COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation 1300 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80203

HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY RECORD

	NOT FOR FIELD USE	
Eligible Det. Not	Eligible Nominated Certified Rehab Date	٠.

PROJECT NAME: Littleton Historic Buildings Survey 1997 (#97-01-082)		COUNTY: Arapahoe	CITY:	STATE ID NO.: 5AH176	
		Arapanoe	Littleton	TEMPORARY NO.: 2077-16-2-00-036	
CURRENT BUILDING NAME: Electron		OWNER: ELECTRON CORPORATION, THE			
ADDRESS: 5101 S RIO GRANDE ST Littleton, CO 80120		PO BOX 318 LITTLETON CO 80160			
		TOWNSHIP 5S	RANGE 68W	SECTION 16 NW 1/4 NW 1/4	
HISTORIC NAME: Leyner Engineering Works		U.S.G.S. QUAD NAME: Littleton, Colo. YEAR: 1965 (r. 1994) X 7.5' 15'			
DISTRICT NAME:		BLOCK: N/A LOT(S): M&B ADDITION: N/A YR. OF ADDITION: N/A			
FILM ROLL NO.: 97-16 BY: Roger Whitacre	NEGATIVE NO.: 34	LOCATION OF NEGA		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ESTIMATE: ACTUAL: 1903-1960s SOURCE: Sanborn Maps, Electron	
	USE: PRESENT: Industrial HISTORIC: Industrial				
		EON		CONDITION: EXCELLENT X GOOD FAIR DETERIORATING EXTENT OF ALTERATIONS: MINOR MODERATE X MAJOR DESCRIBE: Large sections of factory added after Electron acquired property in 1948.	
STYLE: No Style (Factory/War	rehouse)			CONTINUED YES X NO	
STILL. No Style (Factory/Warehouse)		1	CORIES:	ORIGINAL SITE X MOVED DATE(S) OF MOVE:	
MATERIALS: Metal, Brick, Concrete). FOOTAGE:	NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY	
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: Massive industrial complex c	INDIVIDUAL: YES X NO				
Massive industrial complex consisting of multiple connected buildings of varied height and roof shapes. Buildings clad with metal siding, also brick buildings,				CONTRIBUTING TO DISTRICT: YES NO	
and rectangular office with walls clad with white Roman brick.				LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION: No	
				NAME: DATE:	
	ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS? X YES NO TYPE: Industrial				
	CONTINUED? YES	X NO	IF INVENTORIED, LIST ID NOS.:		
ADDITIONAL PAGES: YES					

PLAN SHAPE: ARCHITECT: STATE ID NO.: 5AH176 Unknown ORIGINAL OWNER. Leyner Engineering Works SOURCE: SOURCE: Sanborn Maps BUILDER/CONTRACTOR . Unknown THEME (S) : SOURCE: Rail Era: Rail Town Physical Form, 1870-1920

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY (DESCRIPTION, NAMES, DATES, ETC., RELATING TO MAJOR ALTERATIONS TO ORIGINAL STRUCTURE): The present complex incorporated and enveloped two 1903 buildings with a variety of large additions in the 1950s and 1960s.

> CONTINUED YES X NO

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (DISCUSS IMPORTANT PERSONS AND EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS STRUCTURE): This large manufacturing complex of the Electron Corp. incorporates two buildings built in 1903 as part of the Leyner Engineering Works. The buildings appear on the 1908 Sanborn map, identified as a machine shop and a boiler shop, as part of the nine-building manufacturing complex. J. George Leyner was a Boulder County, Colorado, native who worked in engineering jobs in Black Hawk, Longmont, and Denver before becoming the sole owner of a machine shop in 1891. In mid-1890s, Leyner began to develop a line of mining equipment, including rock drills and compressors. In 1902, Leyner incorporated as J. George Leyner Engineering Works Co. and completed a \$150,000 plant at Littleton in 1903. The company was acquired by the Ingersoll-Rand Co. in 1912 which continued operating the plant until 1931. In 1935, the headquarters of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), a Depression-era public works program occupied the complex. The site was bought in 1945 by O.K. Co-Operative Rubber Welding System, which sold these buildings to Electron Corp. in 1948. Electron had its origins in 1938 as APCO Inc. (Animated Products Co., Inc.), a company which manufactured electrical and advertising signs. The company became Electron Corp. in 1941 and converted to a machine shop operation during World War II. The company acquired the Littleton site in 1948 and undertook a substantial expansion in the postwar period, including a machine shop, sheet metal operations, and foundries with electrical furnaces. See photo sequence.

> CONTINUED YES NO Х

SIGNIFICANCE (CHECK APPROPRIATE CATEGORIES AND BRIEFLY JUSTIFY BELOW):

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUES

REPRESENTS A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNIFICANT PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OR PATTERNS

CONTRIBUTES TO AN HISTORIC DISTRICT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE.

This complex is associated with the industrial history of Littleton, the first buildings having been erected in 1903 by Leyner Engineering Works. Alterations as a result of industrial expansion have diminished the historic integrity of the historic buildings within the complex.

> CONTINUED VES Х NO

REFERENCES (BE SPECIFIC):

Arapahoe County Assessor records; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps; Littleton Historical Museum files, "Electron: A Story of Continuing Growth."

> CONTINUED YES Х NO

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

AFFILIATION: Front Range Research Associates, Inc.

DATE: October 1997