



# Chicago & West Towns 141

**Return to Service : June 1, 2014**

*Reprinted with Permission From the Northwest Herald:*

No. 141, originally built in 1924 by McGuire-Cummings Manufacturing Co., in Paris, Ill., made its last run on April 10, 1948. From there it was taken to the power house at the corner of Cermak Road and Harlem Avenue — just south of Joe Rizza Ford — and scrapped [in the yard]. The shells of the no longer relevant street-cars were sold and used as shelters *[and farm sheds]*.

While the actual restoration started in 1997, museum volunteers began collecting the necessary replacement parts 20 years prior, *[Frank] Sirinek [IRM's 141 project manager]* said. Finding the parts took a massive effort, and at one point, took volunteers to Milan, Italy, in the 1980s, where they were invited to rummage through piles of parts.

Sirinek estimated that it took about \$100,000 to restore the streetcar, with funds coming from donations big and small, and some grants. On March 3, 2013, No. 141 made its first run since 1948 — albeit about 150 yards— under its own power.

*- Joe Sinopoli*



## QUICK FACTS:

Builder: McGuire-Cummings Mfg. Company  
Paris, Illinois

Year Built: 1924                      Seats: 44

Length: 47ft                              Width: 8ft 4in

Height: 11ft 6in                      Weight: 46200 lbs

Brakes: straight air                      Motors: 4 GE 203L

Control: PC5-CJ129A                      Compressor: CP-27

Trucks: McGuire



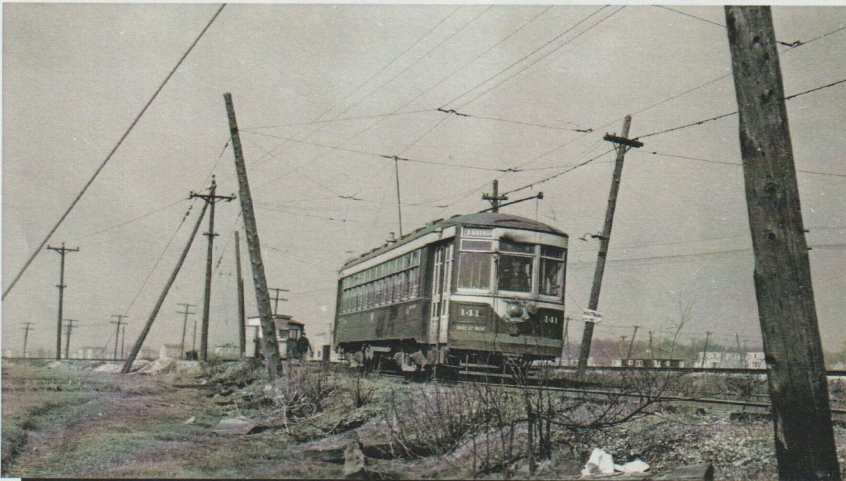


Left: Changing ends at the La-Grange Road Terminal for an Eastbound trip to Brookfield, Riverside, Berwyn and Cicero.

Lower Right: Along the west side of Indiana Harbor Belt Railway on it's way to LaGrange.

Lower Center: Westbound on Broadway Avenue in Brookfield with Gross School in background.

Lower Right: 122 in front of the south gate of the Brookfield Zoo.







Top Left: On Desplaines Avenue in Riverside.



Center Left: Heading Eastbound on Cermak Road at Ridgeland Avenue in Berwyn with the Berwyn Theater in background.



Lower: CWT 161 and CSL 250 at Kenton Avenue Terminal with Western Electric Hawthorne Works in the background.

Photos by R.W. Gibson and Dave McWhinney from the Strahorn Library and the Walter R. Keevil Collection.





You'd never know the condition of the #141 based on it's total restoration. Hours of hard volunteer work made this possible. While there are too many people to name, we'd like to especially thank Mike Stauber and Mike Alterio for their hard work and dedication.



Top Left: Mike Stauber, Bob Kutella, Victor Humphries working on the control group that came all the way from Italy.

Top Right: Mike Stauber working on windows and window sills.

Middle Left: Ken Jankowski and Frank Whischler working on rat-tan seat for the car.

Bottom Right: Mike Alterio assembling crowd control bar.

Bottom Left: John Myhre underneath the car soldering the motor leads.