

Guy's Dropper Cap Lamps

by David H. Thorpe

A miner's cap lamp known as the Guy's Dropper was widely used by miners throughout the early 1900's. Invented by Frank Guy, a coal miner from Springfield, Illinois, it developed a faithful following of miners due to a grass-roots devotion to one of their own.

Initially manufactured by Shanklin Mfg. Co., the lamp evolved in various forms from around 1910 through 1932, at which time Universal Lamp Co. assumed its manufacture and made a much "watered down" version that remained unchanged until its demise in 1960. A collector possessing one or a number of the Shanklin lamps seems always plagued with the question of where their particular lamp stands in the design evolution. This is not a terrible question to answer for Justrite or Auto-Lite cap lamps, since the former

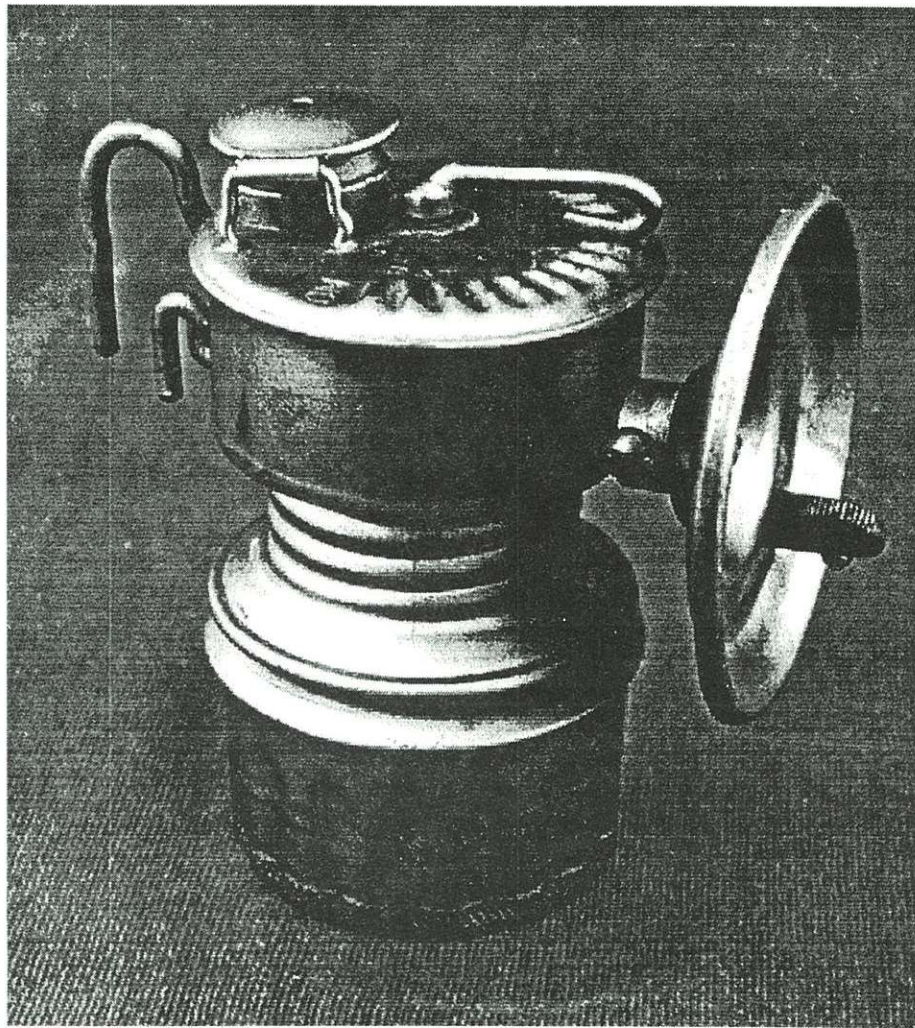
was heavily advertised in journals, as well as in many of their own catalogs. The Auto-Lite, though less well advertised, followed a much more orderly line of evolution.

But the Guy's Dropper has been problematic to follow. There were many changes in design, both ornamental and functional. What limited adver-

tising existed, was notoriously inaccurate in representing the actual design manufactured at the time.¹ Additionally, some of the older designs (such as the set-screw reflector and hexagonal base) were carried on in the product line to appeal to the miner who was resistant to change. In order to present some order to the many design variations, I have studied and

recorded a great number of lamps in collections around the country. Although this article will not enable one to pinpoint the year of manufacture for a particular lamp, it should place any lamp in its respective position along the evolutionary tree.

A table of all the examples studied is contained at the end of this article. As the various examples are described, the reader may refer to the particular lamp in the table so as to note its general chronology with reference to other Droppers.



