

Below is the story that accompanied the Walton fire truck picture. The story and the picture are from the July 30, 1953 issue of the Walton Advertiser.

This is it! Concluding over a year's work in planning, at last we can all see the fruits of our labors. Many hard hours of work go into building a modern fire engine. A fire engine is different from all other equipment, that is, it's custom made, which means that every piece, every part is actually hand made by a highly skilled craftsman—the only thing not actually hand made is the chassis and cab. The various parts and pieces are then fabricated to the chassis and cab.

Every commercial truck is bought to serve a needed service, and this is also true of this engine. This engine was bought for the purpose of giving the rural people around Walton almost as good fire service as those in the town. It has many features that were specifically designed for rural areas, where the problems of water supply, spread of fire

to other buildings, storage of every combustible material, such as hay, gasoline and heavy equipment, are most common today.

To name a few of the features on the engine are: (1) 500 gallons of water; (2) a portable pump, which is used to supply water where a big engine cannot go; (3) 1,200 feet of 2½-inch hose; (4) 500 feet of 1½-inch hose; (5) a connection which permits the engine to pump water while moving—this feature is used in grass fires which oftentimes are over several acres of land; (6) two hose reels, each containing 200 feet of 1-inch hard rubber hose, capable of handling the 4- or 500-pounds pressure used in modern fire fighting; (7) new type water nozzles, which can create a fog so thick you can't see through it—this is used where a solid stream of water would damage the furnishings of a house, and (8) all valves are quick opening,

which means there is no turning of valves, and therefore precious seconds are saved.

To fully appreciate the looks and many unmentioned features of this engine, you would have to see this engine. Therefore we are going to have it at our picnic. Come to the picnic on either Thursday, Friday or Saturday night and see it—really, it is your engine and it was bought to serve you. The only pay the fire department gets is the look on peoples faces when the fire engine pulls away from a fire after doing a good job, such a look of gratitude is worth more than any money we could have. So please come to our picnic, help us keep doing a good job at fires—support your fire department at the picnic; bring your friends, have a good time. REMEMBER, help your fire department to help the people of Walton and vicinity.—Walton Volunteer Fire Department.