

Photo of the Month

Cars



Negative #N009819

The first automobile ever seen on the streets of Rogers was in 1897. It was an electric-driven car, shown through the courtesy of Montgomery Ward and was brought to town in a special freight car by the Frisco Railroad.

The first locally owned auto was imported by W.H. McMillan, a local secondhand dealer, in 1903. It looked more like a spring wagon than a car and was driven by a chain on a sprocket on the rear wheels. Charlie Miller owned the first modern automobile, which he brought with him from Minnesota around 1906. It had a run-in with a railroad freight car and was demolished.

By 1910, when this photograph was taken, there were only a few automobiles in Rogers. These were some of the first, and they lined up on South First Street, opposite the Frisco Railroad tracks, to have their picture taken. Father Bandini, the founder of Tontitown, Arkansas, is sitting behind the wheel of the fourth car from the left.