Subject: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Elliot Taub on Sun, 12 Mar 2006 18:44:30 GMT
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I see lots of people have posted on here trying to identify Montgomery Ward radios. I am another, I have what appears to be a 1940's era Montgomery Ward console radio. It looks a lot like some Westinghouse models. It says inside that its article # 62-2506, I don't know if that's the model number, though. It also says it's WG+C Series 16A90-851. It's 117 volts/60 Watts. I couldn't read the info on the tubes, but they are GE Tubes. It also says it usues Airline tubes and the Airwave Loop Aerial system for the antennae. Any ideas?

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 13 Mar 2006 14:50:51 GMT
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Looks like it is in nice shape, great looking! Does it work?The best way I know of to date a Mongomery Ward radio is to look at the tube complement. Look closely at each tube for their part numbers. You may also be able to find a service label inside that shows tube numbers and chassis placement.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Elliot Taub on Tue, 14 Mar 2006 00:53:11 GMT
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Yup, it works, though it's very quiet. There's no service label that I can see, but one of the airline tubes clearly has "280 839" written on it. What part is the chassis? Is it the metal box that everything sits on? It has a phono output, as well.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 14 Mar 2006 14:35:59 GMT
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There is sometimes a label on the inside of the cabinet that shows the locations and part numbers of each of the tubes.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Elliot Taub on Wed, 15 Mar 2006 02:11:05 GMT
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Here are some pictures of the inside. Is this the label you are talking about?
http://www.scatalogics.com/images/radio/chassis.jpg

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Elliot Taub on Wed, 15 Mar 2006 02:11:58 GMT
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Here's a detail photo of the metal box (chassis?). It has a number on it, might be a serial number of some sort.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 15 Mar 2006 14:55:58 GMT
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The label that shows tube placement is what I'm talking about. I'll look through my schematics and see if I find a match, and write back if I do.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Elliot Taub on Wed, 29 Mar 2006 14:23:08 GMT
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Wayne, any luck?

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 29 Mar 2006 16:59:37 GMT
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No, sorry. Thanks for reminding me, I forgot. I'll make a note to myself right now to check this evening. The configuration of tubes shown on the label look familiar, as does the phono input. I think I've run across this chassis before.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Elliot Taub on Sat, 22 Apr 2006 05:30:46 GMT
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Hi Wayne, sorry to be a bother, but I was wondering if you got another chace to give the radio a guess as to it's origin. Sorry to keep bugging you.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 25 Apr 2006 00:12:15 GMT
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Sorry, no luck.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by K5FNI on Fri, 11 Dec 2009 22:31:40 GMT
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Did you ever find out about your console radio's model? I have that same radio (purchased last summer) and I have the same problems. I checked a site for finding old radio schematics by brand/model and put in that number we both have. It was not found. Models all around that number were shown in the database as being "pre-1938". Well, from the FM band and miniature tubes in this radio, I KNOW it comes from post WW II and NOT "pre-1938".

Thats why I would like to know if you have found out anything more about yours. Or if anyone reading this has more information on this model.

I will be glad to share with you whatever I find, since we have the same radio.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 11 Dec 2009 23:34:49 GMT
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It plays but it seems lower in volume than it should be? Have you looked at the signals with a scope?

I have one radio that needed a lot of work, but there were no schematics to be found. Seems like that's the case on a lot of Montgomery Ward radios. I ended up tracing the wires and making my own schematic. It seems like a lot of work before you start but ends up being just a couple hours work. Might be worth it.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by K5FNI on Sun, 13 Dec 2009 23:09:40 GMT
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Wayne,

I have no doubt that I can create a schematic for the radio. Of course, I can't figure out what is inside the IF cans. I guess I can ohm out the inductors.

I was hoping to stir up someone who could comment on the model number's seeming incongruity within the Airline stream of models through the years, as the old radio site showed the ones around the one I have were much older than mine.

Also, the loop antenna in the console case's wall has been eaten by rats/mice or some other destructive thing. There are actual gaps in the wires. I don't know if anyone sells these old loop antennas now. I know I can take a big batch of Litz wire and a piece of Masonite and make a similar sized antenna now. I just was hoping NOT to have to go to that extent to get the radio back into service. This is one of the flat, oval antennas on a 2-dimensional plane.

I'm not sure what your statement refers to here: "It plays but it seems lower in volume than it should be? Have you looked at the signals with a scope?" as I didn't say anything like this.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 14 Dec 2009 15:28:26 GMT
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K5FNI wrote on Sun, 13 December 2009 17:09Also, the loop antenna in the console case's wall has been eaten by rats/mice or some other destructive thing. There are actual gaps in the wires. I don't know if anyone sells these old loop antennas now. I know I can take a big batch of Litz wire and a piece of Masonite and make a similar sized antenna now. I just was hoping NOT to have to go to that extent to get the radio back into service. This is one of the flat, oval antennas on a 2-dimensional plane.
I've had a couple like that too. I have made a few of my own, but I suppose you could probably find an old junker at a garage sale or on eBay and remove the loop.

K5FNI wrote on Sun, 13 December 2009 17:09I'm not sure what your statement refers to here: "It plays but it seems lower in volume than it should be? Have you looked at the signals with a scope?" as I didn't say anything like this.
One of the early posts from Elliot said his radio worked but was low in volume. When you said you have the same radio and have the same problems, that's what I thought you were talking about.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by K5FNI on Tue, 15 Dec 2009 20:42:24 GMT
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Ahh. I see now what you meant. No, I haven't even turned it on, since I haven't:
Replaced the power cord
Checked the tubes
Replaced the 'lytic & wax caps
Checked the resistor values
Given it a blow with the air gun nozzle + air tank to get the years of dust out
Replaced the loop antenna

And I may even wire in a fuse holder to protect the transformer.

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by K5FNI on Wed, 16 Dec 2009 06:14:28 GMT
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Elliott,

FINALLY! I found the schematic and alignment information tonight on the antique radio information site with the exact URL for the PDF of:
http://www.nostalgiaair.org/Resources/987/M0011987.htm
This says it is for model 94WG-2746A, but it is exactly the tube lineup and date of the radio we both have!

I'm still in need of help with the loop antenna. Mine has been eaten by rats before I got the radio last summer. From the schematic, you can see that it is a resonant antenna with a trimmer capacitor behind the loop fiber board. And there are two connections for an external antenna for the AM band out ON the antenna loop board. This is not just a simple back of the radio loop as most AM radios of the "pre 1951" era had.

Anyone help out there?

Thanks in advance (& good luck to Elliott),

Subject: Re: Montgomery Ward Console Radio indentity
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 16 Dec 2009 15:13:18 GMT
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Congrats on finding the schematic! And good luck finding a replacement loop!