The Beatles

Label ac1
Stereo SWBO-101
Apple label with Capitol logo on the sliced side.
There are six spelling errors found on sides 1, 2, and 4 that were corrected on later copies of the LP. These are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Side</th>
<th>Spelling Reads</th>
<th>Should Read</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Side One</td>
<td>Obladi Oblada</td>
<td>Ob-La-Di Ob-La-Da</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side One</td>
<td>Bungalow Bill</td>
<td>The Continuing Story of Bungalow Bill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side Two</td>
<td>Why Don’t We Do it in the Road</td>
<td>Why Don’t We Do it in the Road?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side Four</td>
<td>Revolution No. 1</td>
<td>Revolution 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side Four</td>
<td>Revolution No. 9</td>
<td>Revolution 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side Four</td>
<td>Goodnight</td>
<td>Good Night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Since the first label and the second label (below) were available together from the day that the record went on sale, it is easy to find albums with “mismatched” labels. A true first pressing will have all of the errors.
A seventh spelling error is found on side two. This misspelling shows “Rocky Raccoon” as “Rocky Racoon.” That misspelling went uncorrected until the 1995 reissue of the album. Therefore, it is found on every copy with the catalog number SWBO-101.

Possible covers:
Promotional cover with “FREE” punch (Los Angeles).
Commercial cover – see below.

The White Album was released originally with an outer wraparound made from coated paper stock. On the front cover “The BEATLES” was embossed (raised). Also on the front cover, an individual sequence number was stamped by machine in gray print. All early covers have the catalog number by itself in the lower left corner of the inside front cover.

The numbering scheme varied by printer, and therefore by factory, as indicated on the following page. Reportedly, there were twelve copies of Number One distributed to the Beatles themselves, to some friends, and to Capitol Records officials. Copies numbered 2 through 25 were also given to friends of the Beatles and to Capitol employees.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number Interval</th>
<th>Factory</th>
<th>Numbering Scheme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A00000001</td>
<td>Scranton</td>
<td>Leading “A” immediately preceding number This was a commemorative printing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A 000002 to A 000025</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Leading A followed by space, then the number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>026 to 100</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Three-digit number with no additional lead zeros Note: I have personally seen number 100. Bruce Spizer has number 027 in his own collection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0000101 to about 021500</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Number with lead zeros and no prefixing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0215001 to about 0580000</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Leading A followed by space, then the number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0580001 to 1380000</td>
<td>Jacksonville</td>
<td>Leading character is a large dot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1380001 to A2010000+</td>
<td>Scranton</td>
<td>Leading “A” immediately preceding number</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “first batches” of numbers appear to have been assigned something like this...

- 026 to 0580000 Los Angeles
- 0580000 to 1380000 Jacksonville
- 1380000 to 2000000 Scranton

At around A2000000 the first pressing of the album ended, and new numbers needed to be assigned. In theory, none of these higher numbers should have the first label style (above), but since the records were not paired with covers in the order that they were pressed, anything is possible in that regard.
The Winchester plant began pressing copies of the album late in 1969.

Possible covers:
See below (ac3).

Possible covers:
Since the change to the corrected titles occurred immediately, the numbering scheme described above is also true for records with the second set of labels. The third label scheme (ac3) and many of the second labels are also found with “higher numbers.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number Interval</th>
<th>Factory</th>
<th>Numbering Scheme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010000+ to 2050000+</td>
<td>Jacksonville</td>
<td>Leading character is a large dot (as above).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 2070000 to 2460000+</td>
<td>Scranton</td>
<td>Leading “A” immediately preceding number (as above)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2480000 to 2500000</td>
<td>Scranton</td>
<td>No. precedes the number. (See below for photo.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2500001 to 2680000+ Jacksonville Nº. precedes the number.

Apparently the numbering was discontinued prior to the Jacksonville allocation reaching 2,700,000. No numbers are known beginning with 27*****.

2800000+ to 3000000 Scranton No. precedes the number

3000001 to 3130000+ Los Angeles Leading A followed by space, then the number

As time passed, new inner liners were prepared mentioning Apple Records next to the catalog number on the inside front cover. A few numbered copies have this print.

Poster:

The original poster – which seems to be found with all numbered copies of the LP – features a rights statement on the lyrics side. The second line of that statement is * © Apple Records.

† © All lyrics copyright 1968 for the world by Northern Songs Ltd, England
Apple Records
EMI Records
(The Gramaphone Co. Ltd.) Hayes, Middlesex, England

Pictures:

The four photos – one of each Beatle – have nothing next to the “Printed in USA” logo in the bottom left.

Tissue Separator:

Many copies of the LP come with a blank piece of paper the size of the photos that was used to separate sets of photos from one another. This tissue separator exists in several different colors.
Stickers:

Capitol added contents/hype stickers to some copies of the record. Most of these stickers were added directly to the cover, but some stickers (mostly with later records) are found on the shrink wrap. Sticker #3a, being the most common, is also found with some unnumbered reissues.

Sticker S1:
This long sticker, often found with Scranton copies of the LP, advertises the album as new and does not list the song titles.