*Guy's Dropper cap lamp.
(Dave Thorpe collection)*

I. Early Series

The early series consists of three lamps...none of them bears the rotating-sleeve water dropper associated with later Guy's Droppers. Instead, they used a more conventional one, identical in all respects to Meyer Stein's "button dropper" seen on his Springfield lamp. This dropper was, in fact invented by Frank Guy and copied by Stein. Guy brought a law suit against Stein December 7, 1916...and lost, for he admitted that this dropper had been in use for two years prior to his patent application March 1, 1911. This information leads to the conclusion that Guy's first "prototype" lamps saw use as early as 1909. However, according to Frank Guy's testimony: "The first lamp embodying my invention was completed and used by me in the Klondike Mine, Springfield, Ill., about February 1, 1907."²

The Original (~ 1911 - 1913)

There may have been earlier prototypes, but the lamp shown here represents the earliest manufactured Guy's Dropper known to collectors.

Distinguishing Features:

Smooth-sided base (no stamping)

Top-stamping (straight lettering):

GUY'S DROPPER
PAT. PEND.

Hook penetrates tank

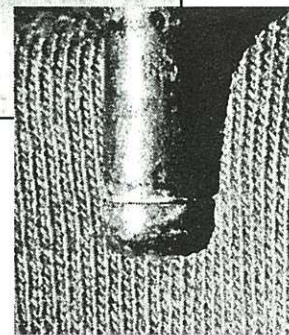
Water door:

1. Vent hole in top is punched upward
2. Only one vent hole in bottom
3. Narrow hinge posts
4. Water door collar is an applied sleeve.

Dropper: Conventional dropper, not the patented rotating sleeve seen with later Guy's Droppers.

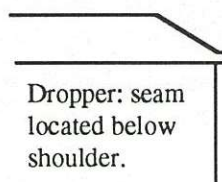


Above: The earliest Guy's Dropper. Stamped Pat. Pend. Smooth base. (Dave Johnson collection)

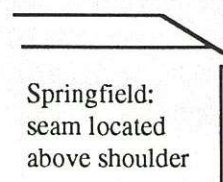


Right: The original 1914 patented Guy's water dropper, copied by Meyer Stein for his Springfield Lamp.

How to tell an early smooth Guy's Dropper base from an early smooth Springfield:



Dropper: seam located below shoulder.



Springfield: seam located above shoulder

The Early "One-Date" Model (~ 1914)

This appears to be the next design evolution. Aside from the patent date of May 26, 1914, which is stamped into the top in straight lettering (later models used a curved lettering), there were functional changes. Note that there is now a tab of sheet metal under the water lever. It is used to place spring loading or tension to the water lever so as to hold it in the position set. Later lamps would use notches in the tank for the same purpose. Many of these lamps (all that I have observed) are found with the narrow spade and the 5-bump base. A simple button dropper is still used. This model introduces the much sought-after "five-bump" base. The lamp shown below is painted in a gilt gold finish as were many of the one-date and virtually all of the later two-date lamps



Early "One-Date" Guy's Dropper with 5-bump base and narrow spade mount (Dave Johnson collection.)

Distinguishing features:

Five-bump base (no stamping)

Top-stamping (straight lettering):

GUY'S DROPPER
PAT. MAY - 26 - 14

Hook: Only narrow-spade models observed thusfar.

Water door:

1. Vent hole in top is punched upward
2. One vent hole in bottom
3. Narrow hinge posts
4. Water door collar is an applied sleeve.

Dropper: Conventional dropper

The Late "One-Date" Model (ca. 1914)

This model differs so much from its two predecessors *or its followers* that it is more of an anomaly rather than a product of evolution. Two features place it in the early series: a) the single patent date and b) the early dropper. Most of these lamps used the set-screw reflector as shown, however, some are seen with the newer design reflector held on with a nut over a threaded gas tube against a reflector brace.

The lettering now is in a curved layout and the lamp uses notches to locate the water lever. The lamp marks the first use of the wire cap brace. Notice the early style bend to the ends of the brace. Later models were much more angular. The double-ringed "Arrow-style" base belongs only to this style lamp.

Of particular note is the collar for the water door. It is no longer applied as a separate piece to the tank, but is pushed up from the tank itself. This collar style was discarded on all subsequent lamps through the late teens and early twenties in favor of the earlier separately applied collar, only to be revived in the late twenties with the modern "six-date" lamps.

Clemmer notes that a second manufacturing facility was used in Litchfield, Illinois (Litchfield Lamp Company) around 1913 - 14. It is possible that this lamp, so different from other early Drop-pers, is the product of dies used at this facility.⁴

Distinguishing features:

Double-ringed "Arrow-style" base

Base found in both stamped and unstamped varieties.

Top-stamping (curved lettering):

GUY'S DROPPER
PAT. MAY 26 - 14

Hook soldered to outside of tank

Cap braces: early style with wavy bend to ends

Water door:

1. Vent hole in top is punched downward
2. One vent hole in bottom
3. Wide-spaced hinge posts
4. Water door collar is stamped up from tank

Dropper: Conventional dropper



Left: Base stamping (some bases of this style are unstamped.)³

Below: Top stamping in curved lettering.



