

1911 Brush Runabout

Manufacturing Information

Manufactured ByBrush Motor Car CompanyAssembled AtHighland Park, MichiganModel ProductionUnknown (this model in 1911)Annual Production2,000 (all vehicles this manufacturer in 1911)BodyRunaboutHorsepower10Veight850 pounds/386 kilograms1911 Cost\$500 (USD)

Innovations

Modern front-engine layout Hardwood frame Wooden front axle Very light weight

Wood Axle!

The Brush Runabout Company advertised that a squirrel can climb a tree better than an elephant, hence a light car is superior to a heavy car. Built nearby in Highland Park from 1907 to 1912, the Brush was designed by Alanson P. Brush, who had a major hand in the design of the original one-cylinder Cadillac. The Brush was also a single-cylinder car. Financial backing came from Frank Briscoe whose older brother Ben unfortunately had empire-building visions along General Motors lines. The collapse of his United States Motor Company in 1911 took a number of companies with it, including the Brush Runabout Company. Leftover vehicles were sold off in 1912 as the Liberty-Brush for the bargain price of \$350. Although only on the scene for a few years, the Brush was very popular and was produced in large quantities.

John Forster

On Ioan from John Forster, Royal Oak, Michigan. John has many cars on Ioan to Piquette. He is also a very active member of the Piquette T's – a Model T club hosted at this museum.



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