

[UNDER CONSTRUCTION]

FUTURE



'70 HEMICUDA



Prekeris, managed to find and buy the 'Cuda way back in 1986 for a paltry \$600! Back in 1986, the 'Cuda was sporting its original orange paint with some rather crude red/maroon flames painted on the nose, the Hemi was gone, but other than that, the car was actually in pretty good condition and looked to have been off the road for a good while. A factory steel wheels and dog dish hubcaps car, the Hemicuda was built with a four-speed with no console, a 4.10 Dana rear axle, a Shaker hood, and darn little else in the way of options; presumably, somebody wanted a street/strip drag car. This was even a stripe delete machine, so there was a whole lot of orange here broken up only by the black Shaker bubble. Given that the car ended up with a crude flame job and a missing engine, also presumably, it lived a fast and furious lifestyle before being tucked away.

Having been parked most of

Mike Mancini, over at American Muscle Car Restorations in Rhode Island, sent us some photos of a downright fascinating 1970 Hemicuda they're wrap-

ping up and getting ready to debut at the 2014 MCACN show in November. This one is remarkable for several reasons, not the least of which is the simple fact that its owner, Paul

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its life spared the Hemicuda exposure to the brutal Jersey winters, which Mike informs us made the bodywork on this project far easier than you'd imagine. Paul, knowing he would restore the car eventually, kept it off the radar in his garage for more than twenty years, gathering parts, buying a correct Hemi, and amassing everything needed for the job on an everyday guy's salary. Finally, in 2012, he contacted Mike, told him about the 'Cuda, and the car and the cache of parts moved over to American Muscle Car where work began. Since these photos were taken, the reassembly process is well underway and the project's on target to make its Mopar debut in Chicago later this year. With all the hardcore Hemi collectors in the Northeast, honestly, we're very surprised this E-body remained virtually unknown for as long as it did, but, again, Paul's a very patient guy. This is his only old Mopar, it's his dream car, and he's been paying his dues to put it back on the road since finding it in 1986. Obviously, watch for a full feature on this one when it's completed, there's a lot more to the story than we have room for here! ✖








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