DATE:

24 February 25, 2002

MEMO TO:

Fred Mauck

FROM:

Jeff Paley

SUBJECT:

Hugh Ferry's notebooks

I met Mr. Ferry's son (his name/nickname was "Ping") sometime in 1970. He lived in Santa Barbara. He did not, himself seem to be interested in the cars themselves when his father was with Packard. Not a car guy. He seemed like a fairly sophisticated gentleman and, I think, lived in Montecito. Don't know what happened to him.

He was kind enough to give me these two notebooks belonging to his father, as he thought they would be of some interest to a Packard "buff".

I've had them for 32 years and I want now to give them to you. I know you'll make good use of them and I know that they will have an honored and safe home in your archive of memorabilia. Actually, I don't know if I'm doing you any favors....now, when someone calls you for this information, it won't be me going into semi-panic mode ("Oh my God, I haven't looked at that stuff in years, now where the hell did I store it? I hope I can still lay my hands on it!").

They are well preserved for being as old as they are (it appears that they were in use into 1952, probably the last year of Hugh Ferry's presidency). I seem to recall a Motor Trend of, I think around 1951- 1952 with his picture on the cover, along with the Presidents of the other automobile companies. As an aside, I have all the Motor Trends from the first issue (September 1949) until about 1957 and then several years of the early 60's. Likewise with Road and Track magazine (and also CARS, AUTO AGE, CAR LIFE, MOTOR LIFE. Etc). I mention this in case you want to reprint any Packard Road tests, Classic Comments, etc.

Take care. I hope the info you were looking for is in the books.