

*P*istol-grip Candle Stick

by Bob Schroth

This miners' candle stick is very unique, it is functional and beautiful at the same time. The trigger opens the candle holder and the wooden grips make a very nice handle. The stick is made entirely from one piece of metal, nicely filed and finished. The silver stars holding the wooden grips in place are the perfect touch adding to the maker's skill and workmanship. I have seen few pistol grip sticks made this well.

I located this stick at the Brimfield Antique show in 1990. Unfortunately the seller did not have any information on the maker or the owner. I am sure that this stick was a custom-made piece and was used by the miner, judging by the wear and burn marks on the handle. The only tool the miner usually owned himself was his source of light and a unique stick like this would put the owner in a respectable position with the other miners.

