

Low Volume Jaguar Prototypes & Concepts (In Monthly Episodes). Part 7

By Tony Johnson

Mark 2 “County” Estate (1962)



This is a very unique vehicle indeed. Although Mike Hawthorn and Duncan Hamilton tried to interest Jaguar into making an estate car as a works motor sport support vehicle and even had design drawings created for the then current 3.4 litre saloon, Hawthorn's death caused the project to stall. Hamilton eventually resurrected the concept and had Jones Bros build such a vehicle based on a 3.8 litre Mark 2. The "County" as it was called was used extensively during the early 1960s especially with the Tour De France. Subsequently The County which by then had been purchased by Jaguar was considered as a concept for evaluation with regard to possible limited production but this did not eventuate. There was a general view at the factory that no matter how practical the County may be the image of a Jaguar as a utility vehicle would detract from the luxury and sporting focus that the marque was renowned for.

The original County survives and has been fully restored although a modification has been carried out to the rear door design.

Tony