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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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.

RECEIVED 2280

JUL 29 2016

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Lion Knitting Mills

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

N/A

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

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

2. Location

Street & number: 3256 West 25th Street

City or town: Cleveland State: Ohio County: Cuyahoga

Not For Publication: n/a Vicinity: n/a

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

I hereby certify that this 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 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 local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Barbara Dwe DSHPO Inventory and Registration July 22, 2016
 Signature of certifying official/Title: _____ Date
State Historic Preservation Office/Ohio Historical Society
 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 Anderson
Signature of the Keeper

9/12/2016
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)

| <u>Contributing</u> | <u>Noncontributing</u> | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| <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> </u> | Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Category: INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION

Subcategory: Manufacturing Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Category: COMMERCE/TRADE

Subcategory: Warehouse, Organizational

Category: DOMESTIC

Subcategory: Multiple Dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th & Early 20th Century

Commercial Style

American Movements

Other: Industrial Vernacular

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

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

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

In 1921 the Lion Knitting Mills Co., a prominent Cleveland manufacturer of knitted goods established in 1912, moved from its downtown Power Avenue location near the garment district in the Flats to a new factory built for the company at 3256 West 25th Street on the near west side of Cleveland. This early twentieth-century three story Commercial Style brick and heavy timber framed garment manufacturing building was designed with a simple rectangular footprint. Located on the west side of the street, the building fronts West 25th Street at the intersection of West 25th Street and Meyer Avenue to the south and abuts the sidewalk on both the West 25th Street and Meyer Avenue elevations.

Later additions constructed between the years 1953 and 1963 are set further back on the parcel than the Christian, Schwarzenburg and Gaede-designed portion of the building and both elongate and branch off from that initial rectangular footprint. The additions more than doubled the size of the facility to keep pace with increased production and an expanded product line. Today, the building covers about one half of the parcel with two paved, fenced parking lots – one small lot off West 25th Street and the other a much larger lot in the rear of the property accessed from Meyer Avenue. The overall layout of the building can be understood by reviewing historic

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maps; however, including the original, slightly different materials were used in the construction of each so it is easy to differentiate the various portions of the building when standing on the interior. The site is relatively flat with landscaping limited to two mature trees within the tree lawn along Meyer and a very narrow grass patch running behind the single story building up to the fence at the western property line.

The Lion Knitting Mills Co. building features large, regularly-spaced, industrial steel sash-windows in most bays (some bays have received vinyl replacements while others have been infilled to receive smaller sized vinyl replacements over the years), brick laid in decorative patterns provide visual interest to the building envelope, sandstone is used to further emphasize horizontal banding at the sills and parapet coping and as accent tiles near the cornice. Two exterior fire escapes, a rooftop flagpole and a 30,000 gallon rooftop gravity-fed water tank with 2-story structural steel tower also remain. The front entrance is set-back within an understated entry at the southeast corner of the building fronting West 25th Street; however a change in fenestration pattern at this bay and intricate masonry detailing both above the entrance and continuing at the roofline help to define its prominence.

At the time of construction in 1919-1920, the immediate neighborhood contained a large hospital as well as a few small to medium sized businesses, banks and social halls along West 25th while mostly small frame houses and detached garages existed to the west of the property. The surrounding neighborhood has experienced significant disinvestment over the years and today has many vacant lots and dilapidated buildings. Despite neighborhood decline, the Lion Knitting Mills Co. building retains its architectural significance and historic integrity standing as a significant physical presence and record of a successful knitting mill which functioned from this location for seventy-eight years.

Narrative Description

Original Building

The Lion Knitting Mill Co. building is located on the west side of West 25th Street just North of Meyer Avenue in the Clark-Fulton neighborhood on Cuyahoga County. The Clark-Fulton area was originally part of Brooklyn and Newburgh Townships. German immigrants were the first to settle in the Clark-Fulton area during the mid-1800's. They were followed by Czechs, Italians, Slovaks and Poles. These immigrants were attracted to the area to work in nearby industries. Businesses grew along Pearl Street (today West 25th Street) and Clark Avenue. Just two blocks south of Lion Knitting Mills, the neighborhood also holds Cleveland's oldest hospital, MetroHealth Medical Center, which was founded in 1837 as the City Hospital but established its present Scranton Road/West 25th Street location in 1889. The Clark-Fulton area was impacted significantly during the 1960's and 1970's as a result of the construction of Interstate 71 and Interstate 90. ¹

¹ Cleveland and Its Neighborhoods. Web.

