

JAN 08 2016

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Falls Stamping and Welding Building

Other names/site number: Lange Portable Electric Welding Co. Building

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 1701 South Front Street

City or town: Cuyahoga Falls State: Ohio County: Summit

Not For Publication: NA Vicinity: NA

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B X C ___ D

<u>Barbara Powers</u> DSHPO Inventory & Registration <u>Dec 28, 2015</u>	
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History Connection</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Patrick Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

2/23/2016
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/ manufacturing facility = factory

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Modern Movement

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Steel, Glass

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Falls Stamping and Welding Building was built in 1928 as a one-story Production Shed and is an example of industrial modernism of the Modern Movement. The brick building is sited on a rectangular lot near the city center of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. The rear of the lot backs up to the Cuyahoga River, once an important source of power for area industry. The building has an open rectangular plan with a double height central bay. The building is lit with clerestory windows along the north and south sides. The building occupies nearly the entire site. Its front façade sits directly at the sidewalk line. The north side has a narrow yard and the south wall rests directly on the property line. The east side falls steeply to the river behind the building. The property retains significant integrity in terms of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship.

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Narrative Description

The Falls Stamping and Welding Company building was constructed in 1928 as a one-story Production Shed, with a partial basement. This type of structure is sometimes referred to as a “mill building” because of its association with late 19th-century structures that housed iron or textile mills. By the turn of the 20th century, the term “mill building” came to refer to types of construction materials used; an open space plan with wide bays; and robust structural framing to support industrial equipment such as overhead, traveling cranes.

The building is located at 1701 South Front Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, and sits on a steeply sloping site, on the west bank of the Cuyahoga River (Continuation Sheet 1). The rectangular building nearly fills the site. Its longitudinal axis is oriented east-west with its short elevations facing South Front Street to the west, and the river to the east (Photos 1 and 3).

The building has a gable roof with a raised monitor of clerestory windows running the entire length of the building (Continuation Sheets 4 and 5). The overall form of the building is rectangular in plan measuring 100'- 8-1/2" in length and 61'- 3" in width. It is five structural bays long by three structural bays wide and has a total of 8,500 square feet (Continuation Sheet 2). The exterior walls are vertical texture brick masonry, two wythes thick and laid in common bond, with a Flemish header course every 7th course. The windows, clerestory monitor, and curtain wall are industrial style steel sash. It was constructed using a steel frame.

The street-front, west elevation is flat (Photo 2). The center bay is wider than the other two and features a raised parapet concealing the end of the monitor. The upper part of the wall in this bay is undecorated and once featured a sign board (Continuation Sheet 6). The lower part of the center bay has three features: a garage door opening, a large multi-lite steel sash window, and a single man-door. The low parapets of the side bays follow the roof line. Each bay of the parapet is distinguished by a skyward projecting segment, marking the structural column lines, four in total. All portions of the parapet are capped with a stone coping. Each of the flanking side bays has a single multi-lite window. Each of the three large windows is subdivided vertically into three sections by wide mullions. Each section is three lites wide by five lites high. The center section has a six lite, three wide by two high, operating sash. A soldier course brick band acts as a continuous header across the three windows and the garage door opening. The steel sash windows are extant. Restoration of these windows is underway. All of the windows have projecting brick sills. The original man-door and frame has been replaced. The man-door opening has a single rowlock course of brick at the lintel.

The north elevation consists of a low brick wall, approximately 3 ½ feet high, surmounted by a projecting brick sill supporting a curtain wall of steel sash windows (Continuation Sheet 5). The sash is divided vertically into units, four lites wide by five lites tall, by wide mullions. The steel and glass curtain wall has been recently restored. The steel frame structure allows for the glass curtain wall to run continuous from end to end and to the edge of the roof line. The only

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feature that interrupts this line on the first floor of the north elevation is a garage door opening in the second bay from the west. The garage door opening has a surround of brick that stops short of the roof line, so that a single row of glass lites continues across the top of it (Photo 7). The original folding/swinging doors were replaced by an overhead door, about 1963. At the east end of the north elevation, the sloping topography exposes part of the basement wall. This partial lower level elevation features a man-door, and a pair of over-sized steel doors. It was partially obscured by a later, non-contributing shed addition that no longer exists.

At the south elevation, an addition, constructed between 1931 and 1948, was located perpendicular to the south facade. It covered roughly three-fifths of the length of the south elevation, beginning at the west end. The addition was demolished about 1963, and the wall was then in-filled with concrete block. Later, the concrete block was covered with a veneer of brick. The two bays at the east end of the south façade still retain original features, and were not altered by the addition or its removal. The east end bay of the south façade has a plain square chimney, and large window on each of the first floor and basement levels. Also on this elevation is evidence of an in-filled door just west of the lower level window.

The east elevation is two stories high with a fully-raised basement level; the first floor is above the walk-out basement (Photo 4). It is subdivided vertically by simple pilasters, with three bays of openings. The roof line and parapets are similar to those on the west elevation. The openings have concealed steel lintels and the projecting brick sills typical of all non-clerestory windows. The first floor, upper level, has a large steel sash window composed of five sections, four lites wide, by four lites high. The center and end sections have operating sash. The flanking bays have windows on the first floor level, three sections wide, with the same lite divisions. The lower, basement level has two openings in the center bay and one in each of the side bays. The northernmost bay has a large window opening with a projecting brick sill. All of the windows at this level are missing. The southernmost window opening was at one time altered to extend to the floor level. This was done to either to create a garage door, or to open the floor area into an addition. The wall below this window opening had been infilled with concrete block to the same height as the opposite sill. The current owner is in the process of restoring the windows to the proper sill height with matching brick below the sills. The center bay has two openings, separated by a one story high pilaster. The opening to the north is a garage door opening; the one to the south is identical to the opening in the adjacent bay. There is evidence on this elevation of a one story shed addition, now removed.

The main floor level is an open rectangular plan on grade with South Front Street. Its double height central bay, the crane-bay, is expressed with clerestory windows of the monitor along the north and south elevations, allowing natural light into the space (Photos 5 and 6). The crane-bay is flanked by single-story shed-roofed portions, with their slopes beginning directly beneath the clerestory windows. The building's steel frame is made up of wide flange steel members. A single row of steel columns separates the central crane-bay from the side bays. Each bay is a wide aisle, allowing for well lit, uninterrupted manufacturing spaces. The steel structure is exposed, including the corrugated steel roof deck. The floor is concrete slab, on grade, except

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where it extends over the partial basement. The floor over the basement is supported by steel beams and steel joist framing. The interior walls of the main level feature exposed brick. In some locations the steel structure is engaged into the masonry. The lower level walls are also exposed brick, except for the west wall which is clay tile masonry.

A traveling crane remains in the central bay. This feature is supported by large steel beams running the length of the building just below the clerestory windows. The clerestory windows are operated on each side by levers attached to a long rod. The rod is rotated by a pulley system that could be controlled from the floor by a long loop of chain. The levers, rods, and pulleys are still in place, only the chains are missing.

The basement was originally accessed by an L-shaped stair in the northeast corner and occupies a smaller footprint than the first floor. The basement consists of a concrete floor area with high ceilings, previously utilized for storage, and an unexcavated space with a low ceiling where the structure is built into the slope of the terrain (Continuation Sheet 3). The basement structure is three structural bays long by four structural bays wide. The portion of the basement designated for storage measures approximately 30' in length and 61' in width and has a total of approximately 1,800 square feet. The floor structure is a concrete slab on grade. Like on the first floor, steel columns separate the bays and provide open space for manufacturing activities and equipment. The steel columns support steel beams and exposed steel bar joist framing.

The building occupies almost the entire site. Its front façade sits directly at the line of the sidewalk. The north side has a narrow yard, roughly 20 feet wide, and the south wall rests on the property line. The east side of the property falls away steeply to the river below. The building is the only structure on the property. There are no formal landscape features.

The building retains the integrity of its setting, and the majority of the original architectural features. The interior retains its original open plan, center crane-bay, and daylighting features. The only significant alterations relate to the additions and losses of those additions. The overall form is unchanged from its original 1928 construction. The building retains a high level of integrity represented in existing, original features that are characteristic of a Production Shed building type. These features include the use of concrete, steel, and brick to create open, uninterrupted manufacturing spaces lit by natural light with large steel sash (Photos 6 and 7).

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Industry
Architecture

Period of Significance
1928-1962

Significant Dates
1928

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Built in 1928, the Falls Stamping and Welding Building is a significant example of broad patterns of development related to the industrial history of Cuyahoga Falls (Criterion A). This industrial history is directly related to the topography of the river, with the power of the fall of the water that was harnessed for industry resulting in the much of the community's industries locating along the river. What began initially with mills, eventually led to a series of dams

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generating hydro-electric power supplying a diverse industrial center. The nominated property is one of the last standing industrial buildings on the river in Cuyahoga Falls. The building was utilized for metal repair and fabrication and marks a period of population growth fueled by regional development related to the tire and rubber industry. Additionally, the building has distinct characteristics of a Production Shed, an industrial building type developed in the early 20th century (Criterion C). Key features of the type are the high structural bay, long open floor plan, and the expansive amount of industrial windows. Industry was the earliest adopter of the Modern Movement. At a time when most residential and commercial architecture was still focused on classical styles, the industrial modernism of the Modern Movement favored functional open floor plans, and minimal architectural embellishment. The focus of the Production Shed building type was simple modern styling, efficient work space, and maximum fresh air and daylighting to provide for worker's comfort and safety. The building is representative of its period on terms of function and style, and retains a high degree of integrity in its remaining original materials, as well as its site and setting near the commercial and industrial heart of Cuyahoga Falls, the Cuyahoga River. The Period of Significance for the Falls Stamping and Welding Building spans from its initial construction by the Lange family in 1928 through 1962 when the building was no longer under the ownership of the Lange family.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Cuyahoga Falls Settlement and Early Industry

The Falls Stamping and Welding Building is located in City of Cuyahoga Falls in Summit County, Ohio. Located in the northeast quadrant of the state, Summit County developed rapidly in the first half of the 19th century because of the construction of the Ohio & Erie Canal which ran by Cuyahoga Falls, less than 3 miles from Falls Stamping & Welding Building. The village of Cuyahoga Falls was settled in the year 1812 on two square miles of land on the banks of the Cuyahoga River (a Native American term that means "crooked"). The location was the junction of four townships: Stow, Northampton, Tallmadge, and Portage. The village was originally called Manchester, but because there were several other settlements with the same name, it was changed to Cuyahoga Falls in ca. 1836 (Sequin 7).

