

IT IS WITH GREAT SADNESS ...

The following is part of an email exchange with a member of the Bone Yard Boats community who was informing me of some abandoned boats. It serves as a grim reminder that they are out there and timing is everything!

-----Original Message-----

From: Chris S

To: davidirving@boneyardboats.com

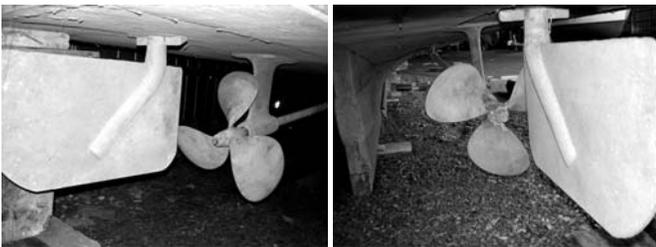
Subject: Boats at ...

It is with great sadness that I report that the 40 ft constellation and the 1955 55' have both been destroyed. Neither were prime examples of wooden boats, however it's just pure madness that they were butchered. It appears someone wanted the engines from both. The really sad part is I know them both to have had bad engines. Both blocks were cracked on the 40's engines.

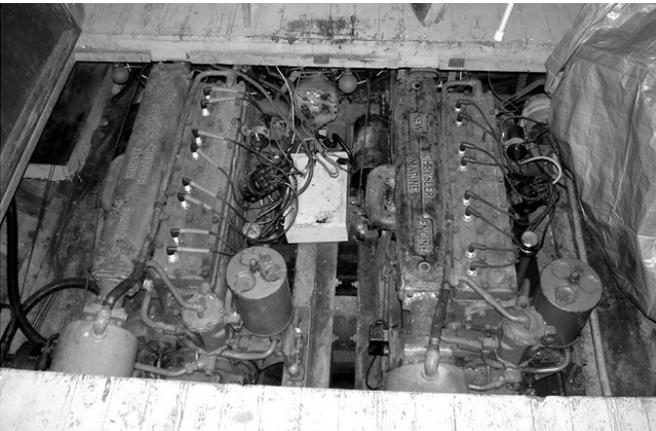
The 55 on the other hand has been vandalized, abused, and the cabin top hacked off for the removal of her engines. If there is someone who has a lot of time and money, it **could** possibly be saved. It's a hell of a long shot though. I don't see it being realistic. Anything of any value has been stolen, she's mutilated, and any hardware is gone. The hull itself does appear to be intact however. I could not do much of an inspection though, so I have no idea what kind of structural condition it is actually in. Not too good I would assume.

Beyond the woodies, there was an old fiberglass Jersey (about 30 ft I believe) with diesels that is still mostly intact. Needs some serious loving, and I have no idea if anything is good, but it's still a boat for the most part. Not much else worth mentioning. A couple smaller older dismasted sailboats with loads of damage, one or two other power boats far beyond their prime, a beat to hell houseboat, and an old steel boat with the bow missing, but closed in with a steel plate. Weird looking thing the steel boat is.

Regards, Chris S.



1937 MATTHEWS 39' - RUNNING GEAR & CHRYSLER ENGINES



NEEDS SOMEONE TO FINISH THAT JOB

"This was my fathers boat. He recently passed away unexpectedly. He was in the middle of restoring it, so it needs someone to finish that job."

-- Ben



1937 MATTHEWS 39'

1937 MATTHEWS 39'. According to Ben, "This boat is about 38-39 feet long and we believe it was a 1937 Matthews. The boat is in great shape, it does float and its twin Chrysler engines are fully operational as well; both props are in great shape. This boat is located in southwestern Ontario; specifically it is docked in Port Lambton (south of Sarnia, Ontario, Canada).

My Dad had bought this boat a couple years ago to restore it and had spent all last summer working on it. Unfortunately earlier this year my father became very sick and passed away very suddenly. My mother doesn't need the boat and wouldn't be able to finish the restoration. I do not want to see this boat sitting dry-docked until it rots and I know my father wouldn't want that either. The boat was fully winterized this last year.

There is no trailer for this boat (you would not be able to pull this with a normal vehicle!) but there are many moving solutions available that are relatively inexpensive.

I know a little about the boat but if you have any questions please send me an email and I will try to answer what I can. Asking \$5000 or best offer for the boat." Contact Ben at ben.bechard@gmail.com

Ben mentioned in an email to me that he "the boat is fully operational as I was out on it several times last summer." I believe that means the summer of 2006. He is also considering a unappealing alternative if a buyer cannot be found soon: "...options right now are to donate the boat to the local fire department to perform an "at sea" fire simulation but as the boat is in good shape I would hate to see it used for that (they would set fire to it and put it out but obviously destroy the boat in the process)."

Look at the photos! Classic maritime beauty! She is just too good to be lost forever.

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