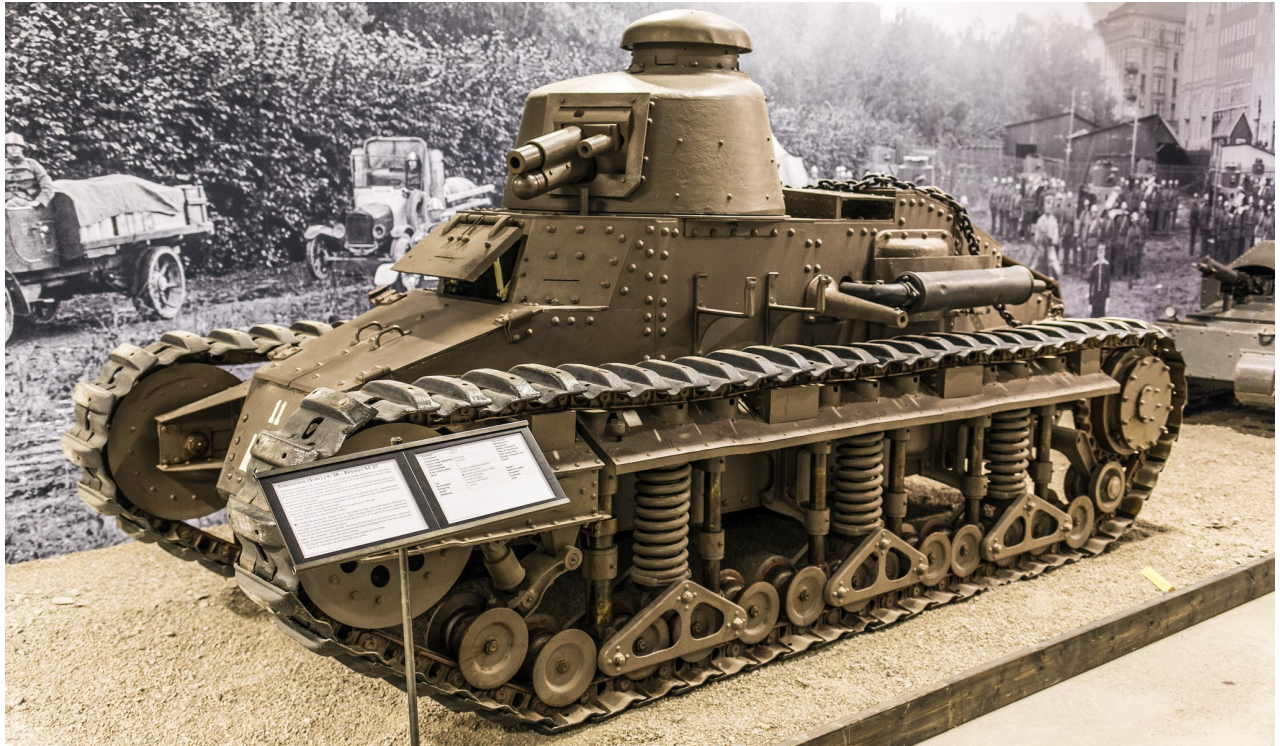


Surviving French WW2 Tanks

Last update : 23 May 2025

Listed here are the French World War 2 tanks that still exist today.



Massimo Foti, August 2014 - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/massimofoti/15398642795/in/photostream/>

Renault NC1 – Arsenalen Tank Museum, Strängnäs (Sweden)



<https://www.facebook.com/100024156936292/posts/1085733962241825>

Renault R 35 – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France)

Some fitting remains on the hull's roof showed that it is a former 4.7 cm Pak (t) (Sfl.) auf Fgst.Pz.Kpffw.35 R 731 (f) (Yuri Pasholok) <http://yuripasholok.livejournal.com/4465862.html>, but these fittings were removed in 2021 during the tank's last restoration. During the restoration, its original serial number was uncovered as 50973, indicating that it was received by the 21ème bataillon de chars de combat in september, 1939 and it has been repainted accordingly (info from the museum)



David Raspilair Sept 2017 - <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1839313476085662&set=pcb.1839313592752317>

Renault R 35 – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France)

