Say hello to the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles NEW acquisition! This beautiful vehicle is a **1940 American Bantam Roadster** built in Butler, Pennsylvania, just thirty-five miles north of Pittsburgh. The Museum recently expanded its geographic scope to include all of Pennsylvania in its collection—previously we focused on vehicles made in Southeastern Pennsylvania. This is our first piece from the western half of the state, so it’s starting us on newly expanded collecting mission!

One of Bantam’s most significant contributions to automotive history is its World War II manufacturing efforts. American Bantam designed and built the first successful Jeep for the United States Army, which it did in 1940, the same year as this roadster. Unfortunately, because Bantam did not have the capital or facilities to fulfill the military contract, production of the Jeep was awarded to Willys and Ford. Both companies, however, utilized the design created by Bantam.