The location along the river was a promising site for industry. The river here descended over 200 feet. The falls, called "Coppacaw" by Native Americans, were a natural source of power. This source of water power attracted developers of early mills to the location. The river below the falls was navigable to Lake Erie, and within a decade it was connected to markets via the Ohio and Erie Canal just west of the village.

The Wetmore-Stow mill, built in 1815, became the first major industry in Cuyahoga Falls. This saw and gristmill was run by William Wetmore and Joshua Stow, and was powered by the first fall of the river. Within a short time period, dams were constructed to help power industry. The first dam across the river was located at the Bailey Road crossing. The dam was constructed

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in 1825 by Francis Kelsey and Issac Wilcox, who used it to power mills that processed and produced lumber, grain and linseed oil (Heintz 21).

By 1836, the city of Cuyahoga Falls consisted of two small paper mills, a flour mill, two sawmills, a pump-making establishment, a tilt-hammer, axe and scythe factory, a woolen mill, a chair factory, a lumber-finishing mill, a furnace and foundry plant, and an engineering and machine shop. All of these businesses prospered on the power the river produced (Heintz 23). A year later, three dams harnessed the power of the river for industry. Four decades later, five dams had been created within a distance of a quarter of a mile of each other creating an estimated 3,460 units of horsepower (Heintz 23). A 1910 county atlas map shows these five dams, one located just north of Portage Street, and four between Broad and Chestnut Streets. In 1912, the Northern Ohio Traction & Light Railway Company (NOT&L) built a new 57 foot dam for hydro-electric power in an area of the river called the Gorge, south of the other dams. In 1913, a devastating flood destroyed or severely damaged nearly all of the dams on the Cuyahoga. Four were rebuilt by 1915, including the NOT&L dam.

Throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries the village of Cuyahoga Falls continued to grow and prosper. Eventually, other sources of power replaced that of water power, and the industries did not necessarily need to locate near the river. However, the river continued to be the core of the commercial and industrial development of the City. Newer development, located near the established companies, maintained the City commercial core until well into the 20th century. Development in Cuyahoga Falls in the early 20th century also experienced growth due to the rapid expansion of the rubber and tire industry in nearby Akron, just south of the Cuyahoga River. Supporting companies supplying machinery, materials and parts developed throughout the region, including the nominated property which is associated with metal fabrication and repair.

Akron grew northward to the limits of the Cuyahoga, and Cuyahoga Falls expanded to encompass the north side of the Cuyahoga River. Eventually, Cuyahoga Falls expanded to encompass all of Northampton Township. Today the community occupies over 25 square miles and has a population of just over 49,000 residents.

The Falls Stamping and Welding Company

The nominated property was built in 1928 by the Lange Family to house the Lange Portable Electric Welding Company. By 1931, the business would expand to create the Falls Stamping Company, eventually incorporating both as the Falls Stamping and Welding Company. In 1918, the family of Frank A. Lange first appears in the listings of the Cuyahoga Falls city directories. Lange, then 46 years old, was an immigrant from Italy, having arrived in the US in 1889, when he was just 7 years old. Frank A. Lange is listed as employed by the Northern Ohio Traction & Light Railway Company (NOT&L). In the 1920 Census records, his job at NOTL is listed as Foreman. Three other members of his household are also listed in the 1918 City Directory, his wife Mary, and Frank E. (Ernest) and John Lange, their sons. Both of the sons are also listed as

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employed by NOT&L. The NOT&L ran streetcars, interurban railways, and provided electric power.

Certainly, the Lange family's move to the area was for the jobs available at the NOT&L, a major employer in the area. The NOT&L prosperity at this time is related to the rapid economic expansion in the area due to the rubber industry boom in nearby Akron. From 1910 to 1920 the expansion of the area rubber industry spurred rapid growth and thousands of new residents arrived each month to fill area industry jobs. After the end of WWI, a time when other regions of the country were still sluggishly recovering or even downsizing after the war effort, the rubber industry growth offered postwar opportunities (Burch 1919: 79).

The NOT&L provided transportation to the factories for the workers, and power and light for the rapidly increasing number of houses. The NOT&L had a large car barn and power plant at the north end of Front Street. The NOT&L also owned a site on South Front Street on the west bank of the Cuyahoga River, associated with the 1912 hydro-electric dam, just south of the present site of the Falls Stamping and Welding Company Building. A possible second reason for the Lange family settlement in the area of Cuyahoga Falls is its proximity to the North Hill area of Akron, an area heavily populated by Italian Americans.

In 1919, a year after moving to Cuyahoga Falls, Frank E. (Ernest) Lange, at the age of 21, founded the Lange Portable Electric Welding Company. He established a shop immediately south of the site of the subject property on South Front Street. The lot on which the welding shop sat was a portion of the property owned by NOT&L railway. In the 1919 city directory, John Lange is listed as now working at the welding company. Frank A. is now the only member of the household still working at the NOT&L. In the 1920 Census, the household is headed by Frank A. Lange, age 48. Also listed are his wife Mary 42, sons Earnest (Frank E.) 22, John 17, Chester 13, Anthony 12, Frank (J.)10, and a daughter, Mary 6. Also listed in the household are a widowed son-in-law Anthony Baramo 25, and a lodger Guy Baramo 24. Ernest Lange (Frank E.) is listed in the Census record as proprietor of a machine shop, (Lange Portable Electric Welding) and John Lange is listed as a laborer at the shop. Frank J. Lange's obituary from 1997 stated that the Falls Stamping and Welding Company was founded by the five Lange brothers, with their father Frank A. Lange.

Advertisements from the company stated "Electric Welding a Specialty, Done Anywhere on Your Job." They also provided Oxy-Acetelyn Welding and Cutting, a process that utilizes oxygen and fuel gas to produce a high temperature torch flame to weld and cut metal. The portable nature of the company's equipment meant that they could make repairs on the site of the customer, and they boasted the availability of 24 hour service. The company continued to operate in a frame building on the east side of South Front Street, between the Marathon Rubber Company Factory to the north (no longer existing) and the NOT&L property to the south, until 1928 when the new building was constructed.

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In 1928, the company expanded operations and constructed the subject building to house both the Lange Portable Electric Welding Company and the Falls Stamping Company. The new building occupied a site immediately north of the existing frame structure. The new facility, however, was a completely separate and freestanding structure. Advertisements featuring a photo of the new facility were placed in the city directory. The new structure was a steel frame Production Shed (or Mill Building) type. It was constructed with a tall center crane bay, and had a skin of vertical cut brick and steel sash windows. Visible in the advertisement's image are a set of large folding or swinging doors on the front of the building as well as the side. These large doors were intended to allow fabricated goods to be readily loaded onto trucks for delivery. The advertisement continued to tout the services of the Lange Portable Electric Welding Company, citing boiler welding as a key service. It also listed the stamping division as manufacturers of "metal gaskets and structural shapes."

The Lange family continued to operate and expand their business on the site through 1962. Eventually all of the younger Lange children would be employed by the firm. Between 1931 and 1948 the original frame building originally used by the company was demolished and a large addition was constructed on the south elevation of the 1928 building, covering the site of the original frame structure. This addition may have been a response to the needs of production during WWII. The Lange Family and their companies filed several patents for products and improvements. Patents included improvements to wheels and bearings, as well as prefabricated stamped metal canopies and awnings. The diversity of the patents is an indication of the variety of products produced by the company.

A list of the known history of occupancy and ownership regarding the nominated property follows. Note that the company name changes several times using the Lange Portable Electric Company (1919-1931), and the Lange Portable Electric Welding Company concurrently with the Falls Stamping Company (1931-1935). Also occasionally, the names F.E. Lange Company or F.E. Lange Portable Electric Welding Company appears in advertising. The company incorporated in 1936 and from 1936 until 1962 only used the Falls Stamping and Welding Company name. The deed for the building was transferred into the name of the corporation on May 29th 1936.

- FE Lange Company/Lange Portable Electric Welding Company (1928-1935)
- Falls Stamping Company (1931-1935)
- Falls Stamping & Welding (1936-1962)
- Humble Oil (south addition site only 1963 -)
- Buckeye Metals (1966-1972)
- Congo Corporation (1966-1978)
- Industrial Tool & Machine Co. (1982-2000)
- B. Collins (2002-2014)
- Arkay Properties (2014-Present)

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Between 1962 and 1966 Falls Stamping and Welding Company sold the property. In 1963, the south addition was demolished for the construction of a gas station on the site of the original frame structure.

