

May 10, 1995

Dept. of Registration,
State of Missouri

Re: John R. Francis
Title Clarification for Bantam VIN 64755

Gentlemen,

I am the Club Historian of the American Austin / Bantam Club as you will note from the enclosed copy of the current club publication - marked ① and ②.

Copy ③ presents the fly-leaf (made up years after the end of production) of the factory journal of the Bantam Car Company of Butler Penna. This sheet indicates the years of company activity and the author of the contents of the journal who retained the book until his recent death.

On the applicable journal page, #135, I have given the columns headings for your convenience. See ④

Unit serial number (VIN) 64755 is blocked and numbered reference ⑤. You will note the Body Style as "Panel" which was apparently a factory method of separating the wood bodied "Station Wagon" from the metal bodied unit which is the type of wagon owned by Mr. Francis.

A quick glance up and down the page will confirm a decided mixture of dates of final inspection and body styles with no real order to serial numbers etc. in relation to dates or sequences. However - and importantly for this case - all dates range from June 1939 to August 1939.

The factory journal also indicates and records the first "Station Wagon" production as starting in July 1938 so it would have been impossible for Mr. Francis' unit to have been manufactured in 1937. I might add that initial Bantam production started in the final week of 1937 with just 32 units, mostly coupes, and of course none were "Station Wagons" - wood or metal bodied.

I trust the enclosed and explanations will clear the error of production year ascribed to Mr. Francis' unit for the sake of historical accuracy.

Respectfully,

George E. Domer
George E. Domer, Historian
AA/BC
Old Paradise School House
Bantam Avenue, RFD #2 - Box 210
Milton Penna., 17847

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 11 day of May 1995

Seal

Lu Ann Kline
Notary Public