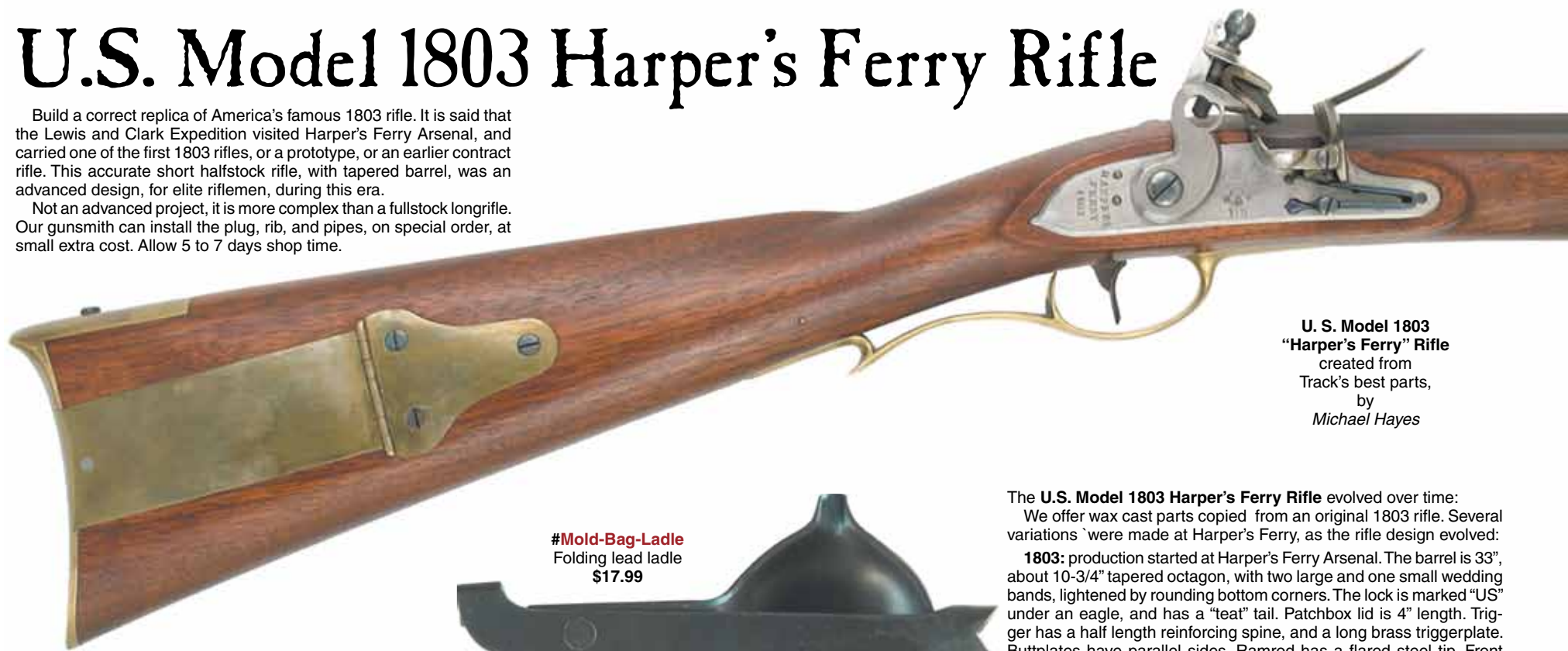


# U.S. Model 1803 Harper's Ferry Rifle

Build a correct replica of America's famous 1803 rifle. It is said that the Lewis and Clark Expedition visited Harper's Ferry Arsenal, and carried one of the first 1803 rifles, or a prototype, or an earlier contract rifle. This accurate short halfstock rifle, with tapered barrel, was an advanced design, for elite riflemen, during this era.

Not an advanced project, it is more complex than a fullstock longrifle. Our gunsmith can install the plug, rib, and pipes, on special order, at small extra cost. Allow 5 to 7 days shop time.