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The Lion Knitting Mills building was designed by the architectural and engineering firm of Christian, Schwarzenburg, and Gaede.² Established in 1913, the partners were Charles Christian (1884-1968), Louis H. Schwarzenburg (1888-1954), and Oscar L. Gaede (1885-1933). Gaede was the firm's president, Schwarzenburg was vice-president and Christian was secretary and treasurer. Although operating as a firm of architects, all three men were civil and construction engineers. The firm specialized in warehouse and industrial structures and was responsible for the design of two hundred factories (and the superintended construction of many of them) between 1910 and 1929. A few of the more important examples in Cleveland include The Telling-Belle Vernon plant, The Richman Brothers Company plant (NR 2012) on East 55th, the Federal Knitting Mills Co. (NR 2001) on Detroit Ave in Ohio City, the Neal Storage building on Detroit Ave, the L.N. Gross Building (NR 1982 – Cleveland Warehouse District) in the Historic Warehouse District downtown; several buildings for the K & E Company, several for the Grabler Manufacturing Company, several buildings for the Standard Oil Company of Ohio, a building for the Standard Parts Company, the concrete engineering for the William Bingham Company building (NR 1973), a warehouse for Stone Brothers, as well as several million square feet of concrete construction in Cleveland and its vicinity. The firm name was changed to Christian & Klopper in 1970 and again to Neville Architects in 2010.³

The F.W. Ruple Construction Company of Cleveland was the general contractor that worked with Christian, Schwarzenburg & Gaede to build the Lion Knitting Mills Co. building at 3256 West 25th Street. According to F.W. Ruple Construction Company records, construction began on the mill at the corner of West 25th & Meyer Avenue in December 1919 and was complete by October 1920. The building plan was slightly trapezoidal in shape with dimensions of 62'-10" x 91'-0" & 96'-10." As part of their General Contracting contract, the F. W. Ruple Construction Company performed the following scopes of work for this project: excavation, concrete, masonry, structural steel, carpentry, glass & glazing, steel sash, plastering and toilet partitions. According to the general contractor's records, the total cost for construction was \$89,860.25 with a per square foot cost of \$3.70.

The original Christian, Schwarzenburg, and Gaede building has a wood, steel and concrete supporting system with a masonry and glass envelope. It has three stories plus a window-lit basement. The primary façade on West 25th Street is 6-bays wide by 4-bays deep marked by projecting brick pilasters. At cornice level on the east and south elevations, the pilasters have a single sandstone accent tile in an ashlar finish and set on a 45 degree angle centered in the space between the 3rd floor window lintels and parapet. To offset the verticality of the brick pilasters, the surrounding masonry includes an elegant mix of horizontal coursing. A running stretcher with occasional flying course pattern every fifth course is predominantly used throughout but, to accent the building's fenestration, below every masonry opening is a sandstone sill and above a soldier course is run. To visually identify its entrance, the southeasternmost bays on both the West 25th Street and Meyer Avenue elevations extend beyond the height of the other bays and include additional sandstone and brick detailing not found elsewhere on the facade. The entrance is marked with a projecting brick surround and an inset doorway. The brick surround at

