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The Value of Provenance

Rick Luff

Usually the documented history of an object increases its value, no more so than with motor cars. That said, for one of this months cars, this is not the case.

This particular one owner 1985 Series 3 XJ6 was ordered from Browns Lane for Sir William Lyons' personal driver as a retirement gift. Shipped to his home in Queensland seven months later it has averaged less than 9,000 km per year, has been serviced by the book and runs perfectly. The timber is almost 100% as are the special order Saville Grey tweed covered seats. The air conditioning has been converted to 134a gas and everything mechanical and electrical works as it should. There is no rust to blight the body and naturally it comes with pepperpot alloy wheels.

So here we have a first class example of the model, a unique and documented history with nothing for the prospective owner to spend. 38 bids resulted in a sale price of a mere \$5,900.00. Once again, if I only had the space!

Next up is an E-type with a difference which I found on www.carpaint.com.au. A 1969 model in dark silver, this triple Webbered high horsepower motor is coaxed along by a Supra 5 speed gearbox. The faired exhausts sprout from the lower sills below the doors and shod with Simmons wheels and race brakes the car is a stunner. A variation on the Concours theme, however I feel that it is a tastefully modernized unit that loses nothing of its heritage or appeal. The bonnet will never rust as it is made from carbon fibre and despite the extensive modifications, it is road registered.

The asking price of \$59,000 probably reflects its non originality and although not a purist's choice, my guess it would be terrific to drive. Shame about the aforementioned space (not to mention money). Have a look at the site and see what you think.

Feedback about the two Web Watch formats seem to be evenly divided. Perhaps we could alternate between them each month.

Lastly, thanks for the Jaguaritis Trophy and especially to the legendary Pam Jones for selecting my article. I'll do my best to maintain the standard.

Remember: if somebody is pointing at you in amazement, you're either driving a Jaguar or have forgotten to put on your trousers.

Until next time.

Rick Luff