Serial Number 945, Reg Number 50945. This tank has been upgunned by Lebanon with a British 40 mm Ordnance QF 2-pounder gun after 1945 (Colleurs de Plastique forum, Wikipedia). It has been restored by France 40 véhicules association, which kept its Lebanese modification (France 40 véhicules association)



Jean-Claude Poubel, April 2015

R 35 – Museum of the Resistance and Deportation of Picardie, Fargniers (France)

Serial Number 66, Reg Number 50066. This tank was part of the CPTICC (shooting practice and instruction center for Combat Tanks) in 1940, and then transferred for a short time to the "Parc de Rosny". On 18 June, 1940, this tank was integrated to the 2^{ème} BCC (Combat Tank Battalion) and assigned to the 2nd Company on 22 June, 1940. This tank was formerly displayed outside the Caverne du Dragon Museum near Hurtebise. It was restored by association France 40 véhicules in 2014



Pierre-Olivier Buan, September 2020

Renault R 35 – France 40 véhicules Museum, Fismes (France)

The lower hull has been acquired in June 2013, the turret comes from an unknown location. Serial Number 1484, Registration 51484. It has been destroyed in Normandy in 1944 and later converted to a bulldozer to refill the bomb craters. The cast upper hull was reproduced using one of Saumur Museum's R-35 as a model



Unknown source

Renault R 35 – 12ème BSMAT, Gien (France)

The turret sits a bit “too high” on the hull. The hull was most probably modified by German troops during WW2, and there is possibly an uncorrect turret ring (from a Hotchkiss tank) or no turret ring at all, which is why the turret is ill-fitted



Doug Kibbey, October 2006 - <http://www.com-central.net/index.php?name=Forums&file=viewtopic&t=5132>

Renault R 35 – Muzeul Militar National, Bucharest (Romania)



<http://www.hobimaket.com/topic/9135-135-tsk-tanklari-ismet-g%C3%BCralp/>

Renault R 35 – Etimesgut Tank Müzesi, Ankara (Turkey)



"Tommy" - <http://img22.imageshack.us/img22/5310/r35ri6.jpg>

Renault R 35 – Unknown location (Syria)

The fate of the vehicle is currently uncertain, it was moved to an unknown location ("Tommy"). This vehicle was previously displayed at the Damascus Military Museum



Jim Goetz, March 2017 - <https://www.facebook.com/>

Renault R 35 – Yad la-Shiryon Museum, Latrun (Israel)



Jim Goetz, April 2017 - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/13963542@N08/albums/72157684148526196/with/34748428411/>

Renault R 35 – Kibbutz of Degania (Israel)

This ex-Syrian tank has been damaged on May, 1948 during the Israeli War of Independence, and left there (Wikipedia)



Yuri Pasholok, October 2019 - <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=2419490108269069&set=a.2419489354935811>

Renault R 35 – Patriot Park, Kubinka (Russia)

It may be a Romanian tank, Romania bought some ex-French tanks in 1940 ("Taranov")



Jonathan Bernstein, July 2021

Renault R 35 ZM – Fort Lee U.S. Army Ordnance Museum, VA (USA)
Previously displayed in Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD



Pierre-Olivier Buan, March 2019

Renault R 39 – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France) – running condition
This R 39 was upgraded after the war and served in the French Gendarmerie (Wikipedia)



"Megashorts", November 2008 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/megashorts/3030111304/in/set-72157609057315170/>

Somua S 35 – Bovington Tank Museum (UK)

This tank is one of 297 captured by the Germans after the fall of France. We can tell this from the modified cupola on top of the turret. They used them across Europe for internal security and training. It has since been painted as a tank of the 4e Cuirassiers in May 1940 (Museum)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, June 2020

Somua S 35 – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France)



Yuri Pasholok, March 2020 - <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=2538228323061913&set=pcb.2538228623061883>

Somua S 35 – Patriot Park, Kubinka (Russia)

