
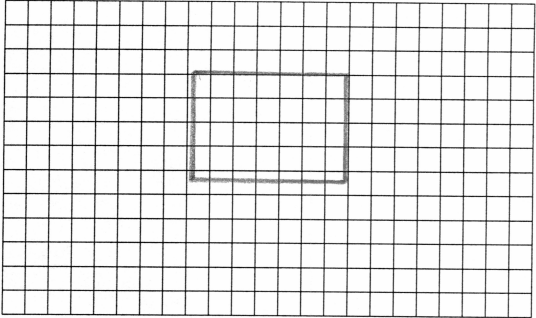


HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY RECORD

NOT FOR FIELD USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eligible	<input type="checkbox"/> Nominated
<input type="checkbox"/> Det. Not Eligible	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Rehab.
Date _____	

PROJECT NAME: Littleton Historic Buildings Survey 1997 (#97-01-082)		COUNTY: Arapahoe	CITY: Littleton	STATE ID NO.: 5AH1239
CURRENT BUILDING NAME: Denver Machine Tool Inc.		OWNER: DIEVENEY, FRANK & KATHRYN JT TEN 5220 YELLOWSTONE ST LITTLETON CO 80123		
ADDRESS: 5801 S CURTICE ST Littleton, CO 80120		TOWNSHIP 5S RANGE 68W SECTION 17 SE 1/4 SE 1/4		
HISTORIC NAME: Coleman Motors Corp.		U.S.G.S. QUAD NAME: Littleton, Colo. YEAR: 1965 (r. 1994) X 7.5' 15'		
DISTRICT NAME:		BLOCK: 12 LOT(S): 37-40 ADDITION: PEABODY'S RESUB YR. OF ADDITION: 1887		
FILM ROLL NO.: 97-12 BY: Roger Whitacre	NEGATIVE NO.: 22	LOCATION OF NEGATIVES: Littleton Hist. Mus.	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ESTIMATE: ACTUAL: 1946 SOURCE: Litt. Indep., 5-3-46, 1.	
			USE: PRESENT: Industrial	
			HISTORIC: Industrial	
			CONDITION: EXCELLENT GOOD X FAIR DETERIORATING	
			EXTENT OF ALTERATIONS: X MINOR MODERATE MAJOR DESCRIBE: Newer overhead garage door on front; two covered up openings on north wall.	
STYLE: Industrial			STORIES: 1	ORIGINAL SITE X MOVED DATE(S) OF MOVE:
MATERIALS: Brick, Metal, Concrete			SQ. FOOTAGE: 13900	NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: One-story rectangular industrial building with central front gabled monitor roof flanked by wings on north and south fronted by stepped false fronts; metal turbanes and vents along central roof. Near eaves of central portion of building on north and south walls are continuous ribbons of windows. Walls composed of brick above concrete foundation; gable ends clad with corrugated metal siding. Central section of building has large overhead garage door flanked by large, multi-light factory windows. Front walls of north and south wings are blank except for single slab pedestrian door on north wing. Side walls of north and south wings have brick piers.			INDIVIDUAL: X YES NO	
			CONTRIBUTING TO DISTRICT: YES NO	
			LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION: No	
			NAME: DATE:	
ADDITIONAL PAGES: YES X NO			ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS? YES X NO TYPE:	
			IF INVENTORIED, LIST ID NOS.:	

CONTINUED? YES X NO

PLAN SHAPE: 	ARCHITECT: Unknown SOURCE: BUILDER/CONTRACTOR: Unknown SOURCE:	STATE ID NO.: 5AH1239 ORIGINAL OWNER: Coleman Motor Corp. SOURCE: Sanborn Map, 1949 THEME(S): Post World War II Era, 1945-Present		
CONSTRUCTION HISTORY (DESCRIPTION, NAMES, DATES, ETC., RELATING TO MAJOR ALTERATIONS TO ORIGINAL STRUCTURE): A 1957 photograph in the Littleton Historical Museum files shows the building with its monitor roof.				
CONTINUED YES X NO				
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (DISCUSS IMPORTANT PERSONS AND EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS STRUCTURE): This building was part of the Coleman Motor Corporation of Littleton. In 1946, the Litt. Independent reported that the company was erecting a new building on S. Curtice west of its factory. The building was to be 140' X 100' and was designed to house the welding shop and the die stamping department. Coleman Motors was Littleton's largest manufacturer and employer for many years. The company's roots lay in Harleigh Holmes, who invented and patented a steerable drive axle for a four-wheel-drive vehicle in 1919. In 1920, the Holmes Motor Co. remodeled the old creamery building on S. Nevada and manufactured four-wheel-drive trucks. In 1922, Holmes sold 51 percent of his company to George Coleman, a wealthy lead and zinc miner, to raise capital. Coleman Motors Corp. was created, and in 1924, it established its headquarters at 5801 S. Nevada (razed). Holmes remained active in the company for many years; he died in 1963. Coleman Motors developed several types of four-wheel-drive trucks, including crane carriers, fire trucks, military vehicles, and highway maintenance vehicles. George Coleman, who was fond of auto racing, also entered four-wheel-drive racing cars in Indianapolis 500 races, winning 7th place in 1930. In the 1940s, Coleman's estate sold his share of stock to a group of investors and the company grew rapidly, supplying four-wheel-drive trucks and crane carriers to the U.S. Corps of Engineers. It also sold conversion kits to turn standard trucks into four- and six-wheel drive. In 1948, Coleman Motors and American Road Equipment Co. formed American Coleman in Omaha to sell both companies' products. In 1953, Coleman bought American Coleman and combined its operations with those in Littleton. In 1956, the Air Force awarded Coleman a \$9.5 mil. contract to produce a specially designed aircraft towing tractor. The Littleton plant closed in 1987.				
CONTINUED YES X NO				
SIGNIFICANCE (CHECK APPROPRIATE CATEGORIES AND BRIEFLY JUSTIFY BELOW): <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE: REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUES X REPRESENTS A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION </td> <td style="width: 50%;"> HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNIFICANT PERSONS X ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OR PATTERNS CONTRIBUTES TO AN HISTORIC DISTRICT </td> </tr> </table>			ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE: REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUES X REPRESENTS A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION	HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNIFICANT PERSONS X ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OR PATTERNS CONTRIBUTES TO AN HISTORIC DISTRICT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: This building is significant for its association with the industrial history of Littleton, as the only remaining building associated with the Coleman Motor Company founded in Littleton in 1922. The company was Littleton's leading manufacturer and largest employer for many years, producing many varieties of four-wheel drive trucks using the steerable drive axle for four-wheel-drive vehicles invented and patented by Holmes in 1919. The building is representative of Littleton's industrial architecture of the early twentieth century, as reflected in its functional design with monitor roof, substantial size, and large factory windows.				
CONTINUED YES X NO				
REFERENCES (BE SPECIFIC): Littleton Sentinel Independent, 13 Feb. 1987, 2; Denver Post, 23 March 1987, 3B; Robert McQuarie and C.W. Buchholtz, Littleton: Settlement to Centennial (Littleton: Littleton Historical Museum, 1990), 70; Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1949; Littleton Independent, 22 May 1925, 21 Aug. 1925, 22 July 1938, 3 May 1946; Littleton Historical Museum, Photograph Files.				
CONTINUED YES X NO				
SURVEYED BY: R.L. Simmons/T.H. Simmons	AFFILIATION: Front Range Research Associates, Inc.	DATE: October 1997		