Late "One-Date" lamp with set screw reflector
(Tony Moon collection.)



Late "One-Date" lamp with clamp-on striker
(Dave Thorpe collection.)

II. "2-Date" Series

A new generation of Guy's Dropper began shortly after 1916. The legal battle over the early dropper had been lost and a new rotating sleeve dropper was patented that was considered by many to be unequalled. The new 1916 patent date was added to the stamping on top, and the "2-Date" series was born. The tank portion of this lamp remained essentially unchanged, however a variety of bases evolved, and the dropper itself underwent its own transitions.

The lamp was offered with either a set-screw reflector (as in earlier models), or with the new reflector and brace, held on with a nut over a threaded gas tube.

None of the 2-date *set-screw* lamps were equipped with cap braces, while *all* of the threaded-tube models were. Once again marketing strategy did not forget the conservative resistant-to-change miner who, in selecting the older set-screw model, may have considered the wire brace to be a nuisance.



The Classic

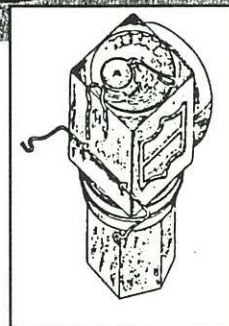
With diligence, most collectors can obtain the lamp shown at left. It is relatively early, as evidenced by the set-screw reflector and represents an attractive classic vintage Dropper style. It introduces the double ringed base (cross-hatched knurling) which was the precursor for all modern bases to come. Like all other set-screw Dropper lamps, there are no cap braces. The water dropper is the *second* transition of the new series: it has *two* knurled bands about it.

The First "Hex-base"

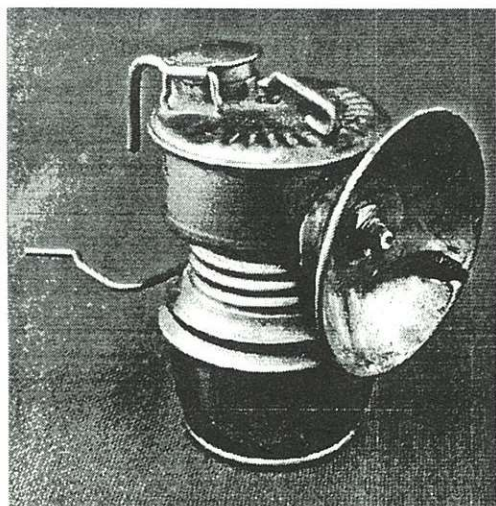
The early straight-sided hexagonal base was first seen in a 1916 patent for the Guy's Dropper Squalelite. It was also seen on some of the early Guy's Dropper cap lamps. The model shown right introduces not only the "hex-base", but is one of the earliest models to sport the new nut-secured reflector. The cap braces are of the early bend and the dropper is the first of the new series. It is identified by a *single* band of knurling around the rotating sleeve.



Right: 1916 patent for Squalelite



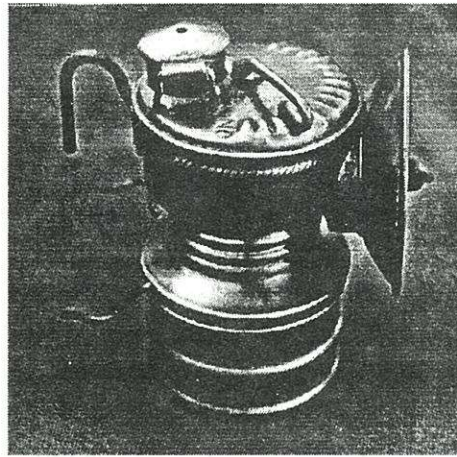
Later "Hex-base"



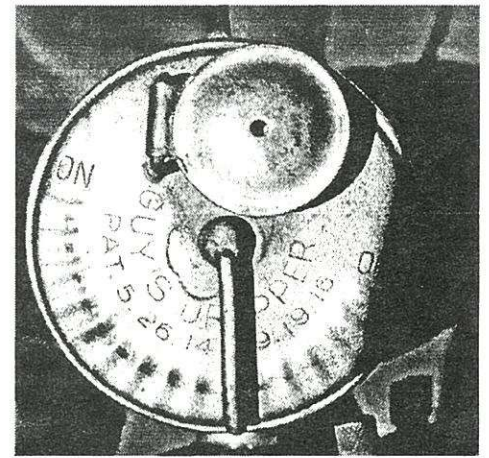
A hexagonal base with straight-walled sides is vulnerable to damage to the sharply angled bottom edge. The Guy's Dropper hex-base was therefore changed to be curved inwardly at the bottom edge. The lamps shown left are examples. Note that the set-screw *and* regular reflectors were found with hex-base lamps. The more recent design (left) utilizes the final transition of the water dropper: a hexagonal rotating sleeve.