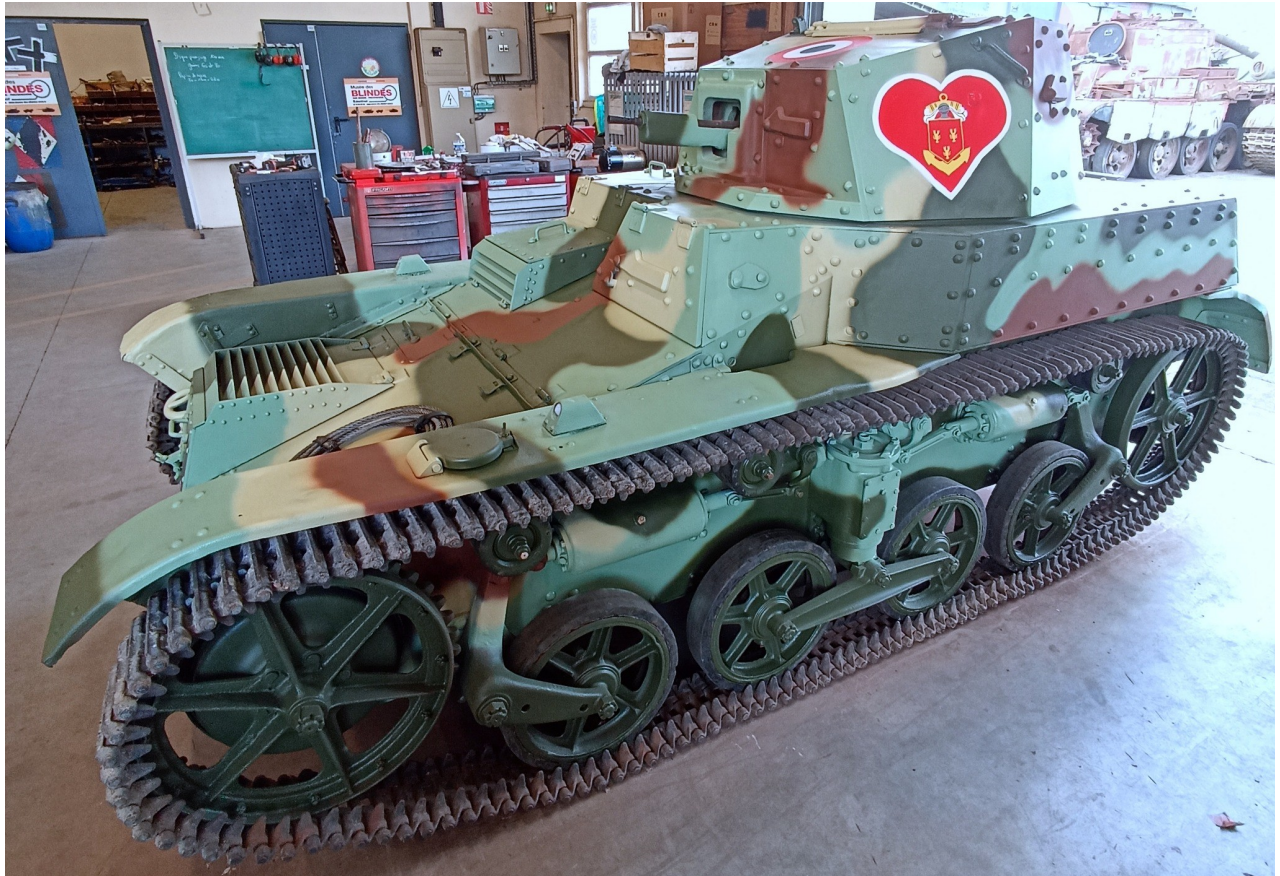
Ex-French Somua S 35, Serial Number 10672, built in 1939. Served in 3ème Division Légère Motorisée (3ème DLM). Converted to Pz.Kpfw.35 S (f), issued to Pz.Ab.211 with turret number 121. Captured in Finland on 9 September, 1944. It had zimmerit in 1944 (Yuri Pasholok)



<https://www.facebook.com/ArmorandCavalryCollection/photos/pcb.5510876882309871/5510876715643221/>

Somua S 35 – U.S. Army Armor & Cavalry Collection, Fort Benning, GA (USA)

