

AccessionIndex: TCD-SCSS-T.20121208.080  
Accession Date: 8-Dec-2012  
Accession By: Prof.J.G.Byrne, Maire Jones  
Object name: Apple Macintosh Powerbook 140 and 170 portable computers  
Vintage: c.1991  
Synopsis: Second-generation Apple portable, MC68030-based, LCD display.

**Description:**

Apple introduced their PowerBook portable computers in Oct-1991. They were early laptops with a trackball rather than a trackpad, and the first to have palmrests in front of the keyboard, now a standard feature of laptops.

The mid-range Powerbook 140 and high-end Powerbook 170 were original Apple designs, while the low-end Powerbook 100 (see elsewhere in this catalog) was a Sony redesign of the earlier Apple Macintosh Portable.

Both the PowerBook 140 and 170 (but not the 100) included an internal floppy drive. Both were based on the Motorola MC68030 microprocessor. The Powerbook 140 had a cheaper passive matrix display and slower 16MHz CPU, no FPU, 2MB memory that could not be upgraded, and 20MB disk, while the more powerful 170 had an active matrix display and faster 25MHz CPU and FPU, 2MB memory plus a pre-installed 2MB upgrade card, and 40MB disk.

Accession Index	Object with Identification
TCD-SCSS-T.20121208.080.01	Apple Macintosh Powerbook 140. S/N: ???
TCD-SCSS-T.20121208.080.02	Apple Macintosh Powerbook 170. S/N: ???

**Accessions:**

*Powerbook 170: Prof.J.G.Byrne, 8-Dec-2012.*  
*Powerbook 140: Maire Jones, 20-Nov-2014.*

**References:**

1. Wikipedia: <http://www.wikipedia.org/>.

*Figure 1: Apple Powerbook 140 three-quarter view*