

# TRACKING BULLITT

From the set of Steve McQueen's hit movie "Bullitt" to the bright stage of this year's North American International Auto Show, this 1968 Ford Mustang fastback has lived an amazing life.

To commemorate its movie star role and its significance in American culture, the car was recently recognized by the Historic Vehicle Association in partnership with the U.S. Department of the Interior, Historic American Engineering Record and archives of the Library of Congress. Ford and the Historic Vehicle Association worked with owner Sean Kiernan to authenticate and document the car's history and preservation.

Here are highlights of its remarkable 50-year journey.



## 1968

Warner Bros. purchases two 1968 Mustangs — VINs 8R02S125558 ('558) and 8R02S125559 ('559) — in January for the making of the movie "Bullitt"



## 1968



After filming, '559 purchased by Warner Bros. employee Robert Ross

## 1970

Ross sells '559 to New Jersey police detective Frank Marranca for \$6,000



## 1974



Marranca sells '559 to Robert and Robbie Kiernan for \$6,000; Kiernans use '559 as their family car until 1980

## 1977

Kiernans decline Steve McQueen's offers to buy '559



## 1979

Robbie purchases "Bullitt" vanity plates for Robert as an anniversary gift



## 1989

'559 follows its owners to a new home in Kentucky, and six years later on another move to Tennessee



## 2001

Robert and his 20-year-old son Sean begin restoring '559



## 2015

Sean discloses family secret to filmmakers Ken Horstmann and Casey Wallace



## 2016

Sean completes rebuild of '559 and starts it for the first time on July 4



## 2017

'559 is reunited with McQueen family when Steve McQueen's granddaughter Molly McQueen meets with Sean in Ford design studio in Dearborn, Michigan



## 2018

Sean reveals '559 in Detroit for the 50th anniversary of the movie in conjunction with Ford's announcement of the 2019 Mustang BULLITT



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