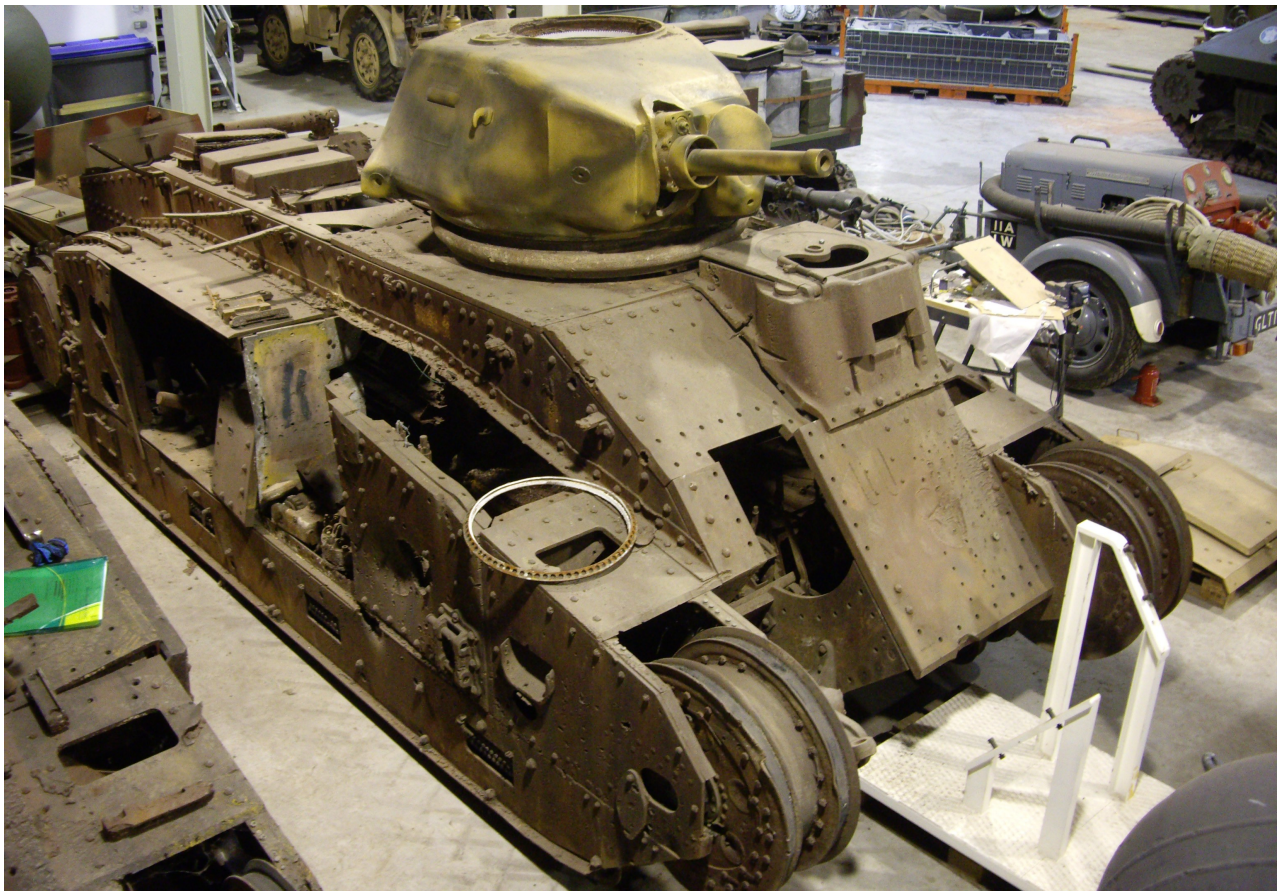
Formerly part of the Aberdeen Proving Ground museum



<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=138280675616618&set=a.13181348626337>

Renault AMR 33 – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France)

Restored in the markings of the 2ème Groupe d'Automitrailleuses, 2ème peloton



Pierre-Olivier Buan, September 2011

B1 – MM Park, La Wantzenau (France)

This tank was previously on display at the Fort de Seclin, near Lille (France). Chassis number 21 (Eric Kauffmann)
The turret is the model that equipped the Somua S 35 tanks



"Megashorts", May 2009 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/megashorts/3513586260/in/set-72157609057315170/>

B1 bis – Bovington Tank Museum (UK)

This vehicle was captured by the Germans in 1940, who fitted extra armour to the turret ring. It was assigned to 1st Platoon, 1st Company of Panzer Abteilung 213 and shipped to the Channel Island of Jersey in Spring 1942. The British captured it when they liberated the islands in 1945 (Museum). The plate carries the SN 36



