Surviving French WW2 Tanks Last update: 15 December 2017

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)



"181010", April 2008 - http://good-times.webshots.com/album/563126238wtQDyP?start=24

Renault R 35 — Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France)
Some elements on the hull's roof "say" it is a former 4.7 cm Pak (t) (Sfl.) auf Fgst.Pz.Kpfw.35 R 731 (f) (Yuri Pasholok)
http://yuripasholok.livejournal.com/4465862.html



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 is currently being restored by France 40 véhicules association, it will keep 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



Renault R 35 – Association France 40 véhicules (France)

The lower hull has been acquired in June 2013, the turret comes from an unknown location. Serial Number 1484, Registration 51484.

The upper hull was reproduced using one of Saumur Museum's R-35 as a model



Pierre-Olivier Buan, December 2016

Another Renault R 35 – Association France 40 véhicules (France)



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)



Zırhlı Birlikler Okulu Ve Eğitim Tümen Komutanlığı / Etimesgut / Ankara, May 2012 - https://www.facebook.com/

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/



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, September 2016 - https://www.facebook.com/

Renault R 35 – Patriot Park, Kubinka (Russia) It may be a Romanian tank, Romania bought some ex-French tanks in 1940 ("Taranov")



"Aberdeen Proving Ground", September 2009 - http://www.flickr.com/pho

Renault R 35 ZM – Fort Lee U.S. Army Ordnance Museum, VA (USA)

This tank was part of the first batch of 60 items that were transferred from Aberdeen Proving Ground MD, to Fort Lee VA. This vehicle is currently stored and is not publicly visible



"Arnaud", June 2006 - http://www.maqueweb.info/galerie/category.php?cat=72

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)



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

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



Vitaly Lomov, March 2011 - http://www.flickr.com/photos/ahumex/5588187945/in/set-72157626301262135

Somua S 35 – Kubinka Tank Museum (Russia)
This is a PzKpfw 35S 739(f) from PzAbt 211 (turret n° 101), captured in Finland, Summer 1944. It had zimmerit in 1944 ("Taranov")



"Aberdeen Proving Ground", September 2009 - http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/4497910072/in/set-72157623794807980/

Somua S 35 – Fort Lee U.S. Army Ordnance Museum, VA (USA)

This tank was part of the first batch of 60 items that were transferred from Aberdeen Proving Ground MD, to Fort Lee VA. This vehicle is currently stored and is not publicly visible



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

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



"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, 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 then dispatched to the occupied channel island of Guernsey where it was captured by the British in 1945. (https://www.armouruk.net/). The plate carries the SN 36



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)



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

B1 bis "Rhône" — Musée des Blindés, Saumur (France)
This tank carries a Somua S 35 turret and the main gun is a steel-made reproduction (Antoine Misner)



Pierre-Olivier Buan, December 2016 - http://the.shadock.free.fr/Tanks_in_France/stonne/index.html

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, May 2008 - http://the.shadock.free.fr/Tanks in France/mourmelon1/index.html

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



Rik Scherpenberg, March 2017

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 ASPHM association



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 ASPHM association



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



"181010", May 2009



"181010", 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 dismounted for the moment



"181010", 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



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



Guttorm Fjeldstad



http://www.museumsnett.no/arquebus/sider/aktivitet.htm

Hotchkiss H 39 – Kevin Wheatcroft Collection (UK) This tank was previously in the Arquebus Krigshistorisk Museum



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)



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, May 2008 - http://the.shadock.free.fr/Tanks in France/mourmelon1/index.html

Hotchkiss H $39-501/503^e$ RCC, Mourmelon-le-Grand (France) This tank is believed to be the one which was previously displayed in the ERGMEB Army base at Gien (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/trainplanepro/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)



"Taranov", December 2006 - http://cook.c58.ru/webrunner/hotchkissh39s2.jpg

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 ("Taranov" and "Woody67" on ATF40 forum)



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 (Geschützwagen 38H (f))



https://www.facebook.com/Hotchkiss39Norway/photos/pcb.1558001024494107/1557999901160886/?type=3&theater

Hotchkiss H-39 wreck – Private collection (Norway)

Chassis number 41104. This tank was armed with an SA 38 long barelled 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). It seems that the trench crossing tail is the only one left in the world



James J. Pavelka, September 2013

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)



Michel Lorrain

Saint-Chamond 194 GPF or 280mm Mortar – Private collection in Southern Germany



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"

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