

## Report on Drive to the American Precision Museum, Windsor, VT

As discussed on our annual planning meeting with both the Bay State MGA Club and the MG T-Party we decided to try a drive on a weekday since many of our members are retired. On Friday, September 6, 2024 we planned a drive to the American Precision Museum on Windsor, VT. ([https://americanprecision.org/category/visit\\_page/](https://americanprecision.org/category/visit_page/))

It has been a while since I was there and I planned a route that would cover some scenic back roads although much of the trip was on secondary highway. Ned Sparrow arrived at my house in Westford and we departed around 9 am. Our meeting place was the usual stop at Mr. Mikes Market at the corner of Route 119 and Route 12 in NH. We arrived just before 10 am and waited for Jim Guyot in his MGA and Dick Fabrizio in his MGA. They arrived a short time later and we headed up the road through Keene, NH on Route 12 and eventually branched off onto Route 12A. This took us to Cornish, NH (through several one-way bridge construction one-way lights!) We were planning to meet up with another MGA owner at the museum and I was concerned we would be late as I told him 11:30. Well, it turns out that since we left a bit later than I expected from Mr. Mikes and we were a half hour late but fortunately Dave Auerbach was going to be late as well, so it was OK. We crossed the long, covered bridge across the Connecticut River from Cornish, NH to Windsor, VT and got to the museum just at noon.

We toured the museum and had a nice docent give us a talk on a Inletting Duplicator for box lock rifle stocks made by the Ames Manufacturing Company. It was fascinating how these early engineers designed this machine tools for making interchangeable parts. The museum has changed a lot with many more display items from the last time I was there. Another new item which drew our groups attention as a robotic arm placing parts on a moving belt and a 3D printing demonstration. This museum covers both vintage tool-making as well as modern lathes and mills, CNC machining, and manufacturing. It is well worth a visit by anyone interested in how they did things "back in the day" and up to today. We got a tip on a restaurant for lunch and drove to Brownsville to the Brownsville Butcher and Pantry which also has a café. We ordered some sandwiches and ate at a counter with stools on both sides. Unfortunately, they did not have any tables set up outside even though it was a gorgeous day. We had a lot of interest in the cars that we parked all together and it took a little while to get back on the road for the long trip home. Each of us had different destinations, so, as we drove away some followed me part way back and others split off as needed to get to where they were going. It is about a two-and-a-half-hour drive from Westford, MA, so, it was a nice but long drive home. Everyone had no issues on the drive but the MGA Coupe had a "cough" three times as I was pulling along at about 55 mph. This is something I will have to investigate as it is a bit disconcerting when one does not know what is causing it and whether it portends a worse condition! Overall it was a great trip and good exercise for our cars.

Parked outside the American Precision Museum



Congregating outside the Brownsville Butcher and Pantry for lunch