Fons Paulussen, May 2025 - <https://www.facebook.com/fons.paulussen.1>

B1 bis "Rhône" – Heintz Barracks, Bastogne (Belgium)

This tank carries a Somua S 35 turret and the main gun is a steel-made reproduction (Antoine Misner). It is on loan from Saumur



Pascal Danjou, July 2016 - <http://minitracks.forumpersos.com/t13290-le-b1-bis-de-saumur>

B1 bis "Rhin" – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France) – running condition

This tank belonged to the 41st BCC (combat tank battalion) in 1939-40. Its real identity has been discovered during a restoration thanks to the manufacturer's plate added by the Germans after 1940, which partially preserved its 1940 paint and nickname. The tank has been accurately repainted from recently discovered wartime color photos (Chars français website)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, May 2008 - http://the.shadock.free.fr/Tanks_in_France/mourmelon1/index.html

B1 bis "Téméraire" – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France)

Formerly displayed at the 501/503^e RCC, Mourmelon-le-Grand (France)



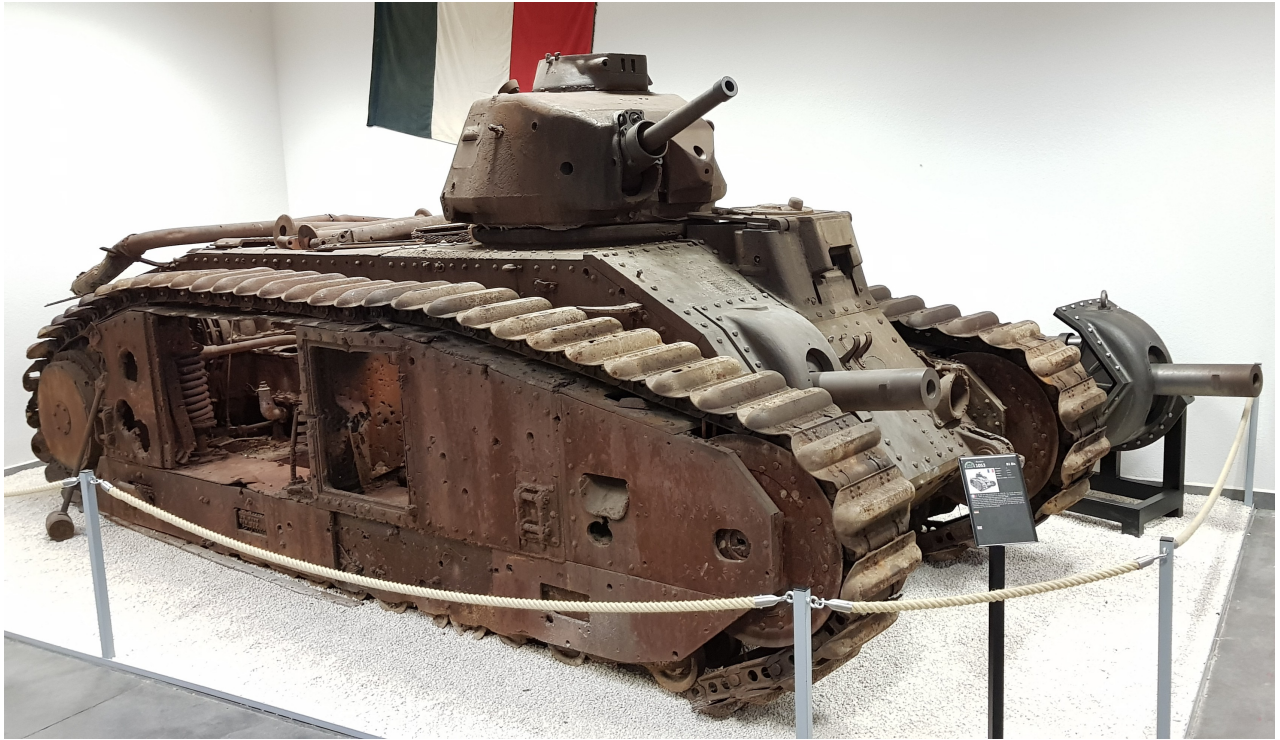
Pascal Le Bray, April 2023

B1 bis "Toulal" – Stonne (France)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, May 2008 - http://the.shadock.free.fr/Tanks_in_France/mourmelon1/index.html

