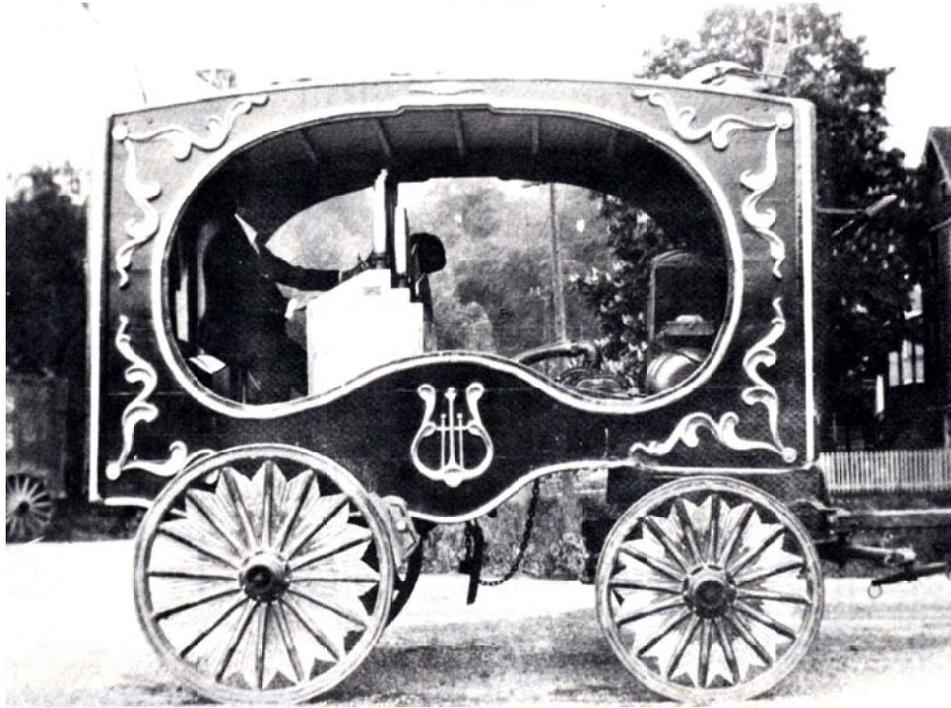


The photo on the right shows the Sparks Circus Air Calliope ready for today's parade.



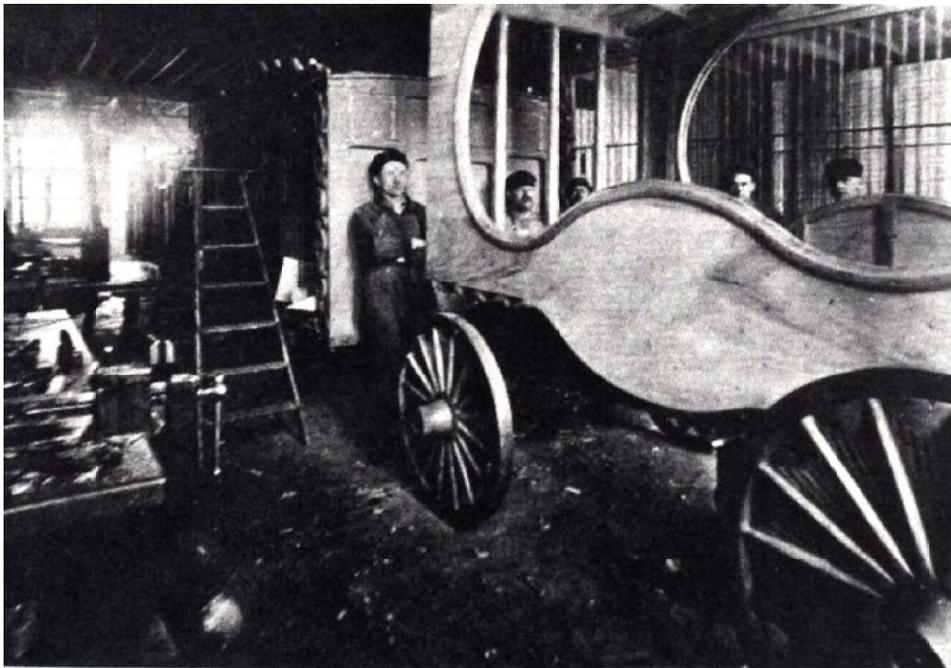
Mr. Allaire wrote the following in 1972:

My first project in this department will be an air calliope. If my memory is correct there has been very little offered on these little gems of wagons seldom talked about. These short musical wagons gave circuses color in their parades and on the lot. In many cases, the air calliope outlasted the steam.

The data I am to offer comes from my own collection and the train and wagon list was given to me by Mr. Charles Sparks. Contrary to many wagon listings given on this circus I regard this one as the true wagon list. After 1931, this wagon along with many others was burned and anything of historical value probably went with it. Because of the era this was used, much of the undergear details will have to be taken as granted and good common sense will have to be applied.

This wagon was 10 foot long, 5 feet 6 inches wide and 5 feet high. It was not too heavy with carvings as the photo will indicate. Painted scrolls were used on the front and rear. When this wagon was received from the wagon builders there was a carved circle around the lyre but for some reason was removed later on. The other photo used for this article shows the wagon being built and also note the cage in the rear is one of the 12 foot cages nearly completed.

The calliope was powered by a Ford motor and mounted at the front of the wagon and the air ballast tank was just front of the calliope. So let's add an air calliope to your show. Try it, you'll like it!



The photo to the left shows the Sparks Circus Air Calliope under construction in old wagon shop. Note the lack of tools in these shops and the other unidentified wagon in the background.

**Sparks Circus
Air Calliope No. 29**

DATE: 1920s

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'

