

George Madis

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Model 1873 First Model Carbine Number 1574

This Carbine has been carefully inspected, inside and out, and I have determined the gun is an original first model or made by Winchester

Factory records now at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming show this number was a Carbine, received in the warehouse on July 22, 1874 and was shipped out on August 1, 1874 with eight other carbines.

First model 1873 carbines show many features of the first 1866 model; both of these models were in production at the same time.

Rear sights are the same as found on 1866 models, and the front sight of carbines are part of the front barrel band.

Markings on the 1866 and 1873 models are the same, and were done with the same die. Barrel bands and the forend of this carbine are correct and original.

Wagoner's cups of earliest 1873 models are threaded into the wagoner's tube, as seen on this carbine. The saddle ring and its retaining staple are correct and original.

One of the most important points on the 1873 first models is the dust cover.

Earlier guns such as this have guides on each side of the receiver. On this dust cover the thumb hole is raised and is correct and original. Many of these early dust covers have been damaged and discarded.

No lever depressed safety was provided on 1873 models or early on

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this; another early feature is the lever latch, which is a special headed screw.

Earliest 1873 models had no rubber workings.

Select straight grain walnut was used for the stocks and forend of this Winchester, and the wood remains in good condition.

Overall this carbine is in good condition, is all original and while it shows use it has not been abused or improperly stored.

First model 1873 carbines are rare, especially in good original condition. Not many of these rare guns have survived.

Early Winchester such as this are in great demand among collectors and number 1574 will be a fine addition to any collection or museum.

George W. Jones