The 1928 production shed, however, continued to house various metal works and other industrial business through the duration of its operating life. The present owner, Arkay Properties, intends to rehabilitate the property for office use.

At the time of the construction of the Falls Stamping and Welding Company Building there were four hydro-electric dams on the Cuyahoga River between Portage Street and the Gorge. Three were owned, or possibly shared, by individual industries and one by the NOT&L. NOT&L eventually became Ohio Edison, and then today's First Energy Corporation. The likely source of power for the Falls Stamping and Welding Building was the NOT&L hydro-electric dam. The following is a summary of the industries and the associated hydro-electric dams that existed in 1928, illustrating the concentration of industry along the river. Most of these companies closed in the 1960's and 70's. Many of the sites on the east side of the river were acquired by the city and eventually they were demolished for limited access freeway improvements to State Route 8. The buildings on the west side of the river have been replaced by newer development. Only the Falls Stamping and Welding Company Building, the Powerhouse of the Falls Hollow Staybolt Factory, and one structure of the Falls Rubber Company remain. The only dam still extant is the NOT&L dam; however, it ceased electric power generating operations in 1958.

Falls Clutch & Machinery - demolished

Falls Hollow Staybolt Company - demolished, dam demolished 2013, only the powerhouse remains

Falls Rubber Company – demolished except for one building

Lange Portable Electric Welding Company (Falls Stamping & Welding Company)

Marathon Tire & Rubber Company - demolished

NOT&L – Car Barn & Power Plant - demolished

NOT&L – Gorge Dam – associated power plant demolished

Turner, Vaughn & Taylor (Vaughn Machinery) - demolished, dam demolished 2013

Walsh Lumber Mill - demolished

Walsh Paper Mill – demolished, dam demolished

Western Reserve Robe & Tanning Company –demolished

Production Shed Building Type

With an emphasis on volume and regularity in massing, as opposed to symmetry and ornament, the Production Shed building type is a key development of the industrial modernism of the Modern Movement (Bradley 244). The Production Shed, sometimes called a “mill building” because of association with late 19th century structures that housed iron or textile mills, is a type of industrial structure characterized by an open space plan with wide bays for fabrication and assembly that typically involved large equipment such as overhead cranes.

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Production Sheds are constructed with structural steel framing; functional concrete and brick masonry; and large steel sash windows to provide ample lighting for work activities.

In the first part of the 20th century, industrial buildings in the United States took on an engineered aesthetic due to increasing functional requirements for light, space, and equipment. Industry was the first area to embrace European modernism and abandon decorative architectural styles. The engineering focused designs became part of the machinery itself, the “master machine” responding to highly functional requirements that supported the activities of industry. Architect Albert Kahn, who designed assembly-line factories for Henry Ford, led the development of the industrial building type in the first part of the 20th century. He sums up the movement as thus, “Industrial architecture must necessarily deal with the practical first, with proper functioning of the plant, with best working conditions, efficiency and flexibility, with economical and safe construction, and only last with external appearance,” (Bradley 255).

The 1928 Falls Stamping and Welding Building is an excellent example of the Production Shed type. It is a single story, keeping all of the production on one level. The overall form has a high center crane bay, common in the type. The steel structural frame allows for a large column free space in the center where the production occurred, supported by the traveling crane that could be used to move heavy materials along an assembly line. The crane could also be used to load product onto trucks for distribution at the large front door.

The steel frame also allowed the walls to be large expanses of glass. With the steel frame, heavy masonry walls were not needed to support the roof, so the “curtain wall” developed as a result. As defined, a curtain wall is non-bearing, attached to, or hung from, the steel frame. This skin could be any number of materials, masonry, concrete, metal, or glass. In the case of the Falls Stamping and Welding Building, it is a combination of brick with glass above. The windows are steel frame sash that allow for narrow frames and large areas of glass. Steel sash were popular in urban areas and for industrial buildings (Continuation Sheet 10). They were lightweight and strong, allowed for increased daylight, were fire resistant, and economical to install. There were a number of manufacturers, among them Bayley (Springfield, Ohio), Lupton (Philadelphia), Crittall (Detroit), Fenestra (Detroit), Hope’s (Jamestown, New York), and Truscon (Youngstown). Most sash were delivered to the site primed and unglazed, and were then painted and glazed on site. Frames were commonly modular allowing for the same size of glass in every pane. Glass choice was typically thick, 1/8” to 1/4”, sometimes textured, or where needed for fire resistance, wired.

The windows at Falls Stamping and Welding have simple center pivoting operating sash to allow for ventilation. The high bay clerestory windows are the same type, operated by a pulley and chains to allow hot air and fumes to rise and escape the building. As the hot air rose and escaped, fresh air was drawn in at the lower sash, continuously keeping a flow of ventilation in the factory. An early advertisement for Fenestra windows, which were manufactured in Detroit, promoted the benefits to factory owners and workers, “Capitalize daylight – make it pay you dividends. Fenestra Solid Steel Windows are the sure medium for flooding every nook and

Falls Stamping and Welding Building
Name of Property

Summit County, Ohio
County and State

corner of your factory , warehouse, or office, with light, They insure better work, prevent time losses, eliminate the big percentage of accidents caused by poor lighting, In short, Fenestra Windows make daylight your factory manager. Ventilation, weathering, and fire insurance are additional assets.”

Despite alterations to the exterior south wall, the Falls Stamping & Welding building remains largely intact, possessing much of its design integrity, and representing the key features of the building type. It retains its location, and the setting is little changed. Its overall form is intact, and the open plan interior is intact. Missing are most of the original doors. Many of the windows, though original, are covered temporarily with plywood due to broken glass. The current owner is undertaking window restoration.

Summary

The Falls Stamping and Welding building through its simple, minimally, decorated construction and open interiors represents the architectural style of the period, a style of Industrial Modernism. It is representative of the Production Shed building type, (Bradley) and is one of the last standing industrial buildings on the river in Cuyahoga Falls. In the context of Cuyahoga Falls history, it is one of the later industrial structures, before industry began to locate away from the river, and away from the center of the City. The location was near other industries, such as the Marathon Tire Company and the Vaughn Machinery Plant, the Walsh Lumber Mill, the Falls Hollow Staybolt Company, and the Walsh Paper Mill. Many of these businesses utilized hydro-electric power generated by dams on the river. In the 1960s, these industries began to disappear, and buildings were replaced by other development, or demolished for highway construction. Recently, two of the last remaining dams were removed. The Falls Stamping and Welding Company is a last reminder of the concentration of industry that once lined the Cuyahoga River here and the reason for the development of Cuyahoga Falls.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Falls Stamping and Welding Building
Name of Property

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County and State

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- Vogenitz, Carolyn. *Cuyahoga Falls, Then & Now*. Akron. Waterside Publishing 2002
- United States. Census Bureau. "Frank Lange." Washington: GPO, 1920. Print.
- United States. Census Bureau. "Anthony Lange." Washington: GPO, 1930. Print.
- United States. Census Bureau. "John Lange." Washington: GPO, 1940. Print.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Falls Stamping and Welding Building
Name of Property

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County and State

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Summit County Public Library Special Collections and Summit County Fiscal Office

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .26

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Latitude: Longitude:

Latitude: Longitude:

Latitude: Longitude:

Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

Zone: 17 Easting: 459274 Northing: 4552854

Zone: Easting: Northing:

Zone: Easting: Northing:

Zone: Easting : Northing:

Falls Stamping and Welding Building
Name of Property

Summit County, Ohio
County and State

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries of the nominated property consist of Parcel No. 0203081 as recorded in the Office of the Summit County Auditor. The boundaries of this property are a roughly rectangular lot. The west edge is defined by the inside edge of the sidewalk at Front Street, with a frontage of 80 feet. The south boundary extends at a 90 degree angle from the west edge for 140 ft. The north boundary extends at a 90 degree angle from the west side for 151.48 ft. The east edge follows the river to complete the boundary.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property boundaries include the entire lot occupied by the Falls Stamping and Welding Building. Historically, this parcel was purchased in 1927 for the construction of the nominated building. The adjacent parcel to the south, historically associated with the company, was sold off in 1962, is now owned by the City of Cuyahoga Falls, and is not included in the boundaries.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Lauren Burge
organization: Chambers, Murphy & Burge
street & number: 43 E Market St #201
city or town: Akron state: OH zip code: 44308
e-mail lburge@cmbarchitects.com
telephone: 330.434.9300
date: 2015

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to

Falls Stamping and Welding Building
Name of Property

Summit County, Ohio
County and State

the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Falls Stamping and Welding Building

City or Vicinity: Cuyahoga Falls

County: Summit State: Ohio

Photographer: Lauren A. Pinney Burge

Date Photographed: June 2015; November 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 7 West elevation, (main elevation facing Front Street) and north elevation (side), view east.
- 2 of 7 West elevation, (main elevation facing Front Street), view east.
- 3 of 7 West elevation, (main elevation facing Front Street) and south elevation (side), view east.
- 4 of 7 East elevation, (rear elevation facing the Cuyahoga River) and north elevation (side), view west.
- 5 of 7 Interior view, facing east, 1st floor.
- 6 of 7 Interior view, facing west, 1st floor.
- 7 of 7 Interior view facing northeast, with steel sash and brick curtain wall visible, 1st floor.

