



National Association of

WATCH&CLOCK
Collectors, Inc.

NAWCC Chapter 52 - Los Padres

Bill Kapp's Collection

Hampden Ball

Ball's Standard, Cleveland, Ohio # 761845

Of the 39 known surviving Hampden Ball's, only 6 are known to be marked Ball's standard, Cleveland Ohio, one of which is the only hunter known.

The most common marking is the Ball's Standard, Superior Grade of which 29 are known.

Only four are known to be marked as Ball's Standard, High Grade.

Of these 39, I have only seen 7 either in person or with real clear photographs. In only two of these cases did the damaskeening match! The five that did not match had no serial number under the barrel bridge. It is not known whether the two with matching damaskeening are serialized. At first I thought the fact that the unserialized barrel bridges were obviously replacements, that this might account for the mismatches, but in looking through the Hernick/Arnold Hampden book, I see that there are plenty of examples where Dueber did not match all the damaskeening on various movement plates. Even the adcuts of the movements over the years show this anomaly. Mostly he did, but quite often he did not. I can't see any logic or reason for this puzzling artistry.



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Recently acquired #410538 marked Ball's Standard Hi Grade. it has a Moorehouse Style dial and 15 jewels. This is the earliest known Ball marked Hampden other than the Whitcomb Ball in the NAWCC museum



Pictured below is a Ball's Standard Superior Grade # 759505. Acquired this in LA at the 2013 regional. Like my other Ball Hampdens, it has no serial number under the Barrel bridge and the damaskeening of the barrel plate does not match the rest of the movement. The dial is absolutely gorgeous!



Another movement pic of 759505 that shows the damaskeening more clearly.





What makes the Ball and Co Hamiltons attractive to me besides their rarity is that they are not subject to as much case swapping as seen in the later models. They are not found in Ball Marked cases. If the style is right and there are only one set of screw marks, you can have a high degree of confidence in correctness or originality.

Pictured below:

Ball's Standard Superior Grade Hamilton/Ball 936 Serial # 8629

Production believed to be 87 with only 12 known to survive





Pictured below:

Ball & Co ORRS serial # 8774 from the first Run of ORRS.(938's) Only 3 known to survive marked Ball & Co. The other 7 survivors of this run of 100 938's are Private Label Ball Jewelers.



Dial below was originally on 28223 switched now to 8774



Pictured Below:

Railroad Watch Co serial #20969. A single run of 200 with 22 surfacing to date. 16 Jewel, Single Roller Model 999F. Eight with different markings on the movement and having 17 jewels have been reported in the 90101-90200 serial number range. Runs 5 sec a day slow with a combination of face up and in my pocket.







Pictured below, Ball's Standard Railroad Watch Co #20529, one of 30 known survivors in the run of 20501-20800.



Another 999F, this one has a small "crow's foot" hairline on the dial around the 8 hour and someone in the past has done a poorly and erroneous engraving of 17 jewels on the barrel bridge. Even so, the watch is attractive and scarce.