


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.: 5AH783
CURRENT BUILDING NAME:		OWNER: STEEL, JACK W & DONALD E UND 1/2 INT EACH 4770 S WADSWORTH BLVD LITTLETON CO 80123		
ADDRESS: 5833 S PRINCE ST Littleton, CO 80120		TOWNSHIP 5S RANGE 68W SECTION 17 SE 1/4 SE 1/4		
HISTORIC NAME: Heckethorn Manufacturing		U.S.G.S. QUAD NAME: Littleton, Colo. YEAR: 1965 (r. 1994) X 7.5' 15'		
DISTRICT NAME:		BLOCK: 14 LOT(S): 1-7, 34-40 P ADDITION: PEABODY'S RESUB YR. OF ADDITION: 1887		
FILM ROLL NO.: 97-15 BY: Roger Whitacre	NEGATIVE NO.: 34	LOCATION OF NEGATIVES: Littleton Hist. Mus.	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ESTIMATE: ACTUAL: 1942 SOURCE: Arapahoe County Assessor	
			USE: PRESENT: Unknown	
			HISTORIC: Industrial	
			CONDITION: EXCELLENT X GOOD FAIR DETERIORATING	
			EXTENT OF ALTERATIONS: MINOR X MODERATE MAJOR DESCRIBE: Windows covered up and sheltered by awnings; doors altered; metal siding applied to facade on north part of building.	
STYLE: Industrial			STORIES: 1	ORIGINAL SITE X MOVED DATE(S) OF MOVE:
MATERIALS: Brick, Concrete			SQ. FOOTAGE: 19493	NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: One-story rectangular industrial building composed of northern section with monitor roof (raised 4') and southern section with two gables oriented east-west with brick facade with flat parapet. The northern section is clad with metal siding on front and wood paneling on north above painted brick walls. Northern section has center glazed door with sidelight; sliding windows. Tall square brick chimney at southwest corner. Raised superstructure on southern section of building toward south. Two openings with rounded edges on southern section which have been bricked in and one now has sliding window and one has slab door. Three wide windows have been boarded up; brick sills; metal awnings. Concrete foundation.			INDIVIDUAL: YES X NO	
			CONTRIBUTING TO DISTRICT: YES NO	
			LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION: No	
			NAME: DATE:	
ADDITIONAL PAGES: YES X NO			ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS? X YES NO TYPE: Industrial	
			IF INVENTORIED, LIST ID NOS.:	

CONTINUED? YES X NO

PLAN SHAPE: 	ARCHITECT: Unknown	STATE ID NO.: 5AH783
	SOURCE:	ORIGINAL OWNER: Heckethorn Manufacturing Co.
	BUILDER/CONTRACTOR: Unknown	SOURCE: Sanborn Map, 1949
	SOURCE:	THEME(S) : Colorado Town Form in Early Auto Era, 1920-45

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY (DESCRIPTION, NAMES, DATES, ETC., RELATING TO MAJOR ALTERATIONS TO ORIGINAL STRUCTURE):

CONTINUED YES X NO

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (DISCUSS IMPORTANT PERSONS AND EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS STRUCTURE):

This building was erected by the Heckethorne Manufacturing and Supply Company in 1942. The main Heckethorne complex lay to the north across West Low Street. The northern 1/3 of this building included a section for die-casting and heat treating, while the southern 2/3 was devoted to assembly space. Heckethorn Manufacturing (Heco) was once one of Littleton's largest employers (1200 employees in 1954) and one of the state's largest industrial enterprises. The company was established in 1939 by W.W. Heckethorn, whose sons Jack and Bill were also involved. The first year it made cameras, tripods, and other photographic equipment, as well as a variety of garden tools. The company's capacity for volume production on high-speed machines was well known by World War II and the company was asked to bid for ordnance contracts. Among the large contracts Heco received were one to make 20mm anti-aircraft projectiles for the navy and one for 4.2" mortar shell fuses for the army chemical corps. After the war ended, the company perfected a shock absorber for automobiles. In 1950, D.E. Buchanan, a retired oil and railroad executive, became president of the company. During the Korean war, Heco was a pilot plant for production of a 3.5" rocket and was dubbed "Daddy of the Bazooka." Following the war, production of a ventilated seat cushion became an important product. In addition, the company manufactured hardware, pulleys, war medals, and other metal products. In 1957, the company moved to Dyersburg, Tennessee, after operating in Littleton for nearly eighteen years.

CONTINUED YES X NO

SIGNIFICANCE (CHECK APPROPRIATE CATEGORIES AND BRIEFLY JUSTIFY BELOW):

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

This building is associated with the industrial history of Littleton, having been erected in 1942 as part of the Heckethorn Manufacturing Co. complex. The building, although somewhat altered, reflects industrial construction through its monitor roof, gabled industrial spaces, brick facade, and minimal exterior ornamentation.

CONTINUED YES X NO

REFERENCES (BE SPECIFIC):

Arapahoe County Assessor records; Denver Post, 7 April 1957, 20 August 1957; Denver Post Empire, 6 March 1955, 10; Littleton Independent, 20 August 1948; Rocky Mountain News, 14 July 1957, 3 August 1957, 22 August 1957.

CONTINUED YES X NO

SURVEYED BY: R.L. Simmons/T.H. Simmons

AFFILIATION: Front Range Research Associates, Inc.

DATE: October 1997