Figure Log

Figure 1 (Continuation Sheet 1): Site Plan by David Pelligra & Architects, Inc.
and Photo Key

Figure 2 (Continuation Sheet 2): First Floor Plan by David Pelligra & Architects, Inc.
and Photo Key

Figure 3 (Continuation Sheet 3): Basement Plan by David Pelligra & Architects, Inc.
and Photo Key

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Figure 4 (Continuation Sheet 4): West and East Elevations by David Pelligra & Architects, Inc.

Figure 5 (Continuation Sheet 5): South and North Elevations by David Pelligra & Architects, Inc.

Figure 6 (Continuation Sheet 6): Historic Image, Burch City Directory (1928)

Figure 7 (Continuation Sheet 7): Sanborn Insurance Map (1927)

Figure 8 (Continuation Sheet 8): Sanborn Insurance Map (1931)

Figure 9 (Continuation Sheet 9): Sanborn Insurance Map (1931-1948)

Figure 10 (Continuation Sheet 10): Fenestra Steel Windows advertisements (1917 and 1918)

Figure 11 (Continuation Sheet 11): OHPO GIS Map

Figure 12 (Continuation Sheet 12): Google Earth Map

Figure 13 1921-1922 G.M. Hopkins Co. Map composite with industries and dam structures noted.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

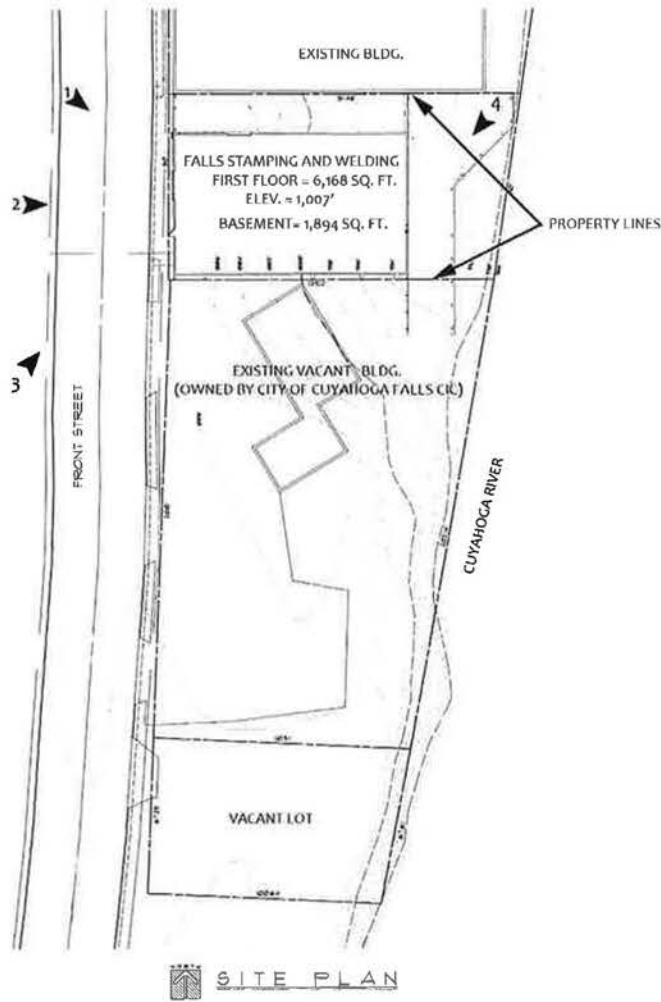
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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FALLS STAMPING & WELDING COMPANY
LANGE PORTABLE ELECTRIC WELDING COMPANY
EXISTING SITE PLAN AND PHOTO KEY



Base Drawings were prepared by David Pelligra & Architects, Inc.
and are used with permission

Fig. 1: SITE PLAN
PROVIDED BY DAVID PELLIGRA & ARCHITECTS
(and Photo Key)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

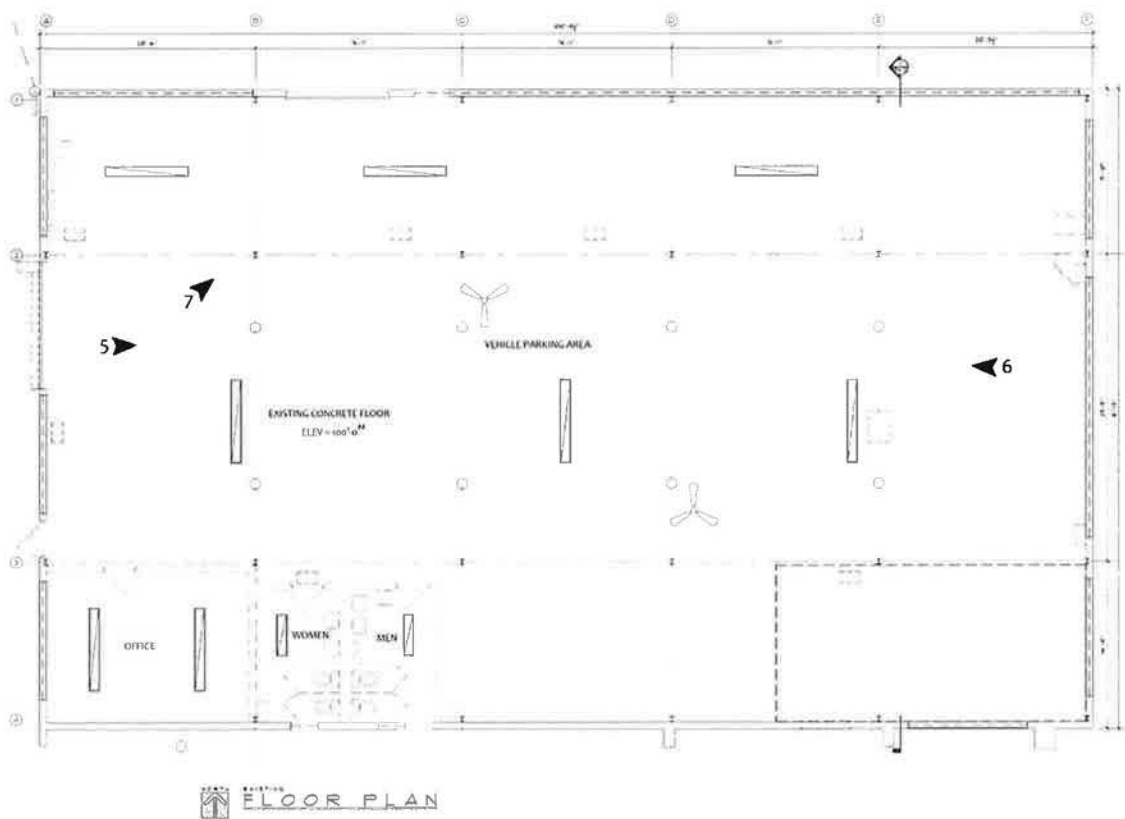
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FALLS STAMPING & WELDING COMPANY
LANGE PORTABLE ELECTRIC WELDING COMPANY
EXISTING FIRST FLOOR PLAN



Base Drawings were prepared by David Pelligra & Architects, Inc.
and are used with permission

Fig. 2: EXISTING CONDITIONS PLANS
PROVIDED BY DAVID PELLIGRA & ARCHITECTS
(and Photo Key)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

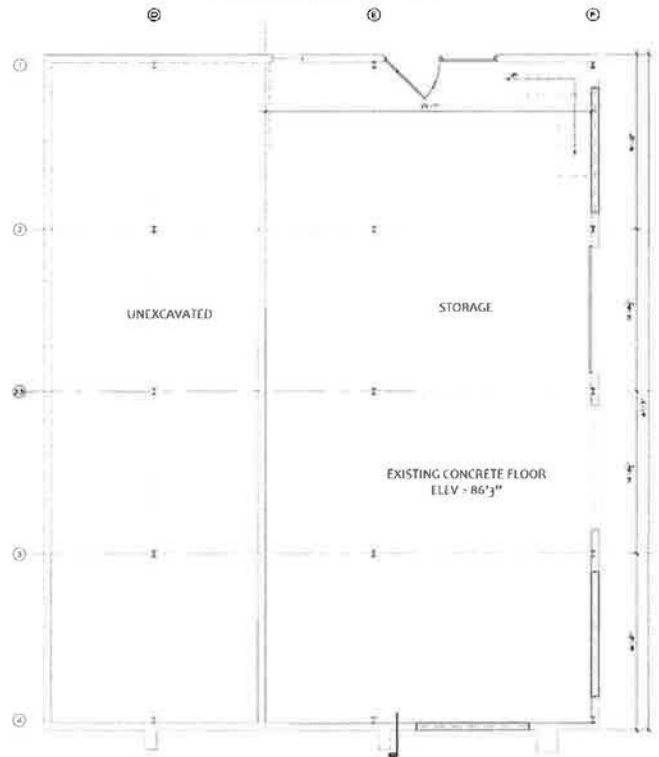
National Register of Historic Places
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Page 3

FALLS STAMPING & WELDING COMPANY
LANGE PORTABLE ELECTRIC WELDING COMPANY
EXISTING BASEMENT PLAN



EXISTING BASEMENT PLAN

Base Drawings were prepared by David Pelligra & Architects, Inc.
and are used with permission

