



E83W REGISTER

MALCOLM WELLS

XMT 46 was a Jan 52 registered van, specially converted for the British Travel and Holidays Association. It features spec. for the USA, which include, left hand drive, extra side lights, repositioned rear light and number plate, and a front bumper with overriders. XMT also has a generator fitted in the rear, with the lagged exhaust pipe going up through the roof.

Between March and July 1952 XMT accompanied 3 London buses, LYR 826, 827 & 935, on a 12,000 mile goodwill tour of the USA and Canada to promote Britain and tourism, after the success of the Festival of Britain in 1951. LYR 935 was packed with displays showing many aspects of British life, and XMT supplied the power and lighting for these, when parked up.

The journey started and ended in New York. All the vehicles, which also included an Austin Atlantic car and a Leyland Comet lorry, were shipped out from Liverpool.

The photos show XMT 46 at the official inspection in Horse Guards Parade on Feb. 29 1952, before the drive to Liverpool docks.

Photos by kind permission of the London Transport Museum.

