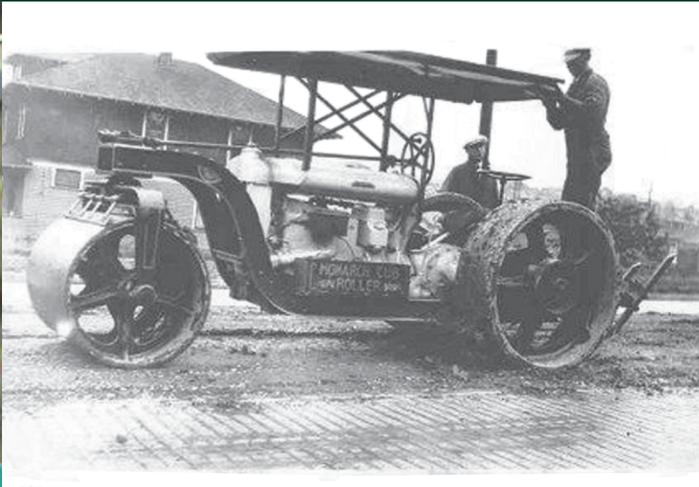




Farm tractors converted into construction equipment (rollers, graders, etc.) were a transition-step between the old horse-drawn road construction equipment and the modern self-propelled construction equipment seen today.



1925 Fordson Tractor

with an Austin-Western Roller Conversion Kit



Jim West
831.768.2071
jwest@graniterock.com
graniterock.com
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History

1925 Fordson Tractor

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Fordson Model "F" Tractor

- Henry Ford and Son Company was organized in 1917 to produce tractor under the Fordson name. These were very basic machines: 251 cubic inch, four-cylinder engines that would develop 20-horsepower at 1,000 rpm burning either kerosene or gasoline.
- The tractor set up for farm use weighed 2,700 lbs and could travel 6 mph. With the Austin-Western roller conversion total weight was 10,000 lbs and top speed was reduced to 3 mph.
- Original cost of a Fordson Model "F" tractor in 1925 was \$395.00. The cost of the Austin-Western Roller Conversion Kit was \$278.00.



Between 1917 and 1928

Ford sold more than 740,000 Fordson Model "F" Farm Tractors manufactured in Detroit. Tens of thousands of these tractors were converted from farm use to construction uses.

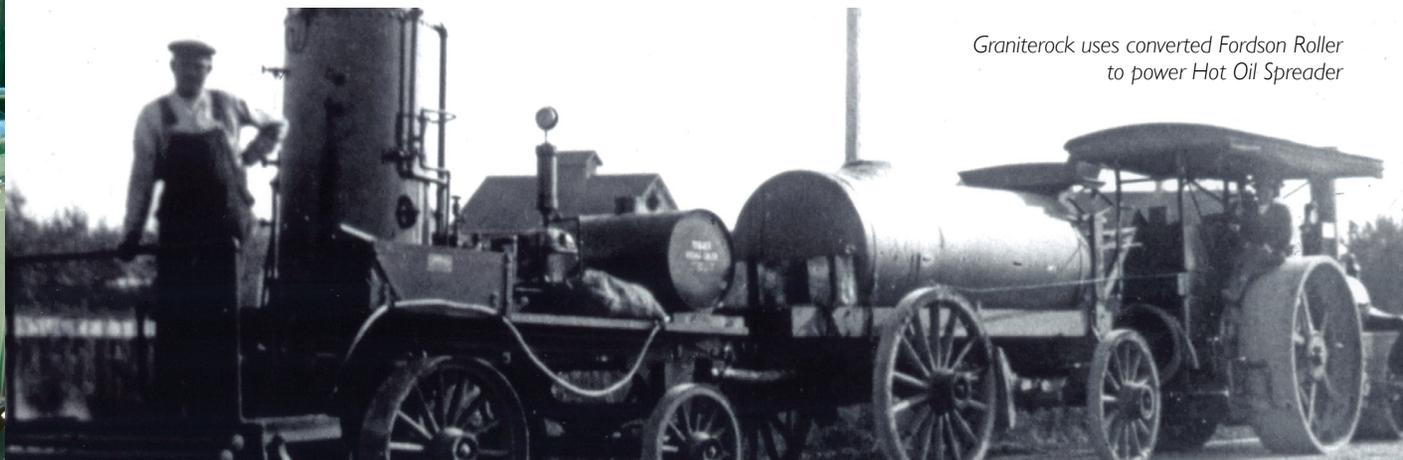
By the mid-20s

Ford was selling 67,000 Fordson Tractor a year and accounted for 70% of all US tractors sold. This was due in large part to Ford's use of assembly line methods and his nation-wide network of dealers selling and servicing Ford's Model "T" automobile.



This 1925 roller is also equipped with a finishing blade which "planed" the asphalt to a smooth level surface while it was being compacted.

Before paving machines came into use, trucks would dump hot asphalt directly onto a prepared road grade. The asphalt would be spread using a large road grader, and then compacted with a roller.



Graniterock uses converted Fordson Roller to power Hot Oil Spreader