Fig. 3: EXISTING CONDITIONS PLANS
PROVIDED BY DAVID PELLIGRA & ARCHITECTS

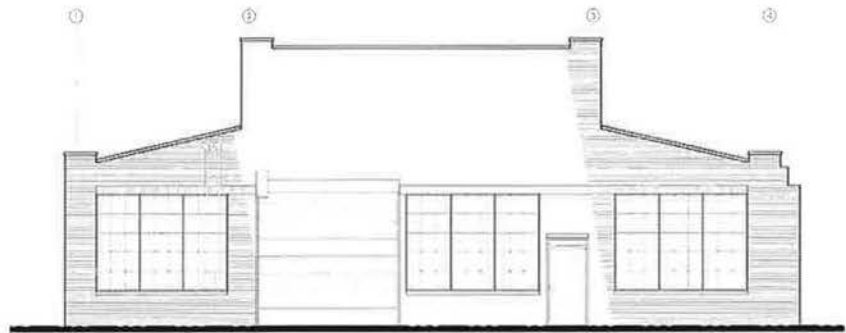
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ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

Fig. 4: EXISTING CONDITIONS ELEVATIONS
PROVIDED BY DAVID PELLIGRA & ARCHITECTS

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National Park Service

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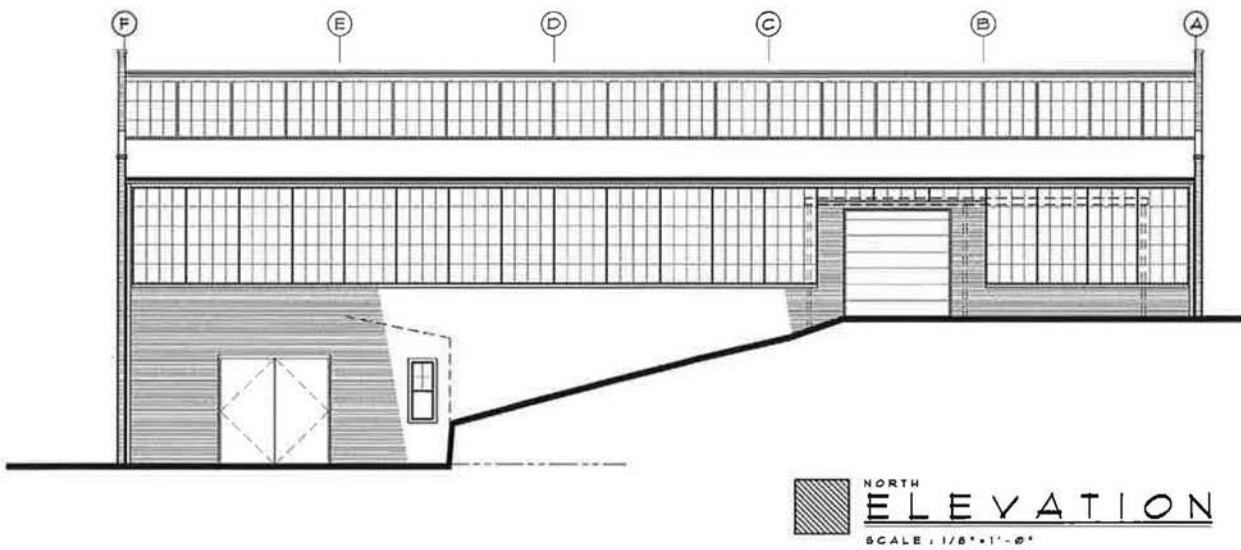
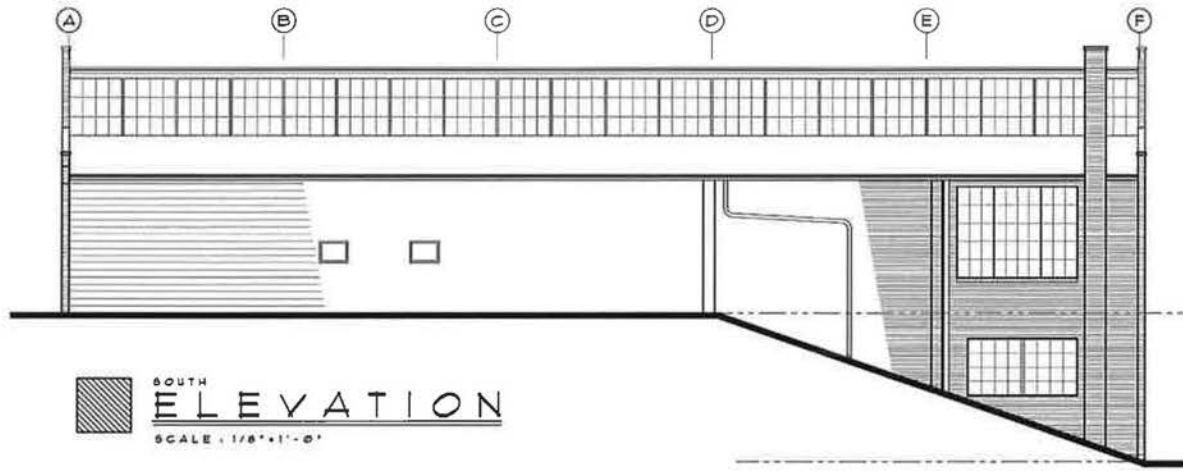


Fig. 5: EXISTING CONDITIONS ELEVATIONS
PROVIDED BY DAVID PELLIGRA & ARCHITECTS

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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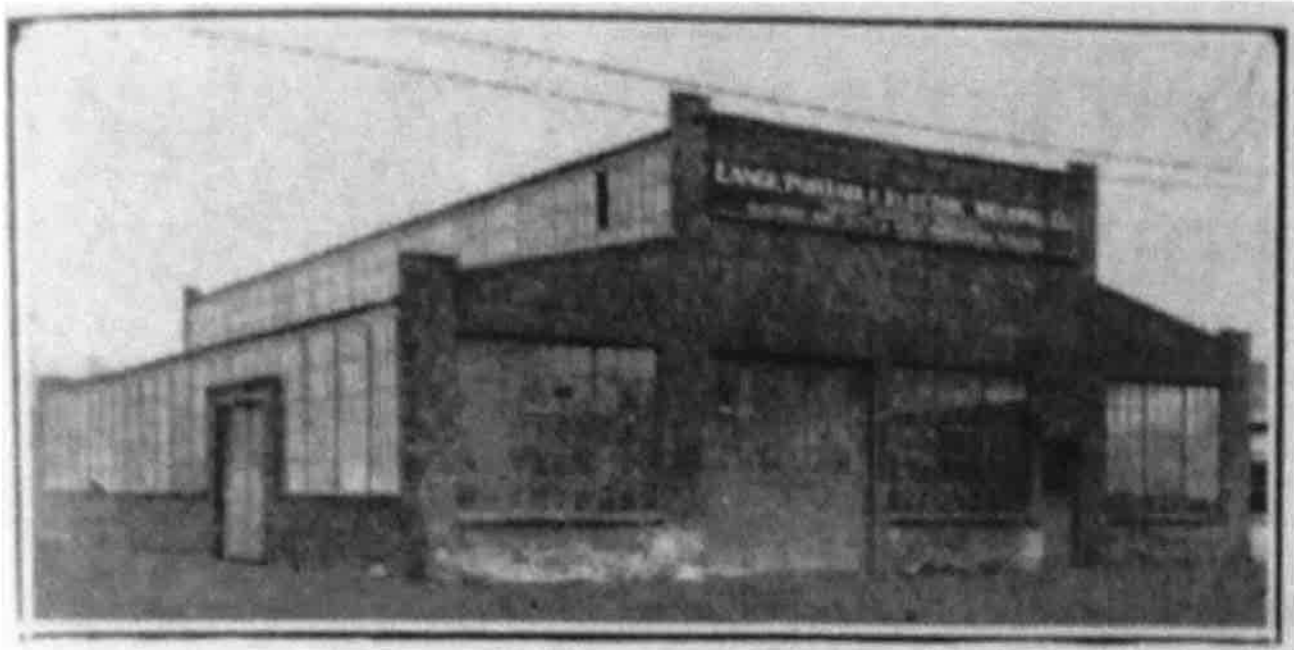


