

This beautiful 1939 Bickle-Seagrave Fire Truck was build just before WWII. The Bickle factory was in Woodstock, Ontario Canada and the truck was ordered by the "Township of Whitney", Ont, Canada on July 18th 1939.

Photos from **Timmins Fire Chief Mike (Spyke) Pintar** show 1939 Ford fire trucks in front of several Canadian fire stations. One of the photos is labeled "**Earl Lamarche Sebastien (Tommy) Labreche & Roy Davis (1953)**". Another photo shows a 1939 next to a 1960's GMC fire truck. Are any of these trucks mine? Who knows.

It was reported the truck had a frame off restoration from a professional that restored vehicles for Hollywood film makers around 2000, but there are pictures from 1995 fully restored. Searching for information I found Phil & Gail Gravelle of Scotland, Ont. were previous owners. Turns out that Phil is a mechanic near Scotland and has done many excellent vehicle restorations over the years. Also of note, **Photographer Richard Spiegelman** has pictures of the truck fully restored in 1995. Richard informed me that he thought Phil was in a seniors home and his wife had died several years ago.

The truck was purchased from the Atlantic Car Show Auction in Hershey Pa. in 2001. It lived in Murrels Inlet SC for about 6 years. It was then sold to a gentleman from Austin Tx. on November 1st, 2007. He later moved to the Seattle area and that's where I found it.

My part of the story starts after I found it, bought it and had it shipped to the Los Angeles area in April 2018.

I contracted with **Ron at L&R Hauling 360-790-2699** and they did a fantastic job getting the truck to LA. If anybody needs an enclosed trailer to ship a car or truck, contact L&R Hauling directly or via uShip.

The rig came with two original turnout coats. One turnout coat has big block letters in white on the back "**W234**" (the 4 is written over a 6) The label inside has **W2-36 DB**. The inside label of the 2nd turnout coat has the name: "**B. DEPEN**" typed and hand written next to it in pen is "**ROACH**". Also "**30370**" is type written on the label.

In the purchase order I found the following (it's hard to read but here goes):
Fire Hose: 200 ft. D.J. 2-1/2" Provar Treated fire-hose with (cheapest coupling which are to be threaded South Porcupine thread brand) (Male end sample brought here by B.?.B to be returned to **Chief Max Smith**. South Porcupine.

(footnote) Obituaries: 11/01/1946 **Chief Fred Maxwell-Smith**, affectionately known as Max Smith, since 1928 head of the South Porcupine Fire Brigade, South Porcupine, Ont., Canada, who died recently, was active in Dominion fire service circles.

I am looking for any additional information or pictures so I can better tell the story of this 79 year old truck.

Any information or references would be appreciated.

Thanks,

Jim...

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