

1953 Lancia Fischhaber Eigenbau

In the 1950's racing Special's were a way to compete against the factory machinery. They came in all sizes and shapes. An Italian special with German race history has been uncovered in Iowa. The Lancia Fischhaber Eigenbau (Translation: Mr Fischhabers' Lancia Special). It was built using Lancia Aprilia running gear. Lancia sliding pillar front suspension, a well made tube frame and aluminum body. It was built, raced and wrecked, in Germany, in the first half of 1953.

Hans Fischhaber was a well known Lancia racer. He had raced a special (Eigenbau) from 1950 to 1952. His results were getting worse. (2nd, 4th, 5th 8th) Nothing ages quicker than an old race car. Something new was needed.

May 31st, 1953 Nurburgring. Herr Fischhaber arrived with his new Lancia special. Short, quick and well engineered.

Information is limited, but it appears he raced the car at Avus and Nurburgring (possibly twice). With the car ending wrong side up, and a bent nose.



Here she is, car number 138 going past the Arvus timing tower with a 356 Porsche in hot pursuit.



Looks like the end. Wrinkled and wheels up

There is a gap in the history of the car from 1953 to 1966 when it turned up at a used car dealership in southern Germany. It had been converted to road use with an MGA windshield and a convertible top. The car was purchased by an American and brought back to the USA. After a little use it was retired to the barn.



Technical details. Word has filtered down from pervious owners that the car originally had three engines. 1100cc and 1300cc both with single carb and 1500cc with twin carbs. The 1100cc engine is in the car. The others have been lost to time. It uses Lancia Sliding Pillar front suspension. The Aprilia rear suspension has been modified. The transverse leaf rear spring has been replaced with coil over springs and tubular shock absorbers. The car has inboard rear brakes with the generator mounted above the right brake drum. A fan belt from the brake drum to the generator keep the battery charged. Ingenious! The car has racing jack lift points built into the front and rear of the frame. The tube frame is very well built. Pedals, brackets and even the front axle has been drilled to lighten up the package.

Today the car is running and driving. It is available thru Daniel J. Rapley LLC. Tel: 203-778-2601 or DanielRapley@gmail.com







