

Our Ref: LEA/GAMc/4.112
16th April, 1976

Mr. P. Blackwell,
Flat 4,
816 Wilmslow Road,
Manchester.
M20 8RN.

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

SUNBEAM VENEZIA
1963/1964

Thank you for your letter of April 1st that has been passed to me at Coventry for reply.

The Venezia was built and marketed at Milan by Touring Superleggera and, other than one or two prototypes, was little known to us at Coventry.

Most of the mechanical parts were Humber Sceptre standard items supplied by our Parts Company to Milan. These included the underframe, which consisted the main chassis members, floor, wheel arches and bulkhead. The engine was Sceptre Mark I with a special camshaft, as was the transmission, suspension, radiator, instruments, steering (pre-adjustable type) and windscreen.

The body, complete with wings and bonnet, were designed and built by Touring, as were the petrol tanks in each rear wing.

Touring also modified the Sceptre spare wheel mounting below the boot so that, in addition to dropping, it was extendable to facilitate the removal and replacement of the wheel.

To the best of my belief when Touring ceased trading in 1964 between 145 and, at the most, 190 vehicles were produced, the majority being sold in Austria, Belgium, France, Switzerland and Italy.

The chassis number range commenced in 1963 at B 3190001. This series was stopped during 1964 and a new series commenced at B 31275001.

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I do not think more than eight of these cars came to this country. There was a letter in Motor, week ending August 8th last year from Peter M. French, 11 Harrowden Road, Luton, Beds., who was compiling a register of Venezia's here. He said that he had traced five.

I am enclosing a reprint from the Motor, September 11th 1963, briefly describing the car and containing two illustrations, the only ones I have.

Also enclosed are two line drawings of the body frame and aluminium panels from the Parts List. I think these will indicate that the price of producing such a vehicle now could not be economic.

Yours sincerely,



E.M. LEA-MAJOR
SERVICE ORGANISATION

Enc.