



**License Plate Books:  
Vermont Motor Vehicle Registrations**  
in the Leahy Library of the  
Vermont Historical Society

*Compiled by Paul A. Carnahan, Librarian*  
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*Together with*  
**Vermont License Plate History Facts**  
by Conrad Hughson

<b>Year</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Call no.</b>	<b>No. of pages</b>	<b>Highest plate number</b>	<b>Misc.</b>
1905	Vermont, V.10, no. 12 (July 1905), List of automobiles registered in Vermont	629.2025 V592 1905	3 pages in file, pages show #397 & 398.	373	Includes 3 motorcycles.
1907	Walton's Vermont Register 1907, Licensed Automobiles in Vermont	629.2025 V592 1907	Excerpt- pages 100 – 107	860	No. 333 unissued.
1909	Automobile Club of Vermont. Yearbook.	629.2 Au82 1909	56	1996	Laws, fees and requirements of driving.
1910	Automobile Club of Vermont. Yearbook.	629.2 Au82 1910 C.1, C.2	185	1999 cars 90 MC	
1912	State of Vermont, List of Registered Motor Vehicles	629.2025 V592 1912	198 Addendum- 16 pages	4247 cars 204 MC	Shows make and horse-power of vehicle
1913	State of Vermont, List of Registered Motor Vehicles	629.2025 V592 1913	279	6000 cars, 269 MC	Shows make and horse-power of vehicle
1914	State of Vermont, List of Registered Motor Vehicles	629.205 V592 1914	184	7672 cars, 384 MC	Shows make and horse-power of vehicle
1915	Automobile Club of Vermont. Yearbook.	692.2 Au82 1915	394	10444 cars 499 MC	Incl. list by town.
1916	Automobile Club of Vermont. Yearbook.	629.2 Au82 1916	308	15000 cars 675 MC	*discrepancy from 1916 VT. Book
1916	State of Vermont, List of Registered Motor Vehicles	629.2025 V592 1916	313	15000 cars 675 MC	Shows make and horse-power of vehicle

1917	State of Vermont, List of Registered Motor Vehicles	629.2025 V592 1917	416	18121 cars 771 MC	Shows make and horse-power of vehicle
1918	Automobile Club of Vermont. Yearbook.	629.2 Au82 1918	456	20403 cars 499 MC	*discrepancy from 1918 VT. Book
1918	State of Vermont, List of Registered Motor Vehicles	629.2025 V592 1918	484	20699 cars 499 MC	Shows make and horse-power of vehicle
1919	Automobile Club of Vermont. Yearbook.	629.2 Au82 1919	476	23399 cars 410 MC	
1920	State of Vermont, Motor Vehicle Register	629.2025 V592 1920		27950 cars 791 MC	Shows make and horse-power of vehicle (2 copies)
1922	State of Vermont, Motor Vehicle Register	629.2025 V592 1922	Approx. 500	37650 cars 3000 trks 700 MC	Shows make and horse-power of vehicle
1924	State of Vermont, List of Registered Motor Vehicles	629.2025 V592 1924	336	49150 cars 4450 trks 600 MC	Shows make of vehicle, No horsepower listed
1930	Pollard Motor Sales, Inc., Chester, Vt.	629.2025 V592 1930	352	60000 cars 226 buses 6500 trks 289 MC	
1932	National Survey, Chester, Vt.	629.2025 V592 1930, v. 2	239 (pp. 425-664)	58600 7700 trks	Shows make & year of vehicle. Removed from Albisetti Family Papers, BHC 171
1950-1962	Auto List, Inc.	Doc 463-464	13 vols.		

## Vermont License Plate History Facts

by Conrad Hughson

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1. The 1905 article in the Vermonter was published in July 1905, just 3 months or less after vehicles had to be registered at all! So, the highest plate number (#373) was just part way thru the year 1905. The **last** number issued in 1905 was # 509. While this is important to the license plate collector world, registrations were not annual at this time. It was a one time requirement.
2. Vermont's first plate was blue with white numbers, made of porcelain enamel over steel with the caption "Vermont Automobile Register" along the top. Again, no date since registration was not annual. Also, only 1 plate was issued for the rear of each vehicle.
3. The blue "Registers" were used into 1906 when it became obvious to the legislators that they needed to be replaced, as they were identical to those used in Massachusetts since 1903. The 1906 legislature passed a revision requiring **a pair** of plates and the law was very specific as to the new design which mandated the color of black numbers on a white field. The new law was passed at the end of 1906, effective upon passage. However, the new plates had to be made and sign makers had to be contacted and a manufacturer had to be found.
4. The new undated, white porcelain enamel **pairs of plates** arrived in March of 1907 at the Secretary of State's office at his home in Morrisville. All motorists had to pay another fee and reregister their vehicles for the second time. Still no annual registration.
5. In 1908 the legislature again amended the law for **annual registrations**. New dated 1909 plates began that year.
6. Vermont's regular license plates were **not dated** for: 1905, 06, 07, 08, 16, 17, 18, 69 and 77.

7. There was a 1908 listing book made by the Automobile Club of Vermont. I do not have a copy, nor have I ever seen one. It is referred to in the 1909 issue.
8. Both the Automobile Club and the State issued listing books for several years, as can be seen from the VHS inventory. Both issuers had a first printing in about June, with a second printing in August or September. Obviously the second printing is more useful as we have more registrations to review. These listing books stopped cold with the 1923 issues. After that other printers made them, and the use became more for law enforcement purposes.