



THE SANDSTONE HERITAGE TRUST

Military Vehicles in Preservation

Rogers Tank Transporter Trailer

Between 1941 and 1945 about 6,554 M19 tank transporters were built to British specifications by the Diamond T Motor Car Company. The USA and the Soviet Union also used these vehicles. The combination of M20 tractor and 40/45 ton Rogers M9 trailer was capable of transporting all tanks then in use, so that even 30 years after the war these vehicles were still in service with Western armies including the German army. During WWII Rogers built seventy 45-ton tank transporter trailers a week for the armed forces.

The Diamond T was initially a marque of touring car with models up to 70 hp. The company later became known for its trucks. During World War 2, Diamond T produced a classic heavy truck in the model 980/981, a prime mover (tractor unit) which was quickly snapped up by the British Purchasing Commission for duty as a tank transporter tractor. Coupled with a Rogers trailer, the Diamond T gave sterling service with the British Army in North Africa, where its power and rugged construction allowed the rescue of damaged tanks in the most demanding of conditions.

Two Diamond T tractors with the correct specification trailed low bed units have been delivered to the Sandstone Heritage Trust workshops for restoration. This is in terms of an ongoing agreement we have with the Armour Museum in Bloemfontein to assist them with collecting, restoring, demonstrating and displaying Classic Military Vehicles with a South African historical background.



