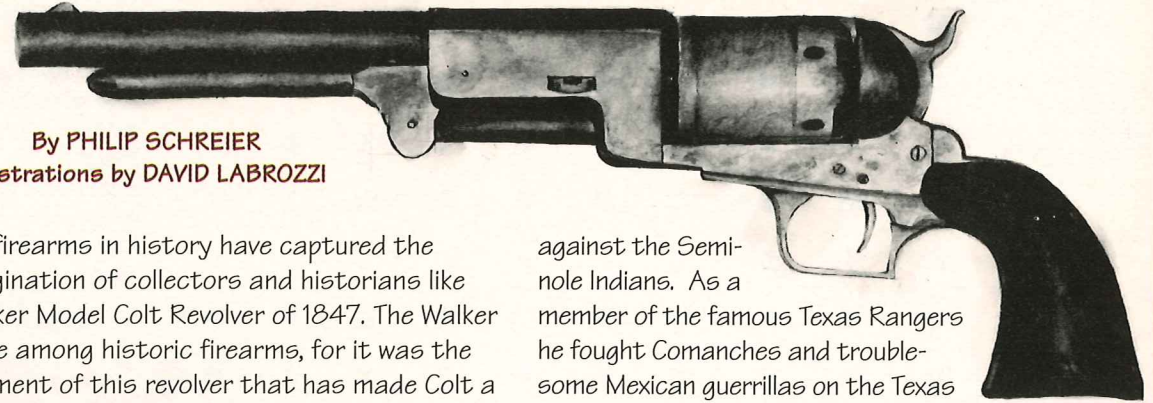


# GREAT GUNS

## The Walker Model Colt Revolver of 1847

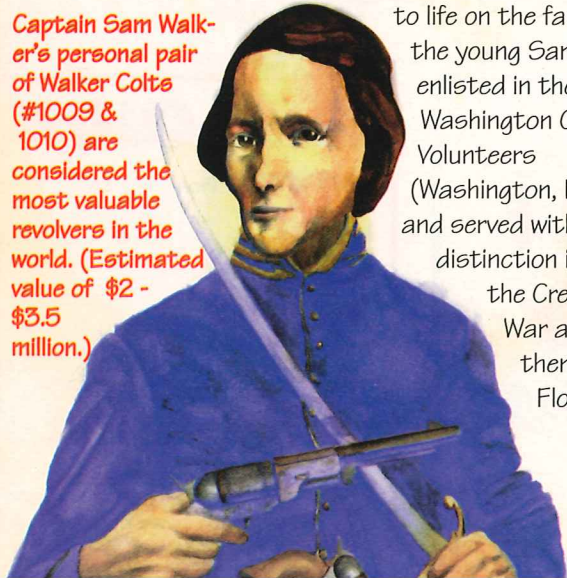


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Illustrations by DAVID LABROZZI

**F**ew firearms in history have captured the imagination of collectors and historians like the Walker Model Colt Revolver of 1847. The Walker is unique among historic firearms, for it was the development of this revolver that has made Colt a household name for the past 150 years.

Samuel H. Walker was born on February 24, 1817 in Prince George's County, Maryland. At an early age, Walker acquired an interest in the outdoors and equestrian skills. Not one to be tied down

**Captain Sam Walker's personal pair of Walker Colts (#1009 & 1010) are considered the most valuable revolvers in the world. (Estimated value of \$2 - \$3.5 million.)**



to life on the farm, the young Samuel enlisted in the Washington City Volunteers (Washington, D.C.) and served with distinction in the Creek War and then in Florida

against the Seminole Indians. As a member of the famous Texas Rangers he fought Comanches and troublesome Mexican guerrillas on the Texas frontier. When the Mexican war broke out in 1846 Walker was commissioned as a Captain in what would be known as Walker's Company of Texas Mounted Rangers.

**F**rom his days fighting Indians and Mexicans, Walker came to greatly rely on the revolving firearms of Col. Samuel Colt. Walker wanted the finest in military hardware for use by his men in the war with Mexico. He met with Colt to offer him a contract for 1,000 revolvers suitable for mounted warfare. Together they designed this improved revolver. With an enormous cylinder bored to accept .44 caliber bullets, this four pound nine ounce behemoth could serve double duty as a firearm or a substantial club. The revenue generated by the Walker contract enabled Colt to build up enough business capital to open a factory of his own in Hartford, Connecticut. As they say, "the rest is history". Colt revolvers have been military issue in the United States Armed Forces ever since!