² Cleveland Landmarks Commission, Architects Database

³ Cleveland Landmarks Commission Files

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the primary entrance consists of a 4-brick wide soldier course to establish a base for the stack bond pilasters on either side of the masonry opening that terminate at the top of the opening in a mitered corner detail that flows into a vertical double soldier course. On top of that, a series of alternating stretcher and head courses exist within the intermediate space between the entrance and window above. Continuing the masonry detailing as was done around the door opening, the steel sash window directly above the entrance is similarly framed in soldier coursing although with no mitering detail. The actual entrance is stepped back from the exterior face of the wall and the coursing within this space includes an intentional series of stacked header coursing and soldier coursing to add additional visual interest. The door itself has been modified over the years; however, it is easy to ascertain that it was originally a full light wood door. Large, rectangular shaped industrial steel sash window openings between brick piers rise in regular patterns on all elevations. The steel sash vary considerably in size. On the north (side) and east (front) elevation – floors 1 through 3, the steel sash consist of a divided three-part system with lites 4-wide and 5-tall and an operable floating hopper that would pivots horizontally in each part (for a total of 60 lites per masonry opening). The basement steel sash on the north and east elevations, currently concealed behind plywood panels and steel security grills, continue the same 3-part division pattern and width of masonry openings for a consistent appearance; however, they are only 2-lites tall and their inward tilt operability differs than those above which open out. The steel sash occurring on the southeasternmost bay of the primary façade are narrower than other bays at that elevation due to the massing of the primary entrance below. The windows in this bay maintain the same positioning as those in other bays but they mirror the width of entrance below. On the south elevation, the fenestration pattern differs as a result of the interior stairwell which occurs toward the center of that façade mid-height between the 1st to 2nd and 2nd to 3rd floor heights. The surrounding south elevation windows match the size and scale of the stairwell windows they flank but continue the positioning and placement of masonry openings as those found on the primary facade. In order to maintain symmetry of fenestration, the masonry was intentionally stepped back and a sandstone sill was installed within the wall at the first floor closest to the Meyer Avenue / West 25th Street corner as an alternative to a 1st floor window in this opening which could not be accommodated in this area on the floorplan. Four basement masonry openings on the south elevation mirror the width of the windows above but, like the basement windows on the east and north elevation, are only 2-lites tall and tilt inward. Three of them are concealed behind plywood panels or security grills whereas the fourth has been modified to receive a louvered vent. The masonry detailing at the cornice includes stepped brick courses, soldier coursing and sandstone coping at the parapet upfront along the primary facades and camelback clay tile coping further back on the perimeter parapet walls and all hidden-from-sight parapet walls occurring further inward on the rooftop. The roof itself is near flat in slope and was originally tar & gravel ⁴; however, in recent years, has received a synthetic rubberized covering. Low profile cell tower equipment has been installed on the rooftop. The elevator penthouse on the rooftop is masonry in construction and features a sandstone sill and stepped brick detailing above at the steel sash window opening. A concrete lid roof in lieu of a roofing membrane exists on the elevator penthouse because it serves as the base for the structural steel framing elements of the 30,000 gallon rooftop gravity-fed water tank/tower that exists two stories above the rooftop. The rear (west) elevation is difficult to evaluate due to the fact that

⁴ City of Cleveland Building Permit

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additions have occurred on this façade altering its original configuration. What can be ascertained is that the masonry detailing that exists on the other facades is lacking on this one. Instead, an interrupting header course of red brick occurs every seventh row with running stretcher course of red brick occurring in the rows between. There is a header course of brick that occurs below one masonry opening but not the companion opening on the story above. The steel sash themselves do not match. The two surviving original sash visible from the exterior have received air conditioning units and louvered vents while the two masonry openings beside them to the south have been reduced in size to accommodate smaller sash when a later addition impacted the size of the original opening. At the first floor, a shipping / receiving area has been constructed in front of the original wall. A steel sash window still exists (now on the interior) as does the original loading dock door. The industrial steel sash windows range from fair to poor condition. The masonry is in good to fair condition. The water tower's steel and wood elements range from fair to poor condition.

The original Christian, Schwarzenburg, and Gaede building retains the design of its open interior plan. Although it is unclear where specific functions occurred within the building, based on employment ads for positions held within the Lion Knitting Mills Co., interior spaces that we know likely existed within this facility include administrative offices, a lunch room, a stock room, a locker or coat room, toilet rooms and areas for sewing, knitting, clipping, cutting, washing and pressing the items produced.