SCANNED & REVISED:
08/16/03

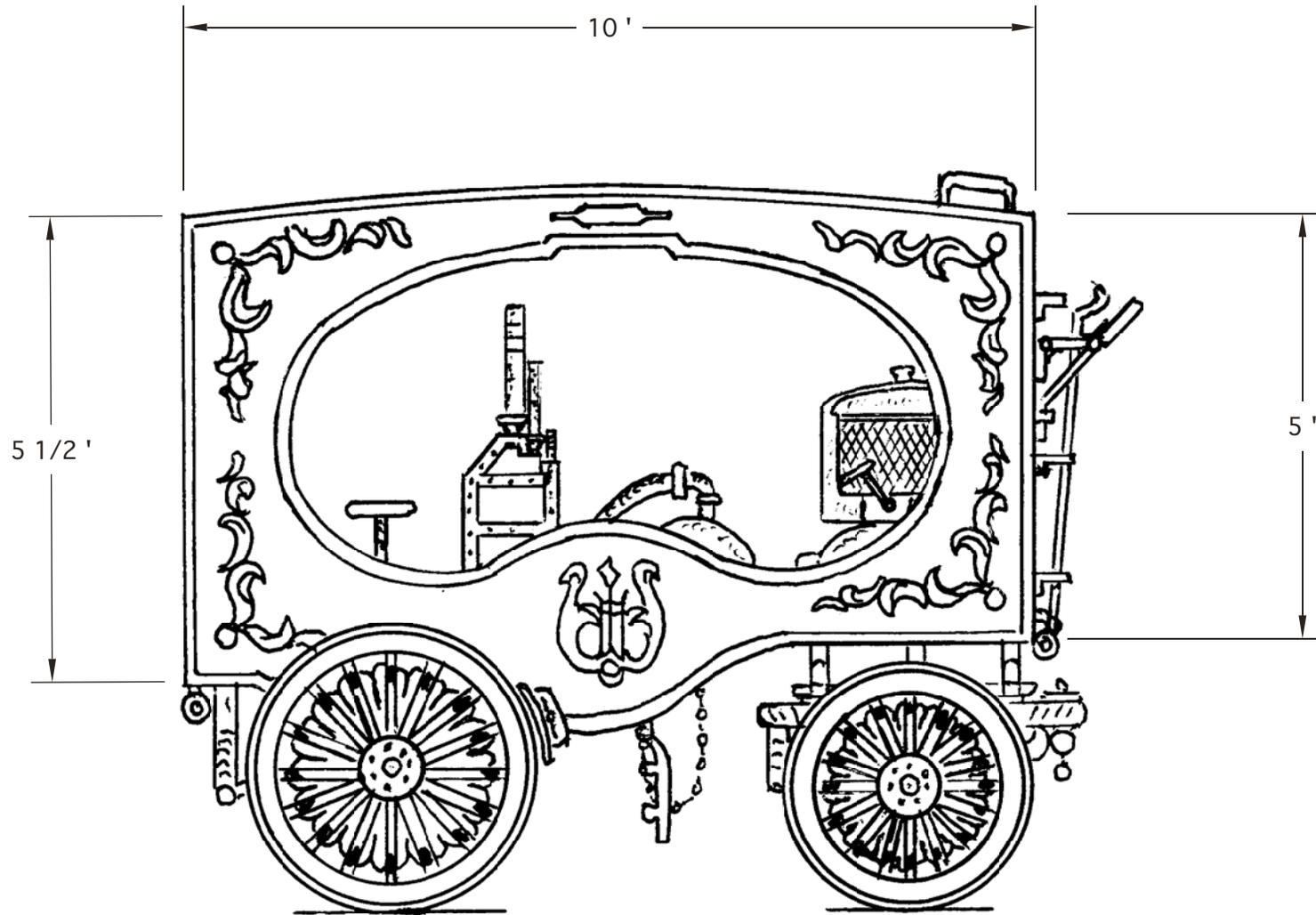
Pg 1 of 3

Circus Model Builders

Drawn By
Maurice Allaire

DRAWING NUMBER

#0224



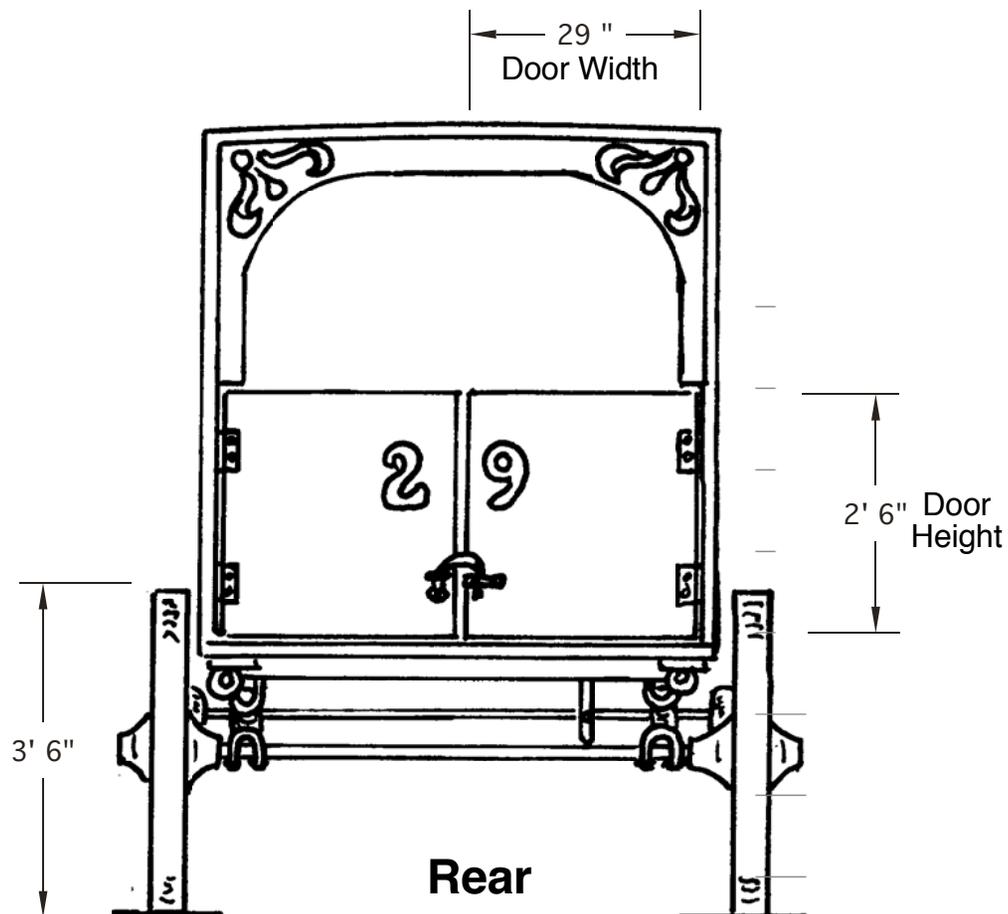
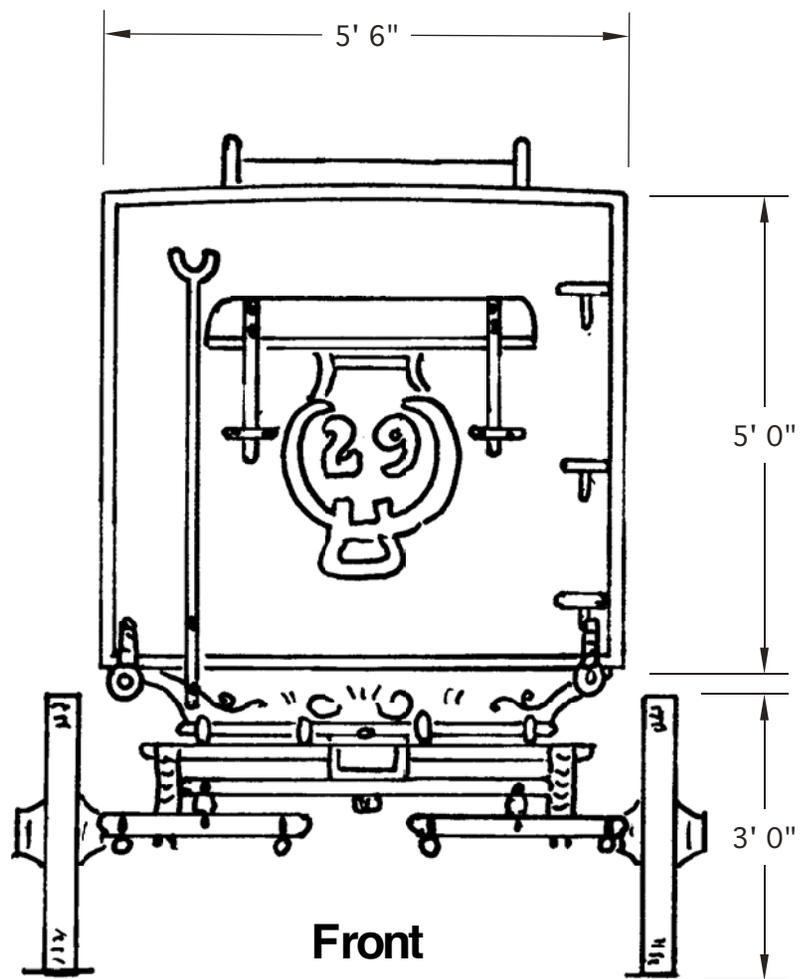
**Sparks Circus
Air Calliope No. 29**

Pg 2 of 3

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'

SCANNED & REVISED:
08/16/03

DRAWING NUMBER
#0224



**Sparks Circus
Air Calliope No. 29**

Pg 3 of 3

SCALE: 1/2" = 1'

SCANNED & REVISED:
08/16/03

DRAWING NUMBER
#0224