

1970 Maserati AM115*1584* restoration history

This Ghibli was personally owned by Kerry McMullen who at the time owned MIE, (<http://www.maseratinet.com/>) the premier vintage Maserati parts distributor based in Seattle. The car had been painted red and it had a custom interior. Apparently, a previous owner was in the car upholstery business and even though his workmanship was good he did the interior to his own liking, which was not to everyone's taste.

The car was sold to Lee Atkins in 2007, also from the Seattle area, who drove it as is for a while before developing engine issues. Several cylinders were found with low compression and a full engine rebuild was carried out.

Engine work

The complete rebuilding of the engine was done in 2010 by Josh Orr who was working for the Bentley and Lamborghini dealer in Seattle. The car at the time had 44,988 miles. The car now has 46,183 miles, therefore only 1,195 miles have been driven since the rebuild. Parts for the engine rebuild were sourced from MIE.

Mr. Orr has since moved to his own company, Veloce Motorsports (<https://www.facebook.com/VeloceMotorsportsService/>) and specializes in mechanical work on exotic cars.

Brakes, exhaust, and suspension

After the engine was rebuilt, it was time to take care of the other mechanical items on the car such as the brakes, exhaust, and suspension. All the suspension parts that could suffer from age and wear such as ball joints and bushings were replaced. Brakes were rebuilt and a new exhaust installed. This work was done by Speedware Motorsports in Redmond, WA

Body and Paint

The paint and body were done between 2012 and 2014 by Jason Mortenson of Mortenson's Custom Touch in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Mr Mortenson works primarily on custom rods and claims to have worked with Chip Foose on award winning cars. Custom rod people are masters of metal work and superb paint jobs, and it shows on this Ghibli. The body lines and paint quality are indeed top notch. The car was stripped to bare metal and returned to its original and rare factory color of Marrone Colorado 3221.

Interior work

Rudy's Custom Upholstery in Murietta, CA did the upholstery work <https://www.rudyscustomupholstery.net/>

The Ghibli interior is all leather. This differs from cars such as the Jaguar e-type and Ferrari Daytona that used vinyl in many areas of the car to reduce cost. Maserati went all the way and put leather even in the trunk compartment area. Six hides were ordered from the original supplier, Connolly Brothers in the UK, using the original color and pattern. Maserati had an arrangement with Connolly Brothers for an exclusive line of colors and grain pattern. The grain pattern is printed onto the leather and is known as Printed and Crushed (PAC). This car's build sheet identified the original leather as PAC 1775 Senape. Senape is Italian for "mustard". Having the wrong leather is an area where most restored Ghiblis get it wrong.

The fact that the original pattern and color were used in the re-upholstery of this car is a welcomed sight as we can be assured the leather matches what was supplied when new. It now comes down to the quality of the stitching. A Ghibli interior is quite difficult to do correctly and takes a very knowledgeable upholstery shop to get it

right. For example, there is a long French stitch along the leading edge of the dash which faces the driver and passenger. This stitch must be straight, or it just does not look correct.

The only word to describe the interior quality of this car is “superb”.