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## Waffenfabrik Steyr MP34

(Pennsylvania Military Museum, T. Gum, Site Admin.)



Photo of MP34, MM2018.10.1A-B.

This Waffenfabrik Steyr MP34, serial #3432, was brought home by one of the Mauer brothers of Mifflinburg, PA after serving in Germany during World War II. Unfortunately, the brothers never spoke of the service in World War II, and never spoke of the war-relic. It wasn't until their passing that the family learned of the artifact and wanted it to be preserved.



Photo of MP34, MM2018.10.1A-B.

The MP34 features a 32 round magazine that is rectangular and attaches to the arm at a 90-degree angle. To reload the magazine, one need only insert the magazine vertically into the magazine-well and push down a clip of rounds into the magazine... an amazingly fast and simple reloading mechanism.

A sub-machine gun chambered in a variety of four different possibilities, this particular one is chambered in 9x19 Luger Parabellum. However, the arm only has an approximately eight inch barrel and has the ability of accepting a bayonet. Though not particular accurate at long range, it does have a firing capacity of 600 rounds per minute.

Having a forty year service life, the MP34 was designed by Louis Strange, and manufactured by Waffenfabrik Steyr.

At the end of World War I, the Treaty of Versailles imposed a number of restrictions, including ones limiting the production of particular armaments. Acting against such restrictions and in secret, the prototype of the MP34 was designed and produced.

Manufactured using the very best of materials and tradesman, the MP34 is revered for its craftsmanship and exacting degree of tolerances and quality. Though such quality of manufacturing comes with a high cost.