Stamped and Unstamped Tops

Some lamps of this vintage are found with unstamped tops. Most of these examples have a peculiar angled knurling around the tank (referred to as “rope-knurling” by collectors). These are thought to have been special-order lamps for a large firm. The example shown right has a factory-painted red reflector, indicating its intended use as a tail lamp. (The base on this model is probably not Guy’s Dropper.)



2-Date style lamp with unstamped top (Dave Thorpe collection.)



Standard stamping of 2-Date top.

Transitions of the “Corrugated Base”

1921

The shallow cross-hatched knurling of the double ringed base offered little if any grip. Hence the “corrugated” (inset ribs) base was introduced. It appears that old stock of the double knurled bases were used up in the manufacture of the corrugated style since the earliest versions had both the knurling and superimposed corrugations. A transition of base styles is shown below.

1924

1924 is a major turning point in the design of the Guy’s Dropper. A patent was applied for that year introducing several new features. A wide knurled band was added high on the base as well as on the water tank. It was initially done with a fine knurl (as in photo below), and later with more coarsely stamped splines. Additionally, the cap brace was now a circular affair that clipped out of the tank flange. These patent innova-

tions were not the work of Frank Guy or the Shanklins, but two men named Frost and Zacharias. In 1924 the set-screw reflector was finally discarded. These changes are coincident with the company being taken over by Theodore Hoffacker, whose marketing decisions hastened the business’ failure. Interestingly, post-1924 lamps are not regarded with the same interest and enthusiasm by collectors as those made previously.

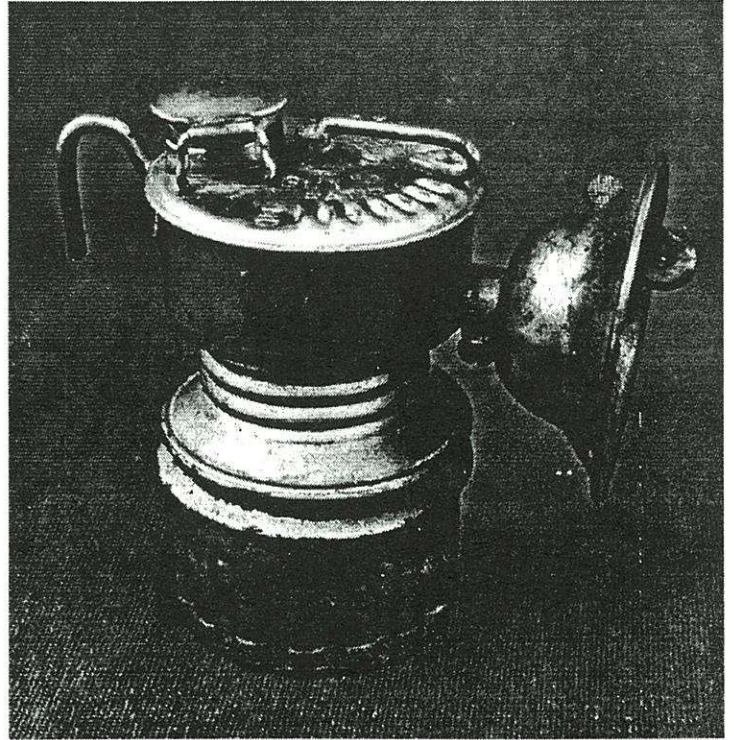


The Corrugated Base displayed in chronologic transition. The simple corrugated design (3rd from left) was patented July 21, 1925 (Design Pat. No. 67,859 Appl. Dec 2, 1921.) The base design at far right is associated with a lamp patented Feb 10, 1925 (No. 1,525,579 Appl. March 21, 1924.)

Corrugated "2-date" Examples



Corrugations over knurling. Three-inch saucer reflector with "wind-proof" tip.



Corrugations over knurling. Guy's Dropper set-screw accessory blaster's reflector. Note: set-screw models never found with cap braces.

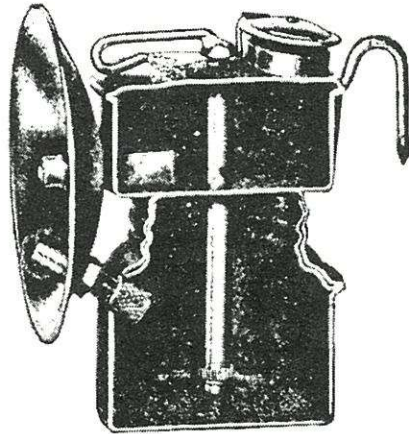


Corrugations only.