Fig. 6: HISTORIC IMAGE – SOURCE; BURCH CITY DIRECTORY 1928

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National Park Service

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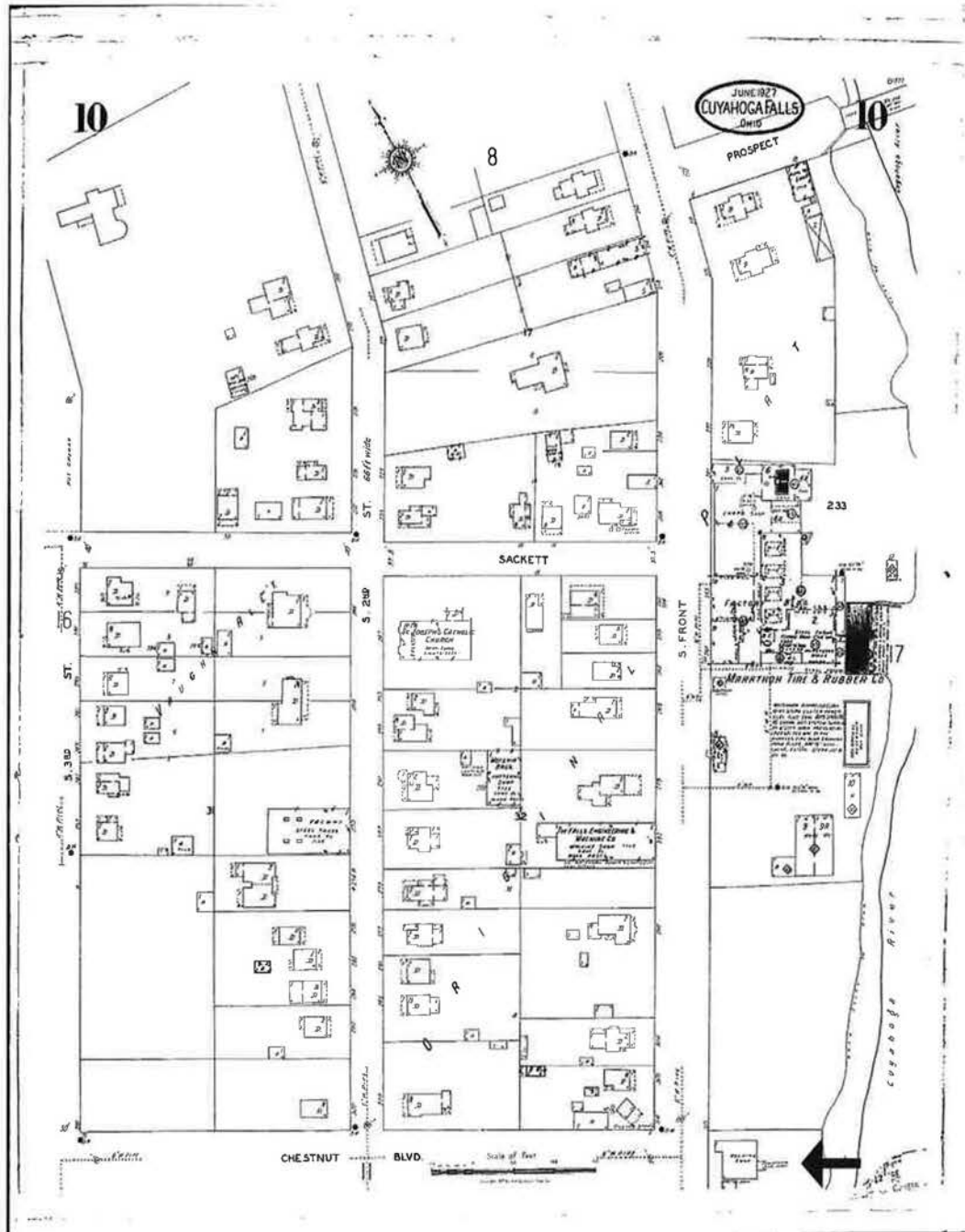


Fig. 7: SANBORN INSURANCE MAP 1927

United States Department of the Interior
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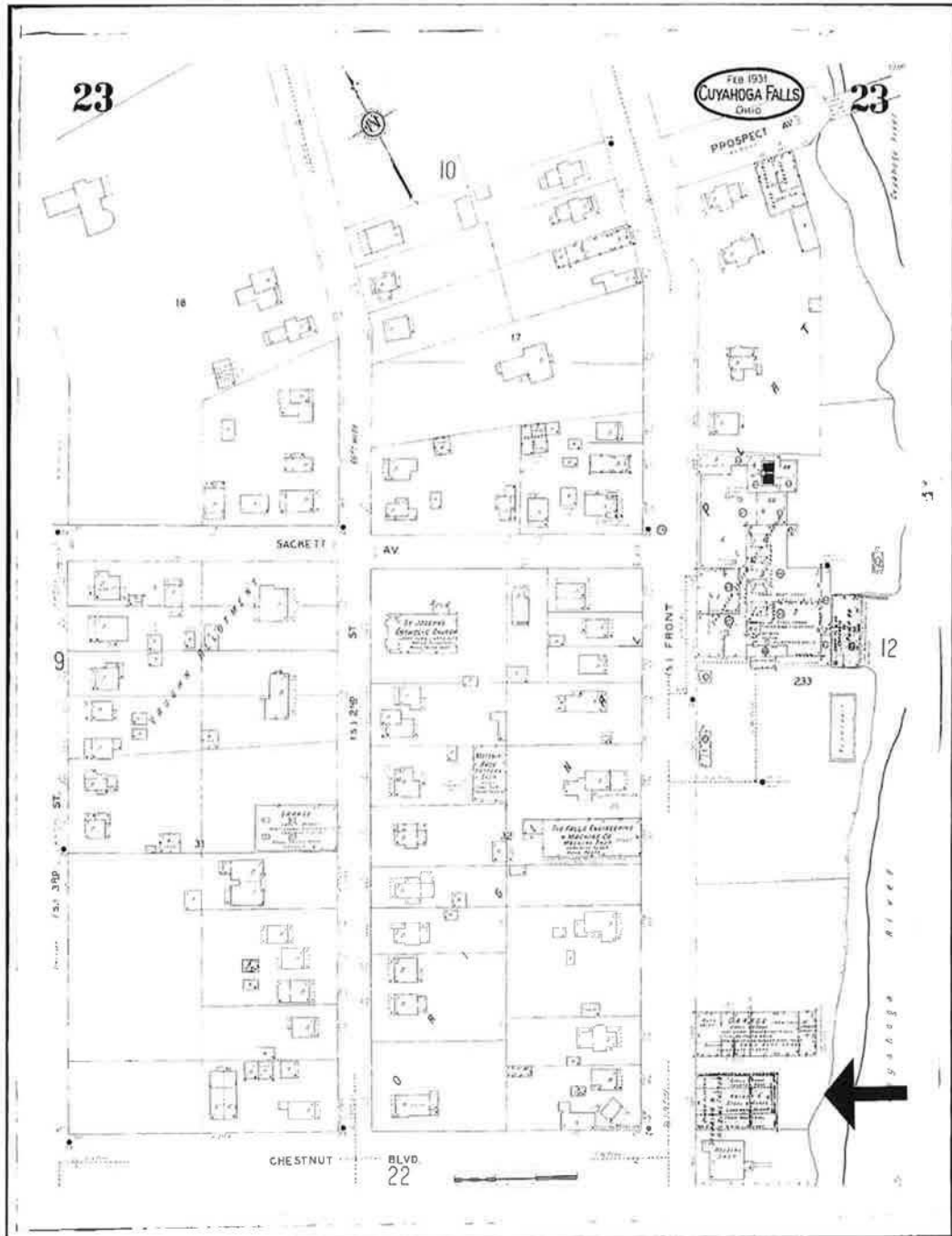


Fig. 8: SANBORN INSURANCE MAP 1931

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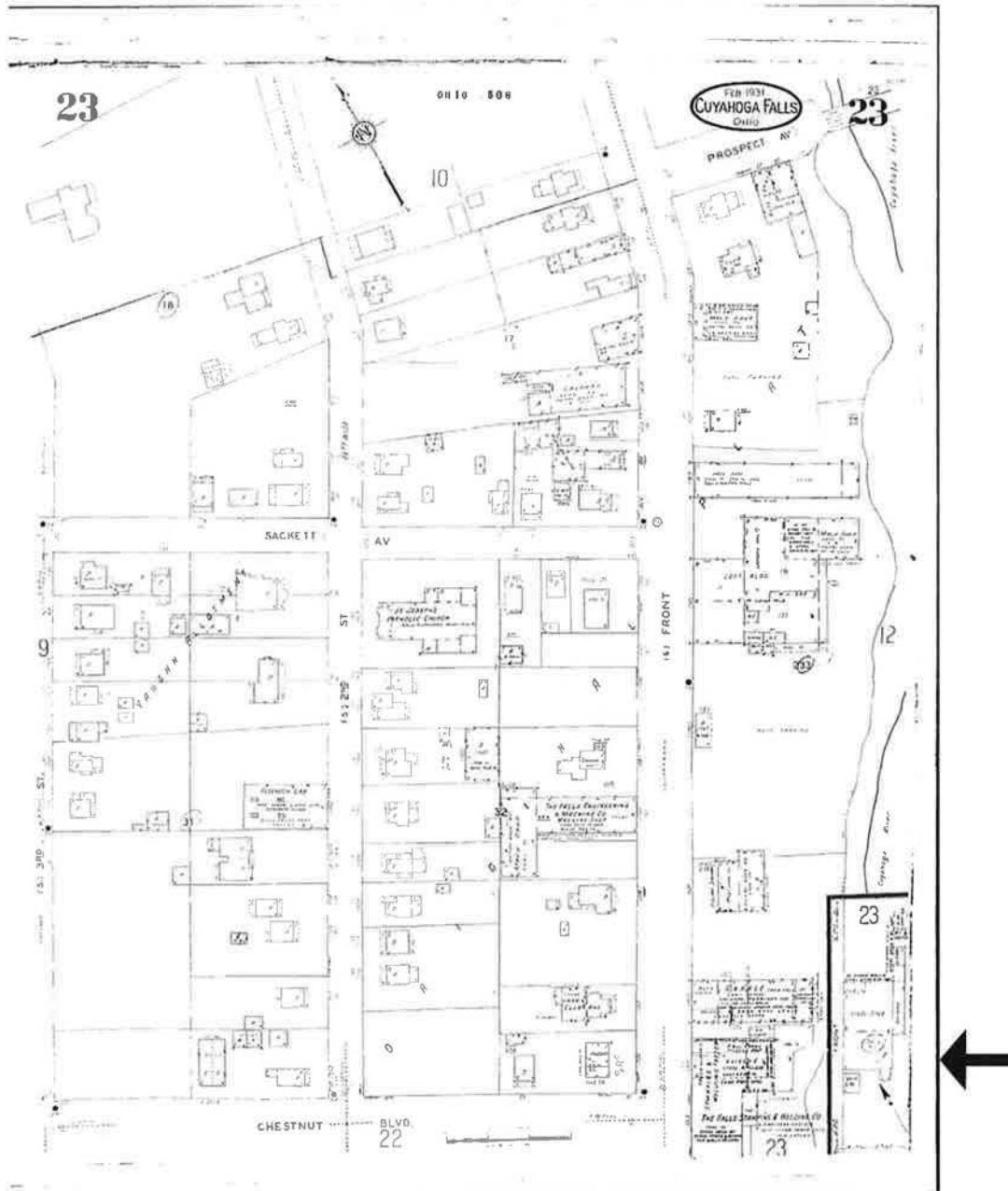