Including the basement, each of the four floors are 6,038 square feet which, all together, total 24,152 gross square footage. The feel of the open, light-filled manufacturing floors remain intact with the exception being the basement where plywood panels have been installed over the surviving basement steel sash preventing any natural light from filter into this space as it can and does on the upper floors. Although freight elevator and dumbwaiter access is provided and windows exist along three sides, the basement is a largely unused space. In addition to the elevator, there are two means of access into the basement. First, an exterior staircase on the north elevation toward the rear northwest corner of the building floorplan. Second, a very narrow spiral stair accessed through a later building addition where a masonry opening was cut into the wall just south of the dumbwaiter. Steel columns covered with metal lath & plaster of similar shape to those found on upper floors exist but with a simplified plaster detail in the lower portion in contrast to the more decorative wood treatment found on upper floor columns. The original ceiling height (11'-0") is visible; however, mechanical piping has been installed at lower heights as has electrical fixtures making the space feel significantly smaller. A large boiler room exists in this space and all associated equipment still remains. At ground level, three building entrances exist; the primary off West 25th at the historical stair, a secondary (non-original) canopied entrance on the North elevation off the parking lot and a third at the rear of the building via the garage overhead door on the West elevation. Beyond the entry lobby at West 25th, exists the original stair tower in approximately the center of the floor plan on that perimeter wall. The stairs wind upward counter-clockwise and are constructed of reinforced concrete. The first floor of the original building featured several types of flooring. The front entry lobby and vault floors are both concrete, mastic floors exist within the front one-third of the floorplan closest to West 25th (it is assumed hardwood plank exists beneath). A front office renovation included the construction of partition and knee walls as well as wood wall paneling and

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acoustical ceiling tile treatments in this portion of the space. A vault still displaying the Lion Knitting Mills name above its entrance exists within a front office space to the right of the front entry lobby. The vault is encased in plaster walls with surviving wood trim. The remaining two-thirds of the floorplan, exists largely intact and in good condition with exposed masonry walls, hardwood plank flooring concrete columns, steel sash, and full ceiling heights (13'-0"). The original freight elevator (9'-3" x 10'-0") and dumbwaiter also exist in this space in the center portion of the westernmost wall. A decorative beadboard wood wrap exists in the lowest one-third of each plaster encased steel column. The bathrooms on this floor, situated along the Meyer Avenue wall, have been modified significantly and no longer include any original fixtures or finishes. The introduction of mechanical ductwork, electrical fixtures with associated wiring and plumbing lines all visually impact the space; however, not to the point where overall historic features and finishes cannot be appreciated. Located off the rear loading dock and shipping corridor, exist the original rear entrance wood doors which are in excellent condition. The loading dock and shipping areas have received modification over the years so that, what used to be an exterior masonry wall is now an interior wall with a wood shanty constructed at the exterior. The shanty is in fair to poor condition. The second and third floors are largely open with exposed concrete walls, hardwood plank flooring, plaster encased steel columns with decorate wood treatment and painted wood plank ceilings. Original ceiling heights (2nd floor 13'-0" and 3rd floor 13'-1") are largely intact. Partition walls and dropped acoustical ceilings were constructed within the southeastern corner of the 2nd floor to accommodate 4 small office spaces. The 3rd floor received significant alteration when interior spaces were built out to accommodate two large loft-style apartments within a portion of its floorplan.

Today, the original 3-story building includes two attached additions and a connected concrete block storage building. Three substantial additions occurred at Lion Knitting Mills Co. nearly doubling the original square footage (totaling 49,769 square feet). The majority of the roof surfaces on all of the additions are flat or near flat. All constructed within the period of significance, according to Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps,

- Addition No. 1 was constructed in 1953 at the Northwest corner of the property;
- Addition No. 2 was constructed between 1953-56 to the southwestern half of the original building's west elevation;
- Addition No. 3 was constructed between 1956 and 1963 along the north property line but setback from the West 25th Street front to fill the space between and connect the original portion of the building and the concrete block storage building.