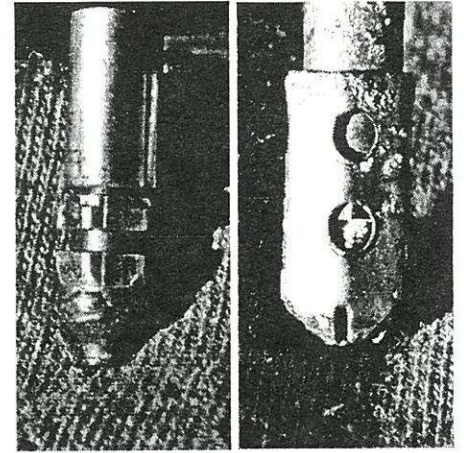
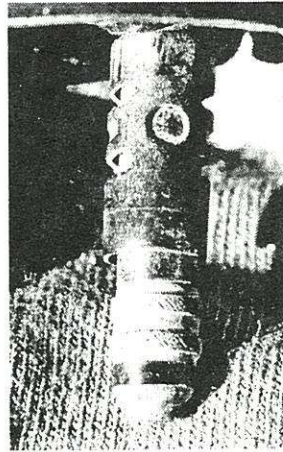


Late corrugated example. The knurled band uses the heavier stamping. Cap brace now is clip-in style.

Transition of Water Droppers



Guy's Patented Water Dropper



Three chronologic variations of the 1916 patent water dropper. The dropper in the center is shown with a sliding protective shroud which itself was patented (No. 1,357,596 Appl. May 24, 1918 Pat. Nov. 2, 1920.) The dropper shown right is often found with the perforated end-cap. All three are seen on 2-date series lamps.

“Low Roof” Model

A 2-date Guy's Dropper with a form fitting reflector (no reflector brace) was advertised in the 1920's for use in mines with a low roof. The reflector was less likely to become damaged due to its low profile.



Bottom Stamps for 2-Date Lamps

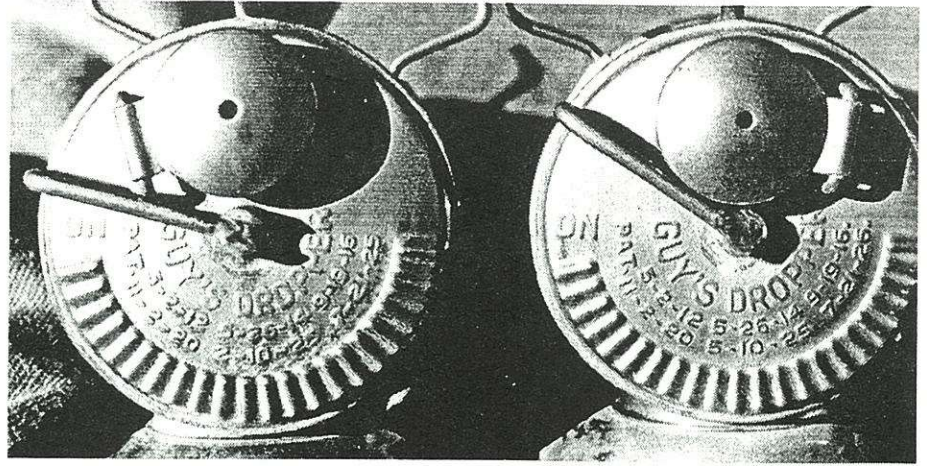
In addition to the bottom stamp shown previously (oval surrounding lettering), these two stampings are also found on the bases of two date lamps. They have similar sized lettering. The later stamp includes “U.S.A” at the bottom.



III. Six-date Series

(~ 1926 - 1930's)

A full set of six patent dates were now stamped into the top of the lamps. The first of these lamps were identical to the last 2-date models except for the top stamping. They had the heavy-band corrugated base.



“Wrong-date” Model

This anomalous 6-date lamp (right) bears an incorrect patent date of 7-21-26 instead of 7-21-25. Every one of these lamps also has its water door hinged from the left instead of the usual right location. A quality control problem? The “wrong-date” model is not particularly uncommon.

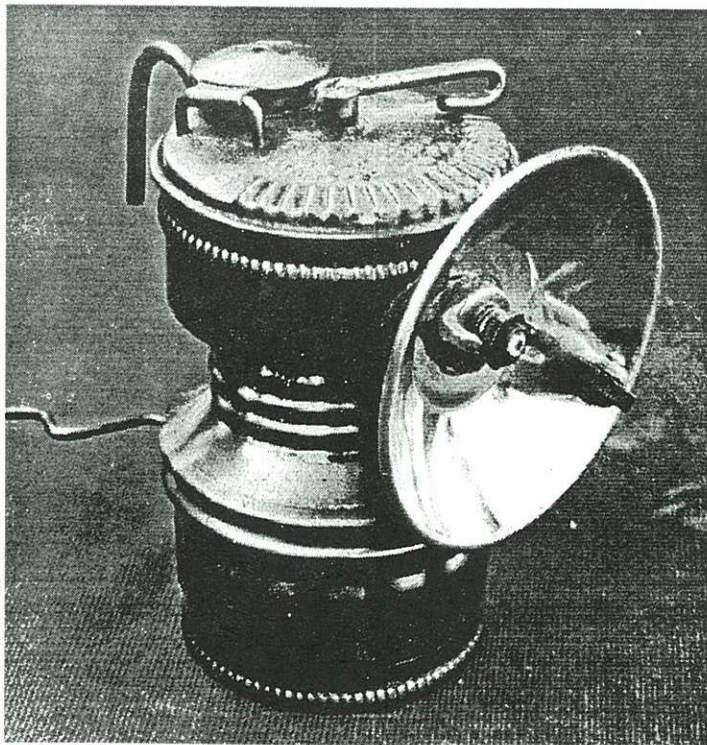
6-date tops. Example on right is “Wrong-date” model.

