

Musket

ORIGINS

Date: American Civil War Period

Place: North America

Materials: Walnut and Iron



1861 Musket

Donated

By: Record lost

DESCRIPTION

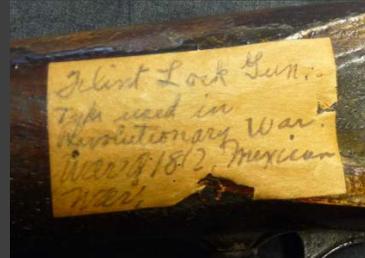
To the naked eye, the weapon appears to be a musket constructed of walnut and iron, constructed between the years of 1861 and 1863. The weapon is tarnished, the wood is worn and cracked, and the barrel/flintlock is slightly rusted. The flintlock is not original to the gun as is indicated through its worn appearance and its ill-fitting design. Due to this, the gun is not functional today. The label on the gun states that it was used in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the Mexican War. In various locations on the gun are engravings that indicate military acceptance and inspection. The musket weighs 6.2 kilograms. The rifle has been shortened so the measurements are accurate for its altered state, not the original measurements. From the end of the ram rod to the butt plate is 125 centimeters. The circumference of the ram rod is 3 centimeters. The barrel is 84 centimeters long. The circumference of the barrel is 7.5 centimeters. The stock length is 72.5 centimeters long and 11.5 centimeters wide. The butt plate is 4.5 centimeters high.



Detail on flintlock



Engravings on the barrel



Detail on sticker

CULTURE

Description: The cultural context of the musket is misleading. The weapon or pieces of it are believed to have been used in the American Civil War, due to the time period it was said to have been created. There is a possibility that the gun could be a fake model made around the World War II era, nearing the 100 year anniversary of the Civil War. There is another theory that it could have been a family modified weapon for each individual's particular needs. An addition hypothesis could be that the sticker had fallen off its original gun, and been placed on our artifact unintentionally, or purposefully. The flintlock was replaced by a British flintlock thought the rest of the gun was made of U.S. parts. The engravings on the gun indicate that it may have been inspected and manufactured in Springfield Pennsylvania, or Harpers Ferry West Virginia.



Caption: This weapon or pieces of it were believed to be used in the Civil War/Civil War Era.

<http://www.ourconfederateheros.org/battles/>

Use within Culture: The artifact is weapon of war. The use of the weapon as a whole is unknown as to whether was used as it currently is, or if it was assembled piece-meal after the war.

To fire the gun the steps are as follows: charge of powder put into barrel, musket ball put into barrel, packed down with ram rod, pan is then filled with powder, flint scrapes pan creating a spark, gunpowder is then ignited and sends musket ball projecting from end of barrel.

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