



Is your car collection outgrowing your garage?

Consider a 15-car garage with a 2,340-square-foot home just down the road in Dexter.

Or perhaps you'd prefer a seven-car winter retreat in North Port, Fla.

Maybe you'd be interested in building your own car-friendly complex on a 40-acre parcel near the Thunder Hill racetrack in northern California.

Or there's the ultimate car-guy fixer-upper: a 1950s-vintage café, two gas stations, two garages (one with attached living quarters), even a car wash, all on 14 acres on old Route 66 in northern Arizona.

Such car-friendly homes are the focus of the Car Property Group and its www.carproperty.com Web site.

Car Property Group was launched four years ago by Bob "BC" Cross of Mountain View, Calif. Cross grew up around car collectors, his father being one of them.

"Space for their cars was always an issue for collectors," Cross knew.

So after launching his own software company and then working for nearly a decade as a high-tech consultant, Cross decided to explore car properties as a real estate niche. He got his real estate license and does the normal sort of real estate brokering in the San Jose area. But his passion is for his own 1968 Jaguar XKE roadster and for connecting car collectors with the special properties they need, regardless of geography.

"The real estate system for tracking properties (and what they offer) ignores (the) garage," Cross discovered.

And just what is a car property? Cross says it can vary. For example, in a major city where there are few garages, a car property could be any place with a real garage. In most locations, Cross says a property needs room for at least four vehicles to be considered a car property.

Cross's Web site is in what web developers call the "beta" phase. The ads are there, but other features -- including listings of places that offer garage space for rent to car collectors, RV and boat owners and even some car community features such as blogs -- are being prepared for the site's official launch in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, if you're interested in that place in Dexter, or if you want to list your own car property for sale, visit www.carproperty.com. Listing a property runs from \$49.95 to \$79.95 and Cross is running a special offer that keeps an ad on the site until the property sells.

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