B1 bis "Héros" – 501/503^e RCC, Mourmelon-le-Grand (France)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, December 2018

B1 bis – MM Park, La Wantzenau (France)

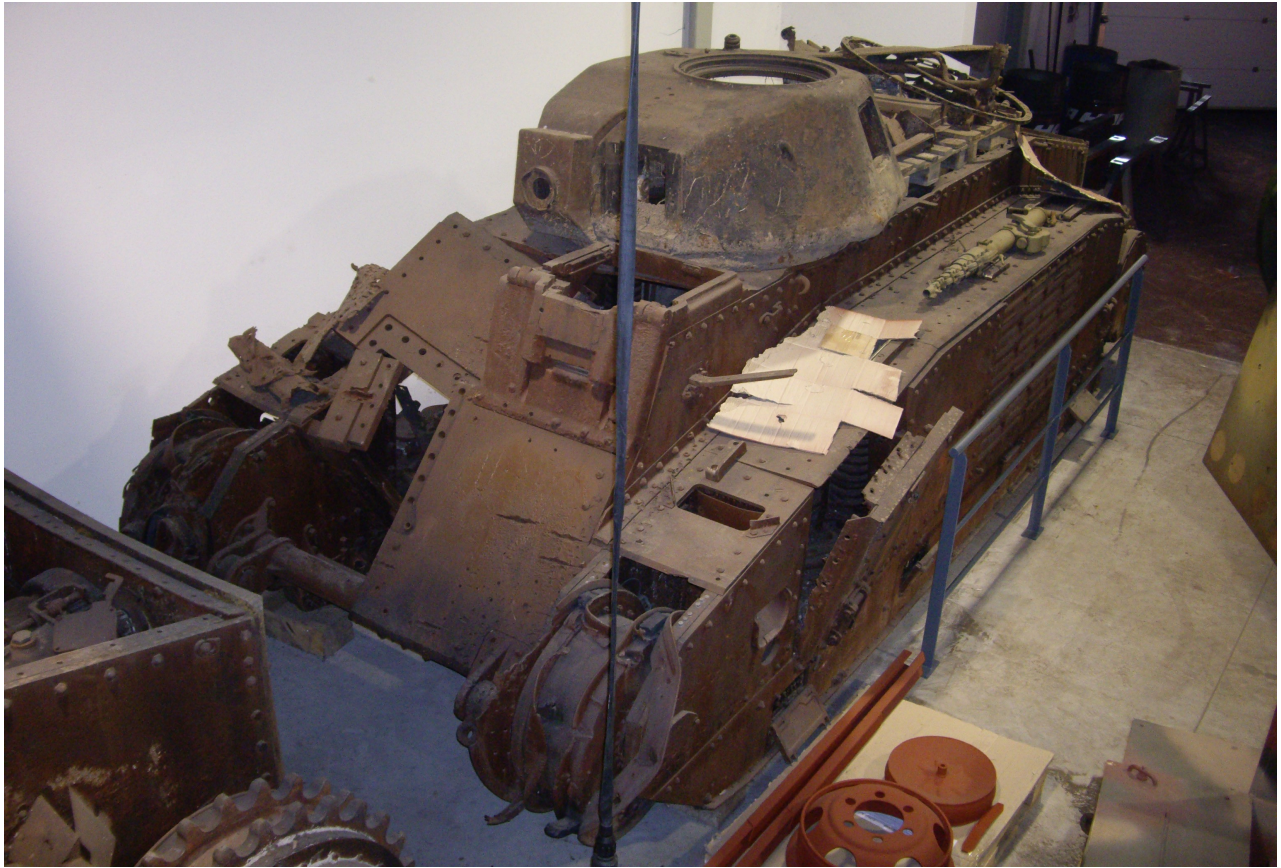
This tank was previously on display at the Fort de Seclin, near Lille (France). Chassis number 40 (Eric Kauffmann)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, September 2011

B1 bis wreck – MM Park, La Wantzenau (France)

The tank will be fully restored, according to the restoration team of the MM Park museum