Addition No. 1 is a single-story concrete block storage structure that, when constructed, was a stand-alone rectangular-shaped structure separate from the original Christian, Schwarzenburg and Gaede-designed building. The gross square footage of this addition is 2,708 square feet. Of utilitarian design, this single wythe masonry building consists of a concrete floor, steel I-beam columns and beams and corrugated metal roofing. Both the interior and exterior masonry surfaces are painted. There is only one partition wall which separates a single car garage bay from the large open storage space. The Addition No. 1 is in fair condition.

Addition No. 2 is an early compatible addition of a 3-story square-shaped extension to the west (rear) of the original Christian, Schwarzenburg and Gaede-designed building along the Meyer

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Avenue elevation. Each floor is 2,262 square feet for a total gross square footage of 6,786 square feet. The exterior masonry brick and stone are of similar composition to that of the original building but the tooling and mortar color differs and so does the fenestration pattern. As a result, the differentiation between original and addition is fairly easy to detect. A fire escape extending into the Meyer Avenue parking lot exists on the rear (west) elevation. Two pair of wood loading doors were designed on the west elevation. One of the pair survive whereas the other masonry opening has been converted to accept a sliding glass door. Interior walls are painted concrete masonry block, floors are smooth concrete and ceilings feature open bar joists with corrugated metal pan decking. The Addition No. 2 is in fair condition.

Addition No. 3 is the largest of the additions which, to the west, abuts the single-story storage building and, to the southeast, includes a hyphen connecting this building to the original Christian, Schwarzenburg and Gaede-designed building at all three floors. Rectangular in shape, each floor is 5,324 square feet for a total gross square footage of 15,972 square feet. There is a concrete ramp at the first floor to accommodate a significant grade change from the original building to this addition. Exterior walls on the north, west and south elevations are red masonry brick whereas the east wall (facing West 25th Street) has a heavier industrial appearance which consists of painted concrete block and exposed structural steel beams. Large rectangular 3-part steel sash window types are compatible with the original and occur on the east, west and south elevations. Dock door entrances at the ground level occur on the east and south elevations. Similar to the design on Addition No. 2, two pair of wood loading doors were included on the south elevation at the 2nd and 3rd floors. One of the pair survive whereas the other masonry opening has been infilled. Interior walls are painted concrete masonry blocks, floors are smooth concrete and ceilings feature open bar joists with corrugated metal pan decking. The Addition No. 3 is in fair condition.

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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.)

Commerce

Invention

Industry

Period of Significance

1921-1963

Significant Dates

1921, 1953, 1963

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Architect: Christian, Schwarzenburg and Gaede

Contractor: The F.W. Ruple Construction Co.

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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.)

The Lion Knitting Mills building is significant under Criterion A through its association with 1) the history of the textile / garment industry and 2) its role in garment design, invention and industry, and 3) the company's role in promoting war production.

Founded in 1912 by brothers Louis and Harold Ensten, the Lion Knitting Mills Co. produced high quality knit goods for 78 years. The company began its humble operations in a loft at 1011 Power Ave. in Downtown Cleveland but, by the 1920's, encouraged by the City of Cleveland, had commissioned the design and construction of a new facility and moved to 3256 W. 25th St. to utilize the skilled immigrant labor force of newly arrived Poles, Germans and Italians who lived in Cleveland's crowded near west side neighborhoods.⁵ The company produced a variety of knit goods for the military and the private-label market. Lion's first product, the varsity or award-letter sweater, was knitted on hand-operated machines. During the Depression, Lion Knitting Mills Co. kept their 32 workers busy under a Sears, Roebuck & Co. contract to knit dog sweaters.⁶ By World War I, the company had installed belt-driven knitting machines which were used to make woolen watchcaps for the U.S. Navy. Lion also produced its popular "Ace" winter sports cap under an exclusive patent until 1939.⁷ In the early 1940's, thousands of Uncle Sam's soldiers derived comfort and warmth from woolen apparel knitted in Cleveland; helping in that effort was Lion Knitting Mills Co. which was awarded the army order contract for 15,000 pairs of woolen anklets for military clothing and 15,000 pairs of wristlets.⁸

Looking to diversify, in 1948, Lion began making