

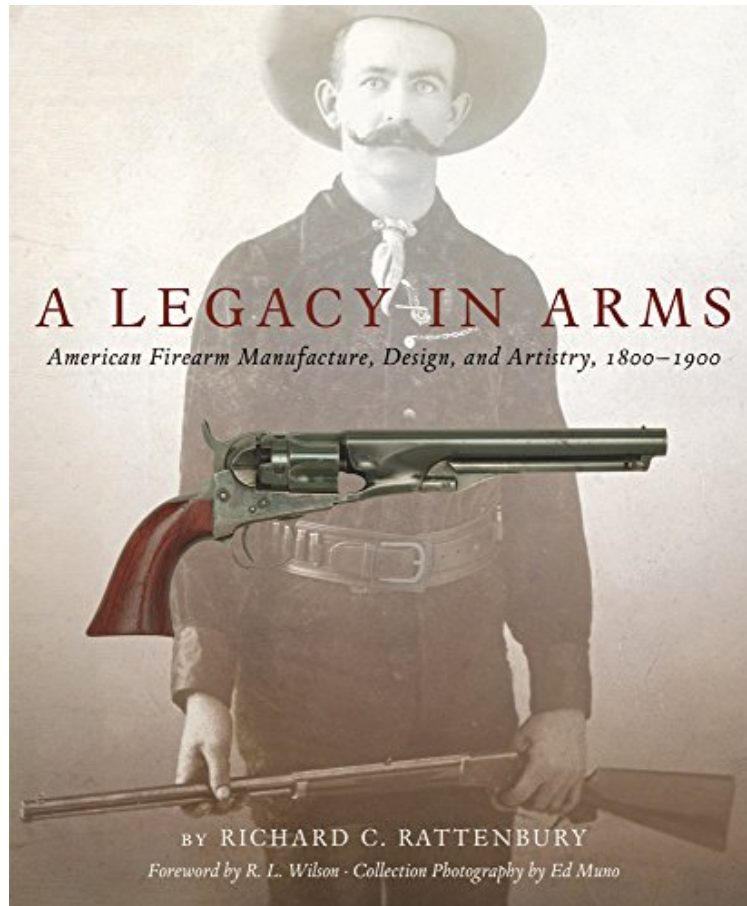
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## **A Legacy in Arms: American Firearm Manufacture, Design, and Artistry, 18001900 (The Western Legacies Series)**

**Richard C. Rattenbury : A Legacy in Arms: American Firearm Manufacture, Design, and Artistry, 18001900 (The Western Legacies Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Legacy in Arms: American Firearm Manufacture, Design, and Artistry, 18001900 (The Western Legacies Series):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. For newcomers to gun history, and....By bill mackinAfter sixty five years and dozens of books about collecting and studying them I wasn't eager for another book on old American guns. I've known this author since his stint at the Winchester Museum in Cody though, and I assisted him in producing his monumental masterpiece, Packing Iron, about my favorite stuff, old western gun leather, Then he followed that with fine history volumes on rodeo, hunting in the West and others. This guy is writing for me! And I'm enthralled.It's a big

attractive format with period photos, drawings, and many fine color photos of antique guns from the Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Some, including John Wayne's movie carbine, even show some real patina from a life in the West (like mine), and the text has honestly changed my whole perspective and grasp of our industrial revolution. Another real winner. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Lynn Hollister Wonder full book. Contains classic western guns 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Hesperus I consider this a very good addition to my library -

The history of American firearms is inseparable from the history of the United States, for firearms have played crucial roles in the nation's founding, westward expansion, and industrial, economic, and cultural development. This history unfolds in compelling words and images in *A Legacy in Arms*, a volume that draws upon the collections of the National Cowboy Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City to trace the business and art of gun making from the early national period to the turn of the twentieth century. With more than 200 images almost all in full color *A Legacy in Arms* not only documents the inspiration and innovation of arms makers from individual artisans to mass producers, but also describes the development of decorative expression in the gun makers art. In an account both entertaining and enlightening, Richard C. Rattenbury details the development of commercial arms making, from the genesis of the Kentucky rifle to the arms of such iconic manufacturers as Colt, Remington, Smith Wesson, Sharps, Marlin, and Winchester. Into this narrative he weaves the particulars of design evolution and the impact of mass production via the American System. The accompanying photographs and illustrations stand as eloquent testimony to the range and richness of the gun maker's craft and its rightful place in the story of American industry and culture.

A good deal more than a nicely illustrated book about guns in American history, *A Legacy in Arms* perceptively integrates the technical and aesthetic dimensions of the subject and offers a compelling synthesis that will be of great interest to general readers, devoted collectors, and serious scholars. Merritt Roe Smith, author of *Harpers Ferry Armory and the New Technology: The Challenge of Change*