More Base Changes

The corrugated design would finally be dropped in favor of the more conventional ribbed base. The first ribbed models were knurled at the very bottom of the base. A similar knurled bead was added to the hex-base. Just prior to the take-over of Shanklin Mfg. Co. by Universal in 1932, the knurling disappeared entirely from the base.



Above: “Wrong-date” models belong with late corrugated base.



Left: First ribbed bases had knurling at very bottom.

Below: With the 6-date series a larger letter stamping was introduced.



IV. Universal Dropper

(mid-1930's - 1960)

The glossy sheen of thin brass, the absence of patent dates, and the chintzy plastic bumper grip around the base all make this "No-date" dropper an eyesore in any collection. It was made by Universal Lamp Co. (maker of Auto-Lite) after they assumed manufacture of the Guy's Dropper in 1932. Notice that the reflector is the same as that of recent vintage Auto-Lites.



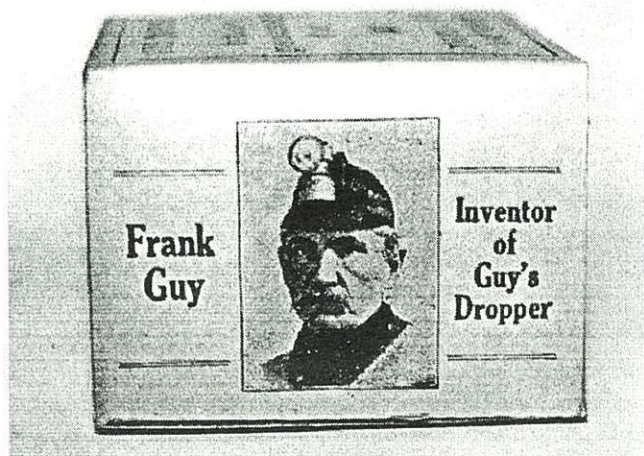
Above: Universal Dropper with spade mount. Lamp borrows Auto-Lite's reflector, wing-nut and Bumper-grip.



Left and right: Top and bottom stampings.⁵

References and Notes

1. Many ads depict the Guy's Dropper lamp with a domed top similar to the Pocahontas. Many of the early bases are never seen as they were advertised.
2. Federal Reporter 239, Guy et. al. v. Stein, Circuit Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit. December 7, 1916. pp. 729 - 734.
3. This stamping is referred to as "Base mark 1" by Paul Kouts. Additionally, he has noted a similar stamping *without* the oval (mark 2), and yet another one *with* the oval, but including "U.S.A." below the stamping ("Base mark 5.") Neither of these were found in this study.
4. Clemmer, Gregg S., American Miners' Carbide Lamps, Western Lore Press, 1987, p. 85.
5. A similar stamping exists without the word "Patented" in the mark.



Guy's Dropper cap lamp box
(photo by Van Fleet.)