Pierre-Olivier Buan, September 2011

B1 bis wreck – MM Park, La Wantzenau (France)

This tank was identified as being the N° 243 "INTREPIDE", which was part of the 8th Combat Tank Battalion and was destroyed at Moreuil on 1st June 1940. The tank will be fully restored, according to the restoration team of the MM Park museum



Pierre-Olivier Buan, May 2017 - https://www.facebook.com/po.buan/media_set?set=a.10155349408389571.1073741883.839424570

B1 bis restoration project – MM Park, La Wantzenau (France)

This tank has been found in the ground during some works. It is mostly complete, most of the hull armor plates and the turret are present



Pierre-Olivier Buan, April 2022



Pierre-Olivier Buan, May 2009

B1 bis démineur – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France)

This unique demining tank is stored outside the Bossut hall, in the Tank Museum, and the mine rollers are dismantled for the moment



"Grumman G1159", July 2017 - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/htf2wfd/albums/72157684002199414>

Renault ACG 1 – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France)

This tank is badly damaged on the other side (ex-fire range wreck) and the half of the road wheels and of the track are missing



Pierre-Olivier Buan, April 2010

FCM 36 – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France) – running condition

This FCM 36 is the last that still survives, it was recently (June 2009) completely restored to running condition



<http://passionmilitaria.conceptforum.net/la-detection-f25/decouverte-d-un-char-dans-le-pas-de-calais-t15388.htm>

Hotchkiss H 35 – Camiers (France)

This turretless tank is most probably a remain of the Dunkerque gap fightings, which happened in May-June 1940. The missing turret could have been used on a fixed bunker, as a defensive position, but this is unconfirmed. The tank was dredged few weeks ago thanks to the tide. It was discovered on the beach at Camiers, a town located between Boulogne-sur-Mer and Le Touquet (Pas-de-Calais, Northern France, near Belgium). The Tank Museum at Saumur wanted to recover it in, but as the preservation process is expensive (Special Processing against salt), it has been delayed to an unknown date. It is the only unmodified Hotchkiss H 35 tank still surviving today (info. from various sources)



Knut Erik Hagen, September 2006 - <http://www.ipmsnorge.org/forum/index.php?topic=1643.0>

Hotchkiss H 39 – Nordland Red Cross War Memorial Museum, Narvik (Norway)

This PzKpfw 39H 735(f) belonged to Panzer Abteilung 211 and then to Kampfgruppe Esch



Erik Torp, July 2006

Hotchkiss H 39 – "Panserparken", Rena Military Camp, near Elverum (Norway)

This PzKpfw 39H 735(f) belonged to Panzer Abteilung 211 and then to Kampfgruppe Esch



<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1094629326033932&set=pcb.1094631146033750>

Hotchkiss H 39 – Norwegian Armed Forces Museum, Trandum (Norway) – running c.



Ralf Trepkowski, September 2015 - <http://f3.webmart.de/f.cfm?id=2078181&r=threadview&t=4062021&pg=1>

Hotchkiss H 39 – Wehrtechnische Dienststelle Meppen (Germany)



ierre-Olivier Buan, September 2021

Hotchkiss H 39 – France 40 véhicules Museum, Fismes (France)

This tank was previously in the Arquebus Krigshistorisk Museum. The vehicle, which belongs to Kevin Wheatcroft, is going to be fully restored, and is currently on loan to the Musée France 40 Véhicules in Fismes



<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1919230068329423&set=pcb.1919230204996076&type=3&theater>

Hotchkiss H 39 – Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France)

This tank has been restored in the markings of a vehicle of the 14ème BCC, compagnie d'échelon



Pierre-Olivier Buan, December 2018

Hotchkiss H-39 – MM Park, La Wantzenau, near Strasbourg (France)

Chassis number 41104. This tank was armed with an SA 38 long barrelled 37mm gun. This wreck was recovered from a bog in Norway in November, 2015. The vehicle belonged to 2eme Régiment de Cuirassiers before the Germans captured it and took it to Norway. It was probably used on the Russian/Finnish border to fight against the Red army. It was found in the far north of Norway (info. from the owner). The trench crossing tail one of two left in the world



<https://www.augoutdemma.be/94802-colombey-les-deux-eglises>

Hotchkiss H 39 – Mémorial du Général De Gaulle, Colombey-les-Deux-Eglises (France)