**U. S. Model 1803  
"Harper's Ferry" Rifle**  
created from  
Track's best parts,  
by  
*Michael Hayes*

**#Mold-Bag-Ladle**  
Folding lead ladle  
\$17.99



**#Tool-Turn-U**  
Forged turnscrow  
\$6.99



**#Worm-1817-10-F** ramrod worm \$8.99



**#BP-1817-10-F** ball puller \$8.99



**Hand forged folding ladle .....#Mold-Bag-Ladle**

This hand forged folding lead ladle was copied from an original 18th century ladle. When extended, this hand forged iron ladle, with a blued finish, is 7-1/2" length. It folds to 5-1/4" length. Perfect for storing in your shooting bag, or knapsack. The 2" diameter, 1/2" deep bowl has a curled lip for easy pouring. The handle has a forged socket, approximately 3/8" diameter, for inserting your wooden handle, if desired.

This primitive bullet casting ladle is a perfect accessory for the hunter, and a necessary item for the historical and competition trekker.

**#Mold-Bag-ladle** hand forged folding ladle **only \$17.99**

**U Shaped Screwdriver .....#Tool-Turn-U**

Copied from an original. Our hand forged U shaped turnscrow can be shaped to fit inside your rifle's patch box, or kept in your shooting pouch.

**#Tool-Turn-U** hand forged "U" shaped turnscrow **only \$ 6.99**

## These tools will fit neatly inside your patchbox.

Our **#Tool-Turn-U** forged steel turnscrow (screwdriver) can easily be squeezed in vise jaws to fit inside a narrow patchbox cavity.

Our **#Worm-US-1817-10-F** corkscrew worm, and our **#BP-US-1817-10-F** ball puller can be re-tapped if necessary. Enlarge the threaded holes, to fit your threaded 1803 ramrod, or your military musket rod.

## The U.S. Model 1803 Harper's Ferry Rifle evolved over time:

We offer wax cast parts copied from an original 1803 rifle. Several variations were made at Harper's Ferry, as the rifle design evolved:

**1803:** production started at Harper's Ferry Arsenal. The barrel is 33", about 10-3/4" tapered octagon, with two large and one small wedding bands, lightened by rounding bottom corners. The lock is marked "US" under an eagle, and has a "teat" tail. Patchbox lid is 4" length. Trigger has a half length reinforcing spine, and a long brass triggerplate. Buttplates have parallel sides. Ramrod has a flared steel tip. Front "trumpet" ramrod pipe is steel, with a slightly belled end. The iron middle pipe has a swelled center with ringed ends. The brass ramrod entry pipe has double rings at the front, and at the center of the pipe.

**1804:** barrels retain octagon bottom flats. Front "trumpet" ramrod pipe has a larger belled end.

**1806:** first production of 4,023 rifles ended. Apparently all of the 1803 to 1806 dated rifles are marked with serial numbers.

**1811:** a brass tipped ramrod was suggested by Mr. Tench Coxe, purveyor of public supplies. Many 1803 - 1806 rifles were retrofitted.

**1814:** second production began. The lock has a less pointed tail, with "US" marked inside the eagle. Trigger has a full reinforcing fin, and a short brass triggerplate. Buttplates are pear shaped. Front "trumpet" pipe has wider angled sides. The brass entry pipe has single rings at front and center. The 33 inch barrel has 11-3/4" tapered octagon, with one wedding band at the transition to round.

**1815:** In June, barrel length was increased to 36", and the round portion was made .030" to .045" larger. Patchbox lid was lengthened to 4-3/4". Stocks have a 13" trigger reach.

**1819:** second production ended at 15,703 rifles. Apparently none of these so-called Model 1814 rifles bear serial numbers.

In his published notes, in *The Rifle Shoppe Catalog*, Jesse Melot reports that he has examined 14 rifles which retain their original rifling. All have 1 turn in 49" twist, .018" to .021" round bottom grooves, .078" to .085" width. Most original 1803 rifles show evidence of a brown varnish, not the ordinary linseed oil, as might be expected during this era.