FOR SALE: 1942 Fairchild PT-26A Cornell (M-62A-3)
Museum-Hangared by WWII Veteran – Outstanding October 1989 George Parsons Restoration
Complete Logbooks (1946–2002), Fully Documented History & Spare Ranger Engine Included

Registration: N69256
Serial Number: FV-257 (Military: RAF FV257 / RCAF 15158)
Location: Hangared in Georgetown, Delaware, USA



Overview:
An extraordinary opportunity for vintage warbird collectors, type enthusiasts, or restoration shops. This 1942 Fleet-built Fairchild PT-26A Cornell is a true time-capsule WWII veteran. Following its wartime military service, the aircraft underwent a meticulously documented, multi-year ground-up restoration of the airframe, engine, and cockpit by master restorer George Parsons of Delmar, Delaware, which was completed in October 1989.

Following an active civilian flying life, the aircraft was safely tucked away in a dry, secure museum hangar in 2002. It has remained climate-sheltered and protected from the elements for the past 24 years under the long-term, dedicated ownership of centenarian John Reichert—a distinguished US Navy WWII veteran.

While the airframe presents in remarkably clean, complete, and structurally sound condition, it was last certified for flight and flown in 2001. It is being offered strictly "as-is, where-is" as an incredibly desirable, premium restoration project or ferry-permit candidate.



Paperwork, Provenance & Restoration Highlight:
• Restoration Documentation: Full, exhaustive paperwork and documentation detailing the multi-year George Parsons ground-up restoration are completely available for review by interested buyers.
• Logbook Documentation: Includes complete, continuous civilian logbooks dating from its post-war civilian entry in 1946 completely through its final flight logs in 2002. The logs are in excellent, legible condition and provide an unbroken, 56-year chain of maintenance, inspections, and ownership history.
• Full FAA chain-of-title history available.

Airframe, Powerplant & Spares Status:
• Main Engine: Ranger L-440-7 (200 HP) Inverted 6-Cylinder Inline. Complete, unmolested, and unaltered since 2002. (Note: Engine has been left undisturbed to preserve internal components; will require a standard mechanical preservation inspection, cylinder scoping, and complete hose/fluid flush before any start attempt).
• INCLUDED SPARE ENGINE: The sale includes a complete spare engine—a Ranger Model 6-440C-5—offering incredible logistical and mechanical value for future operations.

• Propeller: Original Sensenich wooden propeller is currently mounted on the aircraft and presents in good visual condition.
• Airframe & Wings: Intact and structurally sound. The classic spruce and mahogany plywood wings have been perfectly preserved by over two decades of continuous, dry museum indoor hangaring, completely avoiding the moisture and UV rot typical of outdoor storage. Visually excellent fabric tension and classic military paint scheme.



Seller's Terms & Pricing:
With an impeccable pedigree, WWII veteran ownership, an elite regional restoration history, a spare engine, and pristine museum-hangar storage history, this Cornell is a beautifully straight, highly uncompromised airframe. It represents a highly rewarding return-to-flight project for the right pilot, mechanic, or museum collection.

Asking Price: $ 49,500 OBO
Terms: Sold As-Is, Where-Is. Buyer is strictly responsible for all pre-purchase inspections, maintenance required to achieve airworthiness, or securing an FAA Ferry Permit for extraction.

Serious inquiries only. To schedule a hangar viewing or to review the 1946–2002 logbooks and restoration records. Aircraft is hangered at the Delaware Coastal Airport - Georgetown, DE,

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