

Re: Saturn 1/1B Extant Hardware

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.space.history/2005-07/msg00189.html>

- *From:* "Ed Kyle" <edkyle99@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 6 Jul 2005 11:47:30 -0700
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Herb Schaltegger wrote:

- > On Tue, 5 Jul 2005 14:05:47 -0500, Ed Kyle wrote
- > (in article <1120590347.071741.239800@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>):
- >
- >> SIVB-211 (displayed as dummy Skylab just left of Saturn V) at
- >> Huntsville, AL
- >>
- >

"<http://www.teraserver.microsoft.com/image.aspx?T=4&S=8&Z=16&X=10632&Y=76818&W=2&qs=%7chuntsville>

- ≥
- ≥ Has that always been displayed that way? I don't remember it at all.
- ≥ Didn't there used to be an engineering mockup of the Skylab workshop
- ≥ inside the main hall of Space and Rocket Center? Or am I
- ≥ mis-remembering? I used to have a few dozen photos of all the stuff
- ≥ there in the early 90's, but they disappeared during the divorce. :-/

Until 1979, this S-IVB stage appears to have been displayed horizontally with the SA-211 first stage on the grounds of Marshall Space Flight Center. It would have moved to the museum after the first stage was moved to Ardmore in 1980 or so.

There is a chance that SA-211 may have been shipped to Japan for a couple of years during the mid-1970s, but I've never been able to confirm this.

The SA-T stage at the MSFC test area is the oldest and, in my opinion, most historic Saturn. It was the very first Saturn that performed 31 static test firings on the East Tower, for example. This is the booster that von Braun and Co. would have spent more time tinkering with than any other. This was the hardware that taught them how to build big rockets.

SA-T is unquestionably in worse shape, exterior-wise, than any other Saturn hardware I've seen - and I've seen almost all of them now. But SA-T also

seems to have been preserved better, in some ways, than other Saturn stages. It was hardly modified for display, like SA-211, so it appears much the same way it did the last time MSFC personnel turned a bolt on it. It has a complete set of early H-1 engines all in their proper places, for example, and it has turbopump exhaust ducts that are not present on other displayed boosters, etc. It still has a 120 inch diameter interstage truss part designed to support the originally planned Titan second stage! It has holes drilled in it that show where some brackets were originally positioned, then repositioned, etc. It has patches riveted over patches. A technological historian could spend a career on it, I suspect.

– Ed Kyle

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• **Follow-Ups:**

- ◆ **Re: Saturn 1/1B Extant Hardware**
◇ From: Derek Lyons
- ◆ **Re: Saturn 1/1B Extant Hardware**
◇ From: Capcom

• **References:**

- ◆ **Saturn 1/1B Extant Hardware**
◇ From: Ed Kyle
- ◆ **Re: Saturn 1/1B Extant Hardware**
◇ From: Herb Schaltegger

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