! A shame this movement is hidden.

Quote: Detachable staff which can be removed without disturbing relationship of balance hairspring, collet, and roller jewel  
What does that mean? Friction fit instead of riveted?

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Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [thesnark17](#) on Wed, 28 Dec 2022 00:04:58 GMT  
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The detachable staff is a friction fit, and continues the principle of the earlier Chronometer Balance found on the V1, V2, and V3.

The earlier balance design integrates the roller jewel and double roller into the balance so that they cannot be removed, meaning that a restaffing will not disrupt their relationship. This design seems to take the idea even further. I would love to see a close-up of the balance removed to see how it works.

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Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [kastner](#) on Wed, 28 Dec 2022 00:32:40 GMT  
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This watchuseek thread has some pix of a disassembled movement.

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Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [afire](#) on Wed, 28 Dec 2022 17:00:38 GMT  
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So cool. I think we're going to need more pictures.

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Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [thesnark17](#) on Wed, 28 Dec 2022 19:33:02 GMT  
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I think so too! I really enjoyed the pictures, but the balance was not closely pictured. And I want to see more anyway...

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Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [JackW](#) on Thu, 29 Dec 2022 05:18:58 GMT  
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Seems Gilbert J. Easton was into mayonnaise.

What a beautiful watch; quite the nice purchase. I'm curious on your plans for servicing?

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Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [Ephemerald](#) on Thu, 29 Dec 2022 06:48:54 GMT  
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So I said it before and I'll say it again, 50th's are one of the neatest pocket watches ever designed. Echoing everyone, more pics! And a really nice score and thanks for sharing.

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Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [kastner](#) on Thu, 29 Dec 2022 17:39:38 GMT  
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I'll work on getting some more pictures. As for servicing, I'm curious about my plans for that too. I feel like I should get it serviced and while I have a local guy who is fine, I'm just not sure if he is really the craftsman I need for this.

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Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [kastner](#) on Thu, 29 Dec 2022 22:00:49 GMT  
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More pictures of the watch. I should have mentioned that this is a hinged case

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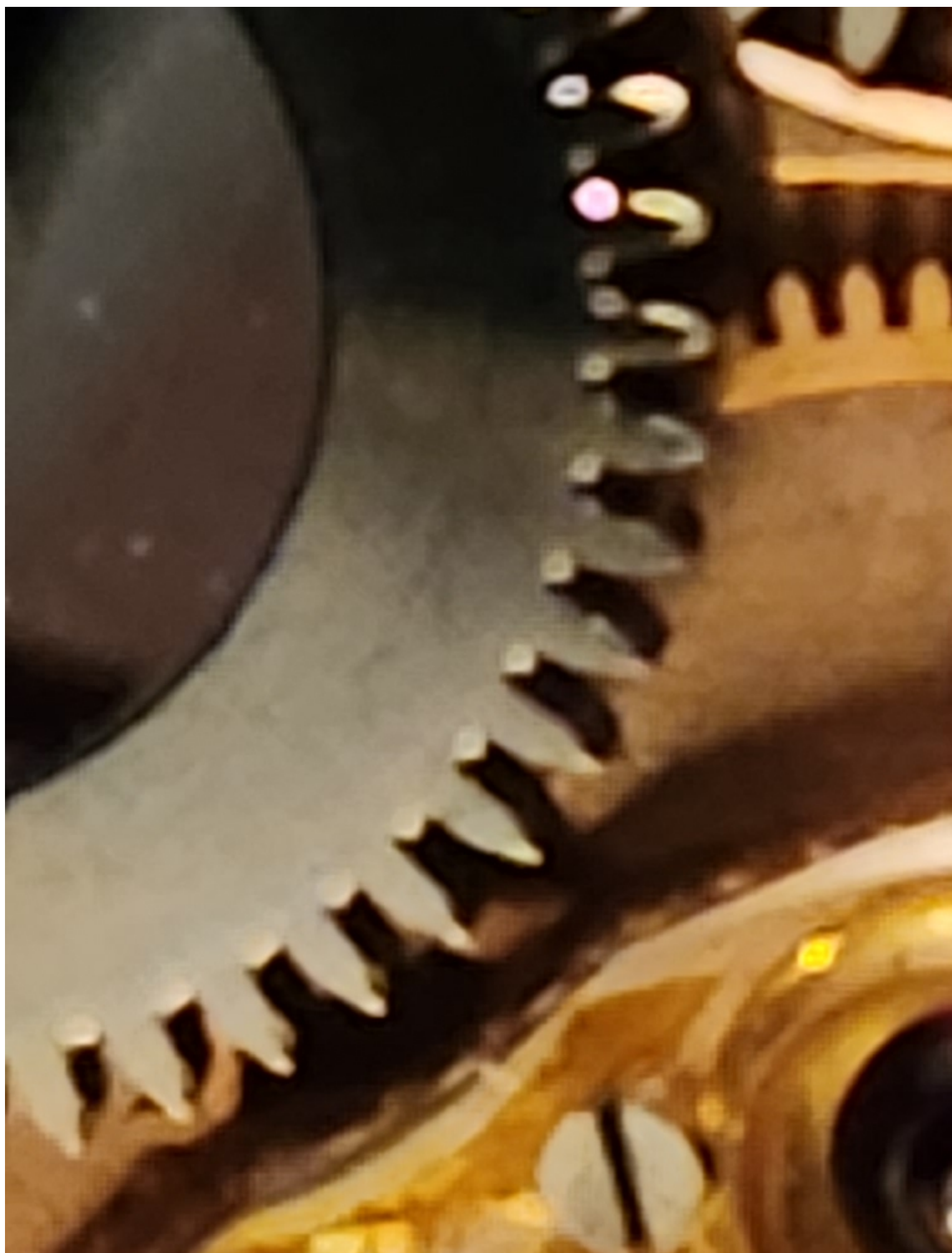
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### File Attachments

