

Does anybody know what happened to the VICL 3703's? I have found what I believe to be VICL #129 sitting at a diesel repair shop in Salmon Arm its basically just a shell but the ISLANDER sign is on the back & the fleet # is stil visable. Not sure what its doing there but I don't think its restorable-too far gone. (KB - Mon Sep 27, 2004 11:52 am)

In transit-victoria-bcsmsys@yahooogroups.com, "KB" wrote:

I wonder if this is the same one I photographed sitting behind the Enderby Flea Market where that MC-6 sits? I remember a couple of years ago (September 15, 2002), the bus I spotted was sitting behind the flea market with the MC-6 and there was an older Western Flyer sitting out front for sale. The Western Flyer had a dull chrome finish on all the bus and then it had blue painted on where the ribbed paneling is on this bus. BTW, the VICL that I photographed was a 1949 GM PDA3703, serial #691. It was previously Tweed Bus Lines #143 before it became VICL #143.

JD:

Weren't some of them used as a breakwater somewhere? I think they were dumped in the ocean, and rip-rap dumped around them, the idea being that they would anchor the rip-rap better as the currents were strong there. To find a survivor in any condition is amazing.

I personally doubt that they are the same bus. 143 was in service late - I remember it in 1969 on Nanaimo overloads - and the "Islander" badge was not present then. So, if Karl says that he thought the Salmon Arm bus is 129, perhaps it was. 143 had sightseeing windows fitted; this clearly shows in Ken's photo.

As for the MC-6, does anyone know if it's still there? A couple of yeoars ago (2003) I had contact with Russ Young in Lumby; he had just sold an MC-6 to someone in the US. I wonder if it is the same one. Russ operates Russ's Buses Snowcoach tours: see <http://www.monashee.com/medc/business/business/russbus.htm> He used to have a bigger website that advertised used Couriers for sale as well as MCI parts but this seems to have been taken down.