Sticker S2:
This rare black sticker is the only one known to use the uncorrected titles to four of the songs. The spelling of “Rocky Raccoon” has been corrected. Also, the titles are not in the same order as the songs are on the LP.

Sticker S3a:
This is the most common of all of the stickers that accompany the album.
**Sticker S3b:**
This one looks like S3a, but the print is in black.

![Sticker S3b Image](image)

**Sticker S4a:**
This sticker is usually found with an orange background. It is the next most common (after S3a).

![Sticker S4a Image](image)

**Sticker S4b:**
Copies of the above sticker with a yellow background are slightly less common.

![Sticker S4b Image](image)

**Sticker 5:**
This sticker was added to the shrink wrap by a distributor, “Bee Gee Distributors” in Latham, New York. They also added a second (oval) sticker indicating that the album was a two-record set.

![Sticker 5 Image](image)
Sticker 6:
This rare black sticker lists the song titles and reads “DELUXE 2 RECORD SET.”

Sticker 7:
This rare pink sticker has been found affixed to the cover.

Sticker 8:
Another rare sticker...This one has a border.

Sticker 9:
Perhaps the most interesting, this rare orange sticker features an apple.
Label as 1
Stereo SWBO-101
Apple label with “MFD. BY APPLE” on the sliced side
Factory: Scranton, Winchester

The Winchester factory apparently did not press many copies of the Apple label with “Capitol logo” B-side. They began pressing copies of the album with the standard “Apple” information some time in 1970. These copies have seemingly low-numbered matrix information. For example, the matrix may end in “W8.” A few copies numbered in the 2,400,000’s from Scranton also have the Apple statement on the B-side.

Label af
Stereo SWBO-101
Apple label with “MFD. BY APPLE” on the full side
Factory: Los Angeles
   Label may be flat or glossy.
Factory: Jacksonville
   Has record numbers on the label.
Factory: Winchester
   Label may be flat or glossy.
Copies pressed in 1974-5 have “Mastered by Capitol” in the matrix.

Possible covers:
The inside front cover has an Apple Records copyright next to the catalog number.
The cover is folded “inside out,” so that the outer slick is larger. From here on the outer cover is no longer made of coated paper stock.

Poster:
The second poster also features a rights statement on the lyrics side. The second line of that statement is © 1968 Apple Music Publishing Co., Inc.

Pictures:
The four photos – one of each Beatle – have an Apple Records copyright next to the “Printed in USA” logo in the bottom left.

**Label as3**

Stereo SWBO-101
Apple label with “MFD. BY APPLE” on the sliced side
Dark background and later matrices
Factory: Winchester

**Label ar**

Stereo SWBO-101
Apple label with rights information on one or both sides.
Factory: Los Angeles, PRC
  Rights information appears below the manufacturing statement in the rim text.
Factory: Jacksonville
  Rights information appears in black across the label, near top
Factory: Jacksonville
  Rights information appears in black across the label, near bottom
Factory: Jacksonville
  Rights information appears in the rim around the right side of the label.
Factory: Winchester
  Rights information appears below the manufacturing statement in the rim text.

Possible covers:
Cover #2, found with earlier Apple pressings.
Cover #3 has the embossed print on the front cover replaced with simple gray letters.
**Label 72r**

Stereo SWBO-101
Orange label with rights disclaimer
Large side number at left
Factories: Los Angeles, Monarch, Jacksonville, Winchester, PRC (?)

“STEREO” at left
Factory: Jacksonville

Possible covers:
Cardboard cover with “The Beatles” in gray.
Posterboard cover with “The Beatles” in gray/black. These covers also have the copyright statement on the inside front cover changed to indicate Capitol Records.

The pictures are on a much thinner paper stock and no longer mention Apple.

**Label 78**

Stereo SWBO-101
Purple label with large logo
Factories: Los Angeles
THE BEATLES is in much larger type.
Factory: Winchester
THE BEATLES is in much larger type.
Factory: Jacksonville
THE BEATLES is in smaller type.

Posterboard cover.
The pictures have been replaced with a single perforated poster showing the four images.
Label 83
Stereo SWBO-101
Rainbow label with print in color band.
Factories: Los Angeles, Jacksonville, Winchester, Specialty
Posterboard cover.

Compression and Limiting:

According to *Beatles Book* #66, George Harrison visited Capitol Records in conjunction with his work on the Jackie Lomax album for Apple. While he was there, he discovered that Capitol had applied compression and limiting to the whole LP. George was angry. He compelled them to destroy the first 33 lacquers for the album, which had contained the compressed form. A few copies of the album had been pressed in the Scranton plant using the compressed/limited stampers; these got out and are rare collectors' items.

A Note about Banding:

Most original copies and all reissues of the album are “banded.” That is, Capitol Records has placed visible bands between the songs on each side, making it easy for the listener to pick out a specific song to play. The British album is not banded. Apparently in response to the visit from George Harrison, Capitol made several stampers (J40 through J43) that were not banded. These were often mixed in with banded stampers, so that a given copy of the numbered album might have one, two, three, or all four sides in un-banded form.