1) [50th anniversary balance.jpg](#), downloaded 1641 times

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2) [50th Anniversary caseback.jpg](#), downloaded 1702 times



3) [50th Annivserary Movement.jpg](#), downloaded 1617 times





Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [Ephemerald](#) on Thu, 29 Dec 2022 22:20:31 GMT  
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Interesting. "MADE ESPECIALLY FOR" is also used on the 50th you linked to.  
Wonder if Fred did this one too or perhaps by the purchaser.  
Beauty.

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Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [JackW](#) on Mon, 04 Sep 2023 03:56:08 GMT  
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Someone was keeping track of 50th Anniversary serial numbers.  
Here is 024:  
<https://www.watchuseek.com/threads/gruen-fiftieth-anniversar-y-pocket-watch.5510327/#post-56910722>

Hopefully I didn't get too much wrong in a reply.

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Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [thesnark17](#) on Mon, 04 Sep 2023 13:41:40 GMT  
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Looks like you got it all right. That's an original late watch, and a beauty.

However, I never really looked at Art's SN 79 before. The more I see, the more I question it. It's obviously the wrong dial, and that makes me suspect the case too, since the dial has been redialed as a 50th anniversary (therefore someone had money).

Looking over my data (which is a bit thin for 50th, I'll admit), here is the distribution for Gruen gold cases with 7-digit SNs:

103xxxx - 1 (suspect; probably a marriage)

106 - 5

107 - 5

108 - 3

117 - 1 (SN 79)

Conclusion: I really need more data.

Case serial 1178002 would match up best with 1928-29. So I guess one question is when/whether Gruen had cased up these watches, or whether they reserved cases for them. We know there were several style lines of case as well, so it's not a simple question - plus these watches could be ordered to taste.

Looking into the other information I have for case serials 117, I think it could be original, but I'm inclined to be skeptical.

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## File Attachments

1) [Screen Shot 2023-09-04 at 10.08.48 AM.png](#), downloaded 902 times

V4	537007			Gruen <u>Verithin</u> Prec
V50	79			50th Anniversary G
VE	145228			Dietrich Gruen Prec
V4	522682	10/24/1934		Gruen <u>Verithin</u> Prec
V2	148959	Jan-29		Dietrich Gruen Prec
V2	144956	Jan-29		N/A
V4	540261			Gruen <u>Verithin</u> Prec

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Subject: Re: 50th Anniversary Pocket Watch  
Posted by [JackW](#) on Mon, 04 Sep 2023 14:26:55 GMT  
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More data is always the correct answer. Yet, there is a trend that can be discerned and your info suggests that the #79 may not be a late sale but something else, and tbd. It is an outlier, to say the least.

Glad to know I didn't give bad information to the other thread.