Fig. 9: SANBORN INSURANCE MAP 1931-1948

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Fig. 10: EARLY 20TH CENTURY STEEL SASH ADVERTISEMENTS

Sources:

The Review of Reviews, Advertising Section 1917. p. 115

Engineering News and Record February 7, 1918

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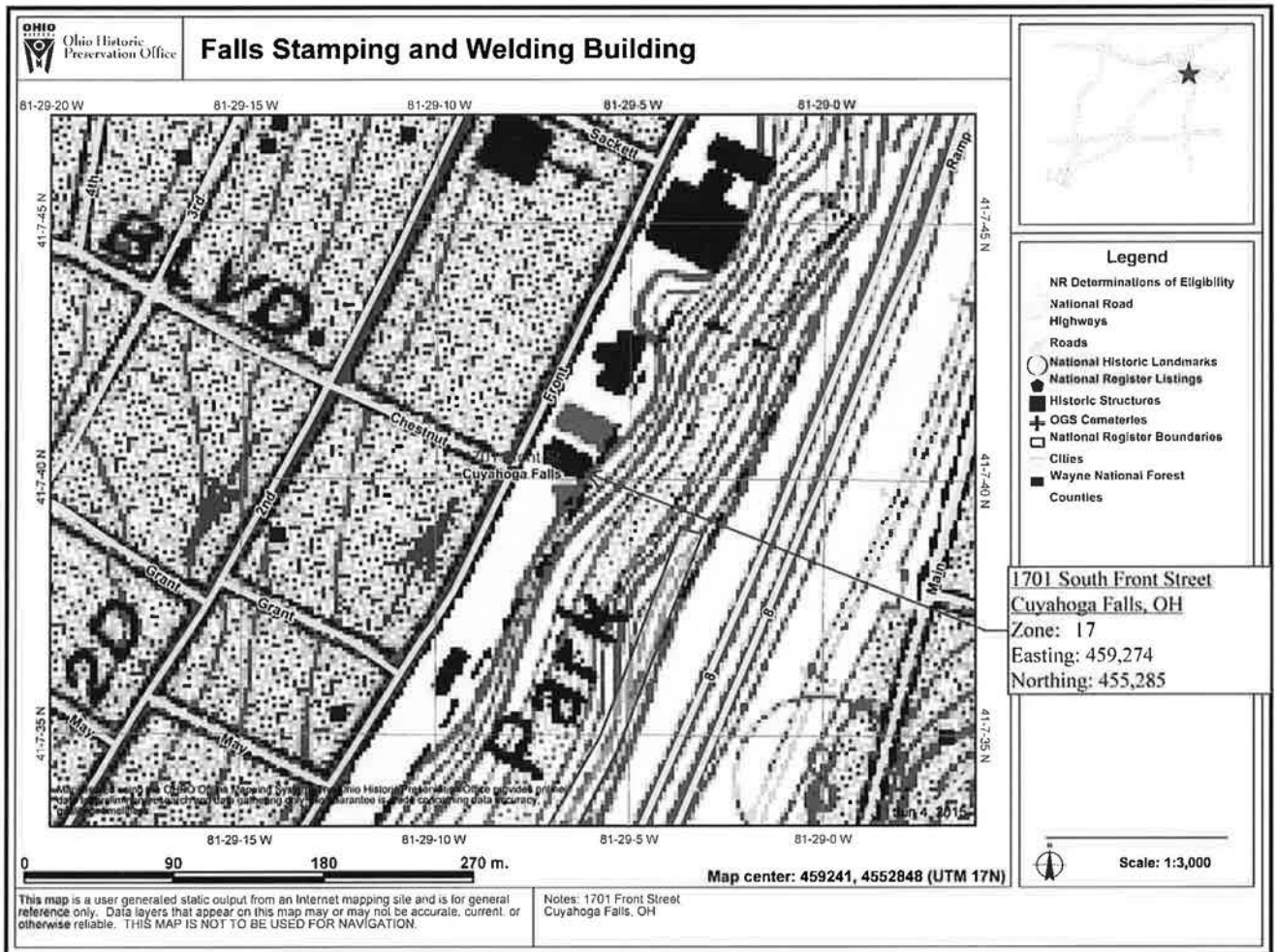


Fig. 11: OHPO GIS Map

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National Park Service**

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Fig. 12: Google Earth Map

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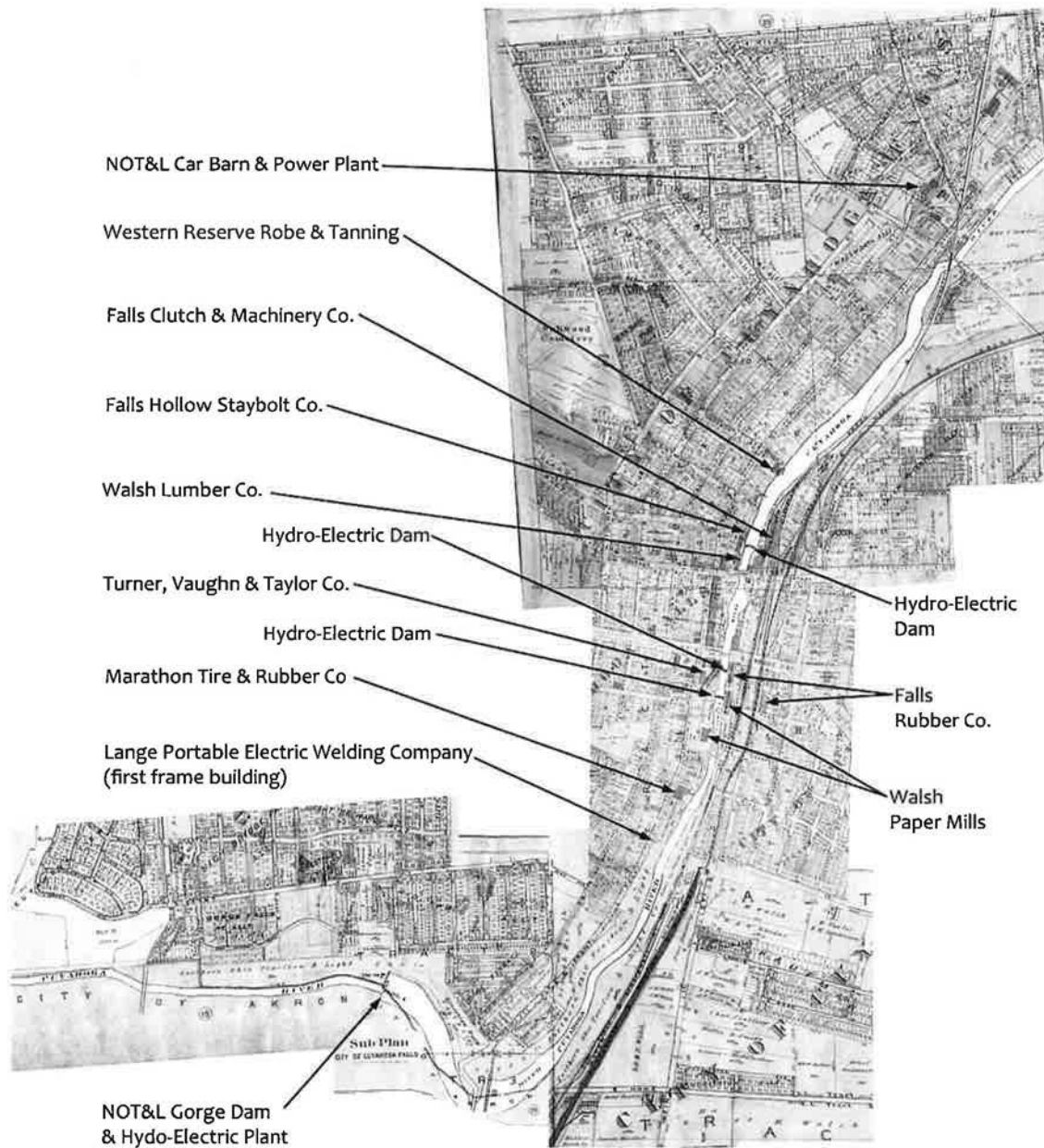
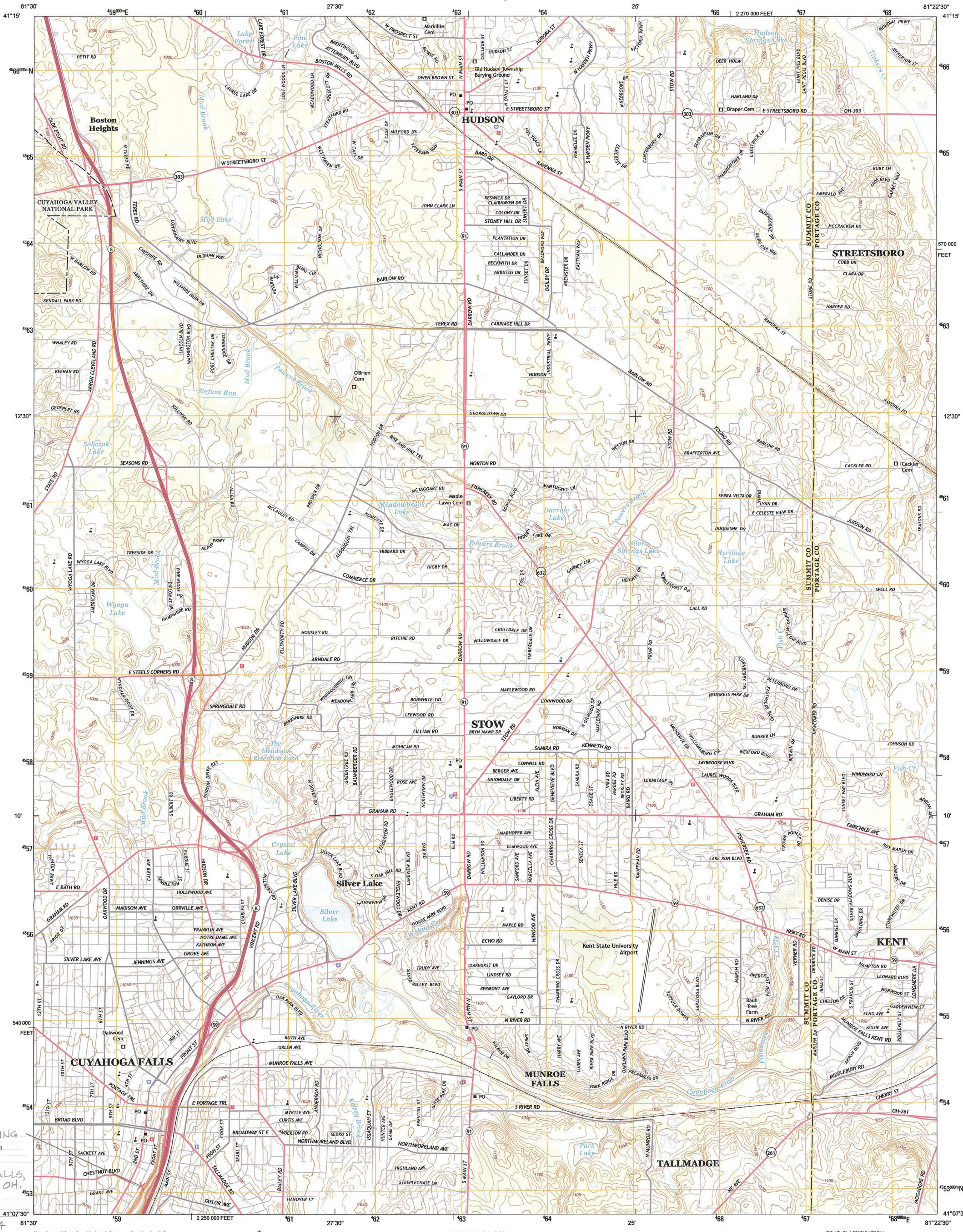


