



November 2021 Classics Auction

Tue, 23rd Nov 2021

Estimate: £12000 - £14000 + Fees

1937 Hillman Minx Drophead Coupe Has seemingly covered just 78,772 miles in 84 years.

Registration - FPL 858

Chassis No. - 1011582

M.O.T. - Exempt

Odometer - 78,772

So redolent of a gentler bygone era, this charming Minx is one of few remaining three-position drophead coupes that were crafted for Hillman by the Carbodies coachwork company of Coventry. A fully restored example, its blue bodywork and steel wheels are complemented by a cream mohair hood, blue leather upholstery and carpets, and lustrous brightwork. Manufactured in November 1937, the car has remained in its current ownership for the last three years, but is now offered for sale due to the declining health of the vendor. He currently rates the coupe bodywork, paintwork, interior trim, 1185cc four-cylinder engine and four-speed manual gearbox as all being in 'good' order, and is now selling the Minx complete with service manual, instruction book, photos of the car prior to its comprehensive restoration, and winged bonnet mascot.

Founded in 1907 by millionaire William Hillman and the Breton designer/engineer Louis Coatalen, Hillman was based in Ryton-on-Dunsmore near Coventry. By 1928 it was under the control of the Rootes brothers who merged it with Humber. Over time it became the small car arm of a group comprising Hillman, Humber, Sunbeam and Singer. Ultimately all four British brands were swallowed up by Chrysler and then Peugeot who finally closed the doors of what had been the Hillman factory in 2007. Interestingly, Peugeot, now itself part of the Stellantis group, still own the rights to the Hillman name. The Minx moniker was first employed by the company in 1932 and was worn by numerous models up until 1970.

In summary:

- A rare survivor of a relatively rare model
- The subject of a total restoration
- Has seemingly covered just 78,772 miles in 84 years