Formerly displayed in the ERGMEB Army base at Gien (France), then at the 501/503^e RCC, Mourmelon-le-Grand (France). It carries a Renault R 35 turret and a fake gun



Pierre-Olivier Buan, April 2015 - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/13963542@N08/sets/72157650019302714>

Hotchkiss H 39 – National Museum, Užice (Serbia)
Serial Number 1096, Registration 51096. Has German WW2 modifications



Ivan S. Abrams, April 2007 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/trainplanepr/sets/72157600660920224/with/1313781424/>

Hotchkiss H 39 – National Museum of Military History, Sofia (Bulgaria)



Jim Goetz, March 2017 - <https://www.facebook.com/>

Hotchkiss H 39 – Yad la-Shiryon Museum, Latrun (Israel)



Yuri Pasholok, March 2020 - <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=2538228363061909&set=pcb.2538228623061883>

Hotchkiss H 39 – Kubinka Tank Museum (Russia)

This PzKpfw 39H 735(f) belonged to Panzer Abteilung 211. It was captured in North Carelia (Finland) in September 1944. It carried zimmerit by then (Yuri Pasholok and "Woody67" on ATF40 forum)



Photo provided by David Barlow

Saint-Chamond 194mm GPF Gun – US Army Artillery Museum, Fort Sill, OK (USA)

This vehicle was transferred from Aberdeen museum to Fort Sill in November 2012



Ferda Hejl, November 2013 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/100600200@N05/11352440704/>

Saint-Chamond 280mm Mortar – Militärhistorisches Museum, Dresden (Germany)

This tank was built during WW1, captured by German troops in 1940 and sent to Germany. It was found at Hannover, Germany (http://www.hartziel.de/index.htm?/_typen/chamond.htm)



<https://www.facebook.com/191396294528323/posts/1685033208497950>

Saint-Chamond 280mm Mortar chassis
MM Park, La Wantzenau, near Strasbourg (France)
Formerly part of a private collection in Southern Germany



<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=739976554800479&set=pcb.739978774800257>

Somua S-35 upper hull and turret – MM Park, La Wantzenau, near Strasbourg (France)
Comes from a private collection in Norway



<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=739976548133813&set=pcb.739978774800257>

Hotchkiss H-39 hull – MM Park, La Wantzenau, near Strasbourg (France)

Comes from a private collection in Norway. Although it was once modified to a bulldozer with a different engine, the chassis seems very complete and very restorable. The top including the turret is unfortunately long gone, but as a plus, we found the original engine in his barn (former owner)



<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.829484870414009.1073741858.801749283187568&type=1>

Three Hotchkiss H-39 hulls – André Becker Collection (Belgium)

These chassis could be the basis of German self-propelled guns based on French tank chassis (Geschützswagen 38H (f))



Bruno Tabare, 1992 - http://www.chars-francais.net/new/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=165

B1 Bis “Capitaine de Bournazel” wreck – Militaire Association Troyenne (France)

The B1 bis tank “Capitaine de Bournazel” got bogged down in a swamp on 17 May 1940. It was impossible to recover it, so it was sabotaged and abandoned by its crew. Shortly after the war, the upper part of the hull was scrapped and the bottom part was forgotten during 50 years. The tank was discovered again by Bruno Tabare and recovered in February 1992.

Information from Misner, [le char B1 bis “Capitaine de Bournazel”](#)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, September 2021

B1 bis front part – France 40 véhicules Museum, Fismes (France)

This is the front of B1 bis N° 403 “Crécy au Mont”, allocated to 347^e CACC, destroyed on 4 June, 1940 in Mont-Caubert



Pierre-Olivier Buan, December 2016

Renault R 35 **reproduction** – Association France 40 véhicules (France)

This vehicle is mostly a reproduction, but will include a few original parts, like the turret

I'm looking for photos of those tanks :

any French tank that I forgot....

This document is a synthesis of photos and information published on the web. I would like to thank the people who took these photos and put them on their websites, or sent them to me, and also those who helped me doing these lists (particularly people of the AFV News Discussion Board). For any question, you can email me at soldat_ryan@hotmail.com

Main page : http://the.shadock.free.fr/Surviving_Panzers.html