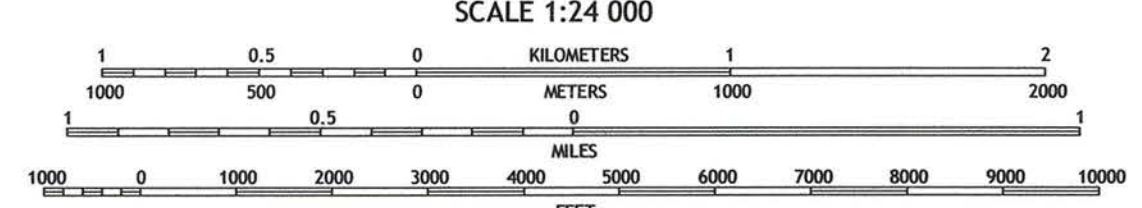
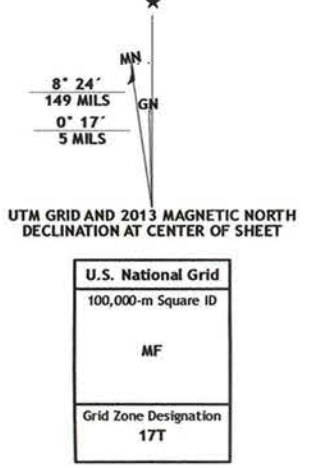
Figure 13 –Composite of 1922 maps with industries and dams noted
Source of Maps: G.M. Hopkins Co., Map of Akron, Barberton, Cuyahoga Falls & Kenmore, 1921-1922



FALLS STAMPING AND WELDING BUILDING CUYAHOGA FALLS, SUMMIT CO., OH. UTM: 17 E 459,274 41°07'30" N 455,2054

Produced by the United States Geological Survey North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83) World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84)...

Imagery: NAIP, August 2011 Roads: ©2006-2013 TomTom Names: GNS, 2011 Hydrography: National Hydrography Dataset, 2011 Contours: National Elevation Dataset, 2010...



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988 This map was produced to conform with the National Geospatial Program US Topo Product Standard, 2011.



Table with 3 columns: Northfield, Twinsburg, Aurora, Peninsula, Hudson, Kent, Akron West, Akron East, Suffield

HUDSON, OH 2013

ADJOINING 7.5 QUADRANGLES



OH_Summit_Falls Stamping and Welding Building_0001



OH_Summit_Falls Stamping and Welding Building_0002



OH_Summit_Falls Stamping and Welding Building_0003



OH_Summit_Falls Stamping and Welding Building_0004



OH_Summit_Falls Stamping and Welding Building_0005



OH_Summit_Falls Stamping and Welding Building_0006



OH_Summit_Falls Stamping and Welding Building_0007

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Falls Stamping and Welding Building

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OHIO, Summit

DATE RECEIVED: 1/08/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/09/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/23/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/23/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000045

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: Y PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2/23/2016 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA

Accept AEC

REVIEWER

Patrick Andrus

DISCIPLINE

Historian

TELEPHONE

DATE

2/23/2016

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

City of Cuyahoga Falls
Office of the Mayor

REC'D BY OHPO NOV 27 2015

Mayor Don Walters
2310 Second Street
Cuyahoga Falls OH 44221



Phone: 330-971-8200
Fax: 330-971-8168
mayor@cityofcf.com

November 25, 2015

Ohio Historic Sites Preservation Advisory Board
c/o Barbara A. Powers, Inventory & Registration Department Head
Ohio Historic Preservation Office
800 E. 17th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43211-2474

Dear Board Members:

The City of Cuyahoga Falls fully supports the nomination for listing The Falls Stamping and Welding Building in the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination also validates all of our efforts over the years to protect this building from demolition.

The Falls Stamping & Welding Building is an important reminder of the industrial heritage of Cuyahoga Falls. Our industrial history is directly related to the topography of the river and the power of the fall of the water that was harnessed for industry. What began initially with mills, eventually led to a series of dams to generate hydro-electric power that supplied a diverse industrial base. The Falls Stamping and Welding Building is one of the last standing industrial buildings on the river in Cuyahoga Falls.

The building, underutilized for many decades, is now nearing completion of a rehabilitation project that will provide space for a growing business in our community--TRIAD/Next Level Communications. The renovation of this building is also serving as an example for other historic preservation activities in the downtown area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. Walters", written in a cursive style.

Don Walters
Mayor

cc: Fred Guerra, Planning Director



RECEIVED 2280

JAN 08 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

December 29, 2015

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief, National Register
and National Historic Landmark Programs
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl. (2280)
Washington D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find six (6) new National Register nominations for Ohio. All appropriate notification procedures have been followed for the new nomination submissions.

NEW NOMINATION

Springfield Metallic Casket Company
Greenwood Farm
Mueller Electric Company Building
Baldwin Piano Building
Grant-Deneau Tower
Falls Stamping and Welding Building

COUNTY

Clark
Cuyahoga
Cuyahoga
Hamilton
Montgomery
Summit

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nominations for the Mueller Electric Company Building and Grant-Deneau Tower nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact the National Register staff in the Ohio Historic Preservation Office at (614) 298-2000.

Sincerely,

for
Handwritten signature of Barbara Paver in cursive script.

Lox A. Logan, Jr.
Executive Director and CEO
State Historic Preservation Officer
Ohio History Connection

Enclosures

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NPS TRANSMITTAL CHECK LIST

OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
800 E. 17th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43211
(614)-298-2000

The following materials are submitted on Dec. 29, 2015
For nomination of the Falls Stamping and to the National Register of
Historic Places: Welding Building, Summit Co, OH

- Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form
 Paper PDF
- Multiple Property Nomination Cover Document
 Paper PDF
- Multiple Property Nomination form
 Paper PDF
- Photographs
 Prints TIFFs
- CD with electronic images
- Original USGS map(s)
 Paper Digital
- Sketch map(s)/Photograph view map(s)/Floor plan(s)
 Paper PDF
- Piece(s) of correspondence
 Paper PDF
- Other _____

COMMENTS:

- Please provide a substantive review of this nomination
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner objection(s) do _____ do not _____
Constitute a majority of property owners
- Other: _____