Table of Variations of Guy's Dropper Cap Lamps

Top Stamp	# Notches	Top Drpr	Top knurl	Tank Flange	ON OFF	Door	Door holes	Door collar	Fin	Refl	Nut	Refl Br	Cap Brace
Pt. Pnd.	0	Butn	Sm	Sharp	-	Flat edge	1t(u)-1b	Ring	B	St scr (l)	-	-	-
1-dt (st)	Strap	Butn	Sm	Sharp	-	Flat edge	1t(u)-1b	Ring	G	St scr (l)	-	-	-
1-dt (st)	Strap	1-Kn	Sm	Sharp	-	Flat edge	1t-1b	Ring	B	Saucer	Knurled	Rem	-
1-dt (cv)	16	Butn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-1b	Flange	B	St-scr	-	-	Early
1-dt (cv)	16	1-Kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-1b	Ring	G	Saucer	Knurled	Soldered	-
2-date	16	1-Kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-1b	Ring	G	Saucer	Knurled	Soldered	-
2-date	16	1-Kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Pan	Knurled	Soldered	Early
2-date	16	1-Kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	St-scr	-	-	-
2-date	16	1-Kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	N	Pan	Knurled	Soldered	Late
2-date	16	1-Kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Saucer	Knurled	Soldered	Late
2-date	16	1-Kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Pan	Knurled	Soldered	Late
2-date	16	2-Kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Pan	Knurled	Soldered	Late
2-date	16	2-Kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Pan	Knurled	Soldered	Late
2-date	16	2-Kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	St-Scr	-	-	-
2-date	16	2-kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	St-scr	-	-	-
2-date	16	2-kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Pan	Knurled	Soldered	-
2-date	16	2-kn	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Saucer	Knurled	Rem	Late
2-date	16	Hex	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Saucer	Hex	Rem	Late
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	St-scr	-	-	-
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Pan	Hex	Rem	-
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	St-scr	-	-	-
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Pan	Hex	Rem	Late
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Sharp	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Saucer	Hex	Rem	Late
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Saucer	Hex	Rem	Late
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	St-scr	-	-	-
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	St-scr (DB)	-	-	-
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	St-scr(DB)	-	-	-
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	St-scr	-	-	-
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	St-scr	-	-	-
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Pan	Wing	Rem	Late
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Pan	Wing	Rem	Late
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On/Off	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	N	Pan	Wing	Rem	-
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	N	Pan	Hex	Rem	Late
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	N	Pan	Hex	Rem	Late
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	N	Pan	Wing	Rem	-
2-date	15	Hex	Sm	Roll	On	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	G	Pan	Hex	Rem	Late
2-date	15	Hex	Fine	Roll	On	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	N	Pan	Hex	Rem	Late
2-date	15	Hex	Fine	Roll	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Ring	B	Pan	Hex	Rem	Late
2-date	15	Hex	Fine	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Ring	B	Pan	Wing PP	Rem	0
2-date	15	Hex	Fine	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Ring	L	Pan	Wing PP	Rem	Clip
2-date	15	Hex	Fine	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Ring	L	Pan	Wing PP	Rem	Clip
2-date	15	Hex	Fine	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Ring	L	Form-fit	Wing PP	-	Clip
2-date	15	Hex	Fine	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Ring	N	Pan (n)	Wing PP	Rem	Clip
2-date	15	Hex	Heavy	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Ring	L	Pan (n)	Wing PP	Rem	Clip
6-dt wrong	22	Hex	Heavy	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Flange	N	Pan (n)	Wing	Rem	Clip
6-dt wrong	22	Hex	Heavy	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Flange	N	Saucer	Wing	Rem	Clip
6-dt wrong	22	Hex	Heavy	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Flange	L	Pan (n)	Wing	Rem	Clip
6-date	22	Hex	Heavy	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Flange	L	Pan (n)	Wing	Rem	Clip
6-date	22	Hex	Heavy	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Flange	L	Pan (n)	Wing	Rem	Clip

No stamp	15	Hex	Rope	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Ring	B	Red pan	Wing PP	Rem-N	Clip
No stamp	16	1-Kn	Sm	Sharp	-	Flat edge	1t-2b	Ring	B	St-scr	-	-	None
No stamp	15	Hex	Rope	Roll (N)	On	Full dome	1t-2b	Ring	B	Pan	Knurled	Rem	clip

Table of Variations of Guy's Dropper Cap Lamps

Hook	Btm Stmp	Base	Door hinge	Owner
Penetr	none	All smooth	R-Str (n)	C, J
N. Spd	none	Five bump	R-Str (n)	C, J-F91
N. Spd	none	Arrow style	R-Str (n)	Vels
Unriveted	Ov(-)Lg	Arrow style	R-Str (n)	C, M, T1
N. Spd.	Ov(-)Lg	Arrow style	R-Str (n)	G396
N. Spd.	Ov(-)Lg	Arrow style	R-Str	G 396
Rivet	none	Straight hex	R-Str	T4
Rivet	none	Tapered hex	R-Str	G 407
Rivet	none	Tapered hex	R-Str	G 485
Rivet	none	Tapered hex	R-Str	G 227
Rivet	none	Tapered hex	R-Knk	G 234
Rivet	none	Tapered hex	R-Knk	Schr
Rivet	none	Tapered hex	R-Knk	Vels
Rivet	none	Tapered hex	R-Knk	Vels
Rivet	Ov(-)Lg	2-ring-hatch	R-Str	T2
N. Spd	Ov(-)Lg	2-ring-hatch	R-Knk	Schr
Rivet	Ov(-)Lg	Tapered Hex	R-Knk	J F74
Rivet	Ov(-)Lg	2-ring-hatch	R-Knk	MC182
Rivet	Ov(-)Lg	2-ring-hatch	R-Knk	T3
Dbl w/Riv	Ov(-)Lg	Tapered hex	R-Str	G 222
Rivet	Ov(-)Lg	Tapered hex	R-Knk	G 235, T
Rivet	Ov(-)Lg	Tapered hex	R-Knk	T5
Overleaf	Ov(-)Lg	Corug & hatch (shal)	R-Knk	MC181
Overleaf	Ov(-)Lg	Corug & hatch (shal)	R-Knk	T7
Dbl w/Overleaf	Ov(-)Lg	Corug & hatch (shal)	R-Knk	T6
Overleaf	Ov(-)Lg	Corug & hatch (deep)	R-Knk	T8
Overleaf	Ov(-)Lg(-D)	Tapered hex	R-Knk	J F43
Overleaf	Sm	Corug/no knurl	R-Knk	G 441
Dbl w/Overleaf	Sm	Corug/no knurl	R-Str	MC179
Overleaf	Ov(-)Lg	Tapered hex	R-Knk	G 349
Overleaf	Sm	Corug/no knurl	R-Knk	T10
Dbl w/Overleaf	Sm	Corug/no knurl	R-Knk	T9
Overleaf	Ov(-)Lg	2-ring-hatch	R-Knk	J F30
Overleaf	Sm	Corug-no knurl	R-Knk	JF25
N. Spd	Sm	Corug/no knurl	R-Knk	G 445
Overleaf	Sm	Corug/no knurl	R-Knk	G 226
Overleaf	Sm	Corug/fine knurl	R-Knk	G 231
Overleaf	Sm	Corug/fine knurl	R-Knk	G 223
Dbl w/Overleaf	Sm	Corug/fine knurl	R-Knk	T12
Overleaf	Sm	Corug/fine knurl	R-Knk	G 220
Overleaf	Sm	Corug/fine knurl	R-Str	T13
Overleaf	Sm(usa)	Corug/fine knurl	R-Knk	T11
Overleaf	Sm(usa)	Corug/fine knurl	R-Knk	G 212
Overleaf	Sm(usa)	Corug/hvy knurl	R-Knk	T14, MC184
Overleaf	Sm(usa)	Tapered hex	L-Str	Schr
N. Spd	Lg(usa)	Tapered hex	L-Str	MC 186
Overleaf	Lg(usa)	Corug/hvy knurl	L-Str	T15
Overleaf	Lg(usa)	Corug/hvy knurl	R-Str	T16
Overleaf	Lg(usa)	External-ribs	R-Str	T17, MC 159
Overleaf	?	(?)	R-Knk	T
Rivet	Ov(-)Lg	Tapered hex	R-Str	G 444
All md	Sm	Corug no knurl	R-Knk	J F20

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS:

Top Stamp: Pt. Pnd.= Pat. Pend., 1-dt(st) = One date stamped in straight line, 1-dt (cv) = One date stamped in curved layout, 2-date= Two patent dates stamped on top, 6-dt wrong = Six patent dates stamped on top that includes the incorrect date of 7-21-26, 6-date = Six patent dates stamped on top.

Notches: Strap: A sheet metal strap under the water lever provides tension in place of lever notches.

Drpr(Waterdropper): Butn = Simple dropper similar to the Springfield "Button Dropper", 1-Kn = Rotating sleeve with one row of knurling, 2-Kn = Rotating sleeve with two rows of knurling, Hex = Rotating sleeve with two hexagonal nuts,

Top Knurl (Decorative knurling around water tank): Sm: Smooth, no knurling, Fine: A band of finely notched knurling, Heavy: A band of heavy knurling.

Tank Flange: Sharp: Bottom edge of water tank below threads comes to sharp edge, Roll: Bottom edge is rolled, Roll (N): Bottom edge is rolled with cut-out notches for cap brace.

Door holes (waterdoor): 1t(u)-1b = One hole on top stamped upwardly and one hole in the bottom, 1t-1b = One hole on top and one hole in the bottom, 1t-2b = One hole on top and two holes in the bottom.

Fin (finish): B = Bare brass, G = Gilt paint, L = Clear lacquer, N = Nickel-plated brass.

Reflector): St scr(l) = Set screw reflector with long screw, St scr = Set screw reflector, Saucer = 3" simple curved reflector, Pan = Smaller reflector with flattened center section, St-scr(DB): Bell-shaped set-screw reflector, Pan (n) = Nickel-plated pan reflector.

Nut: Knurled = Round knurled nut, Hex = Hex nut, Wing = Wing nut, Wing PP = Wing nut with Pat Pend stamped into nut.

Ref Br (Reflector brace): Rem = removeable from lamp, Soldered = Soldered to tank.

Hook: Penetr = Hook penetrates tank, N. Spd. = Narrow spade, Rivet = Hook is riveted to tank, Dbl w/Riv = Double hook rivited to tank, Overleaf = Brass overleaf over hook.

Btm Stmp (Bottom stamping): Ov(-)Lg = Large letters inside oval stamp with dashes between lines, Ov(-)Lg(-D) = Same as previous but instead of the usual word "Manuf'd" the stamping is "Manuf", Sm: Small letters with no oval, Sm(usa) = Same as previous but with "U.S.A" added, Lg(usa): Same as previous but large letters.

Door hinge: R-Str (n) = Hinges from the right with straight narrow posts, R-Str = Hinges from the right with straight normal width posts, R-Knk = Hinges from the right with kinked posts, L-Str = Hinges from the left with straight posts.