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The Guns that Won the West: Firearms on the American Frontier, 1848-1898

John Walter

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John Walter : The Guns that Won the West: Firearms on the American Frontier, 1848-1898 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Guns that Won the West: Firearms on the American Frontier, 1848-1898:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Perhaps the best reference work ever on this topic, and I've read just about all of them. By A. L. Jones Walter digs into far more manufacturers, actual production runs, what went West vs. went East (a lot of Civil War surplus arms thought to go out West were instead sold to the French for their wars, to Juarez's forces in Mexico by order of Lincoln, and elsewhere, particularly the best ones, cartridge repeaters like the Spencer, Burnside, etc.. Too many books on this topic confuse what's appeared in western fiction and films as the most significant and definitive guns of the west, particularly the Colt 1873 Single Action Army and 1866/1873 Winchester .44-40 rifles. Walter shows how chaotic and broad the mix was including the European-made arms that were substantially exported into the Wild West (Webley, Adams, Enfield, etc.). It's a tremendous reference book for serious collectors, historians, appraisers, gunsmiths, and historians albeit it lacks the big pretty pictures of so many competing volumes. Dennis Adler's are particularly good in both text and photography, also highly recommended. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Research Source By William E. Wallace I write westerns and needed a book that surveyed what kind of weaponry was available during the California gold rush for my novel Tamer. This book more than filled the bill. Well organized and with plenty of illustrations and technical information, I will be using it for years. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By Charles Richie Needs color

photographs....and more than just facts as pulled from some other gun book.