

Stephen Curtis

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Sent: 06 July 2011 03:29
Subject: Cooper Buick

I went thru a race history of Cunningham entered cars that was prepared by Lawrence Berman and found the following additions to the list below. I also added comments in the Berman report to the original list in RED.

Cunningham had two Cooper Monaco's. The one my dad usually drove was listed as CM 3/61. The other one was listed as CM 1/62. CM 1/62 was fitted with a Maserati engine in some of the earlier races. According to Berman, at the Virginia International Raceway (VIR) race on April 29, 1962, Dick Thompson wrecked CM 1/62 in practice. I don't know what was wrong with CM 3/61 but pieces of both cars were put together to make one servicable car (CM1/62) after an all night work session and was driven by Walt to a 3rd overall, 2nd in class finish. I believe both these cars had Maserati engines for this race.

Do you have any idea which chassis you have? Do you have a documented race history and ownership?

Regards,
 Rusty Hansgen

The Walt Hansgen biography written by Mike Argetsinger lists the following records for the Cooper Buick: 1962:

Apr 29 - Virginia International Raceway, Danville, VA - (CM 1/62) Walt Hansgen
 June 3 - Bridgehampton, NY, 1st Overall, SCCA National (CM 3/61) Walt Hansgen
 June 3 - Bridgehampton, NY, 2nd Overall, SCCA National (CM 1/62) Dick Thompson
 Sept 22 - Watkins Glen Grand Prix, Watkins Glen, NY, 1st Overall, SCCA National (CM 3/61) Walt Hansgen
 Sept 22 - Watkins Glen Grand Prix, Watkins Glen, NY, 5th Overall, SCCA National (CM 1/62) Augie Pabst
 Cooper Maserati
 Oct 14 - LA Time Grand Prix, Riverside, Cal., DNF(FIA/USAC) (brake trouble) Walt Hansgen
 Oct 21 - Pacific Grand Prix, (1st heat), Laguna Seca, Cal., 13th (blown water hose) CM 3/61) Walt Hansgen
 Oct 21 - Pacific Grand Prix, (2nd heat), Laguna Seca, Cal., 3rd (CM 3/61) Walt Hansgen

1963

May 12 - Cumberland, Md., 2nd Overall, SCCA National (1st in Class) (CM 3/61) Walt Hansgen
 May 12 - Cumberland, Md. 4th Overall, SCCA National (1st in Class) (CM 1/62) Augie Pabst
 June 2 - Bridgehampton, NY 1st Overall, SCCA National (CM 3/61) Walt Hansgen
 Aug 24 - Watkins Glen, NY, 2nd Overall, 1st in Class SCCA National, Paul Richards (don't know which chassis)
 Sept 15 - Bridgehampton 500km (FIA International), 1st (CM 3/61) Walt Hansgen
 Oct 13 - LA Times GP Qualifier, Riverside, Cal., 1st Walt Hansgen
 Oct 13 - LA Times GP, Riverside Cal., DNF(FIA/USAC) (piston) Walt Hansgen