

A demountable bicycle in the USA

By John Pinkerton

While visiting Chicago recently, I came across an interesting demountable bicycle. Although badged as Columbia, one of the USA's first brand names, made by Col. Pope, it is believed to have been manufactured by Sparta in The Netherlands. It certainly bears many of the features that can be seen on the Sparta 8 - 80 in The Pinkerton Cycle Collection, especially the square seat pin and the chain guard.



As can be seen in the photographs, it closely resembles the Trusty Spacemaster (see "It's in the bag!") in the following ways:

1. Separable joint which in this case also carries the current from the dynamo to the rear light
2. Swivel handlebars for stowing
3. Pressed steel fork crowns top and bottom with straight tubular fork blades



One slightly unusual feature is the Sturmev-Archer 3-speed control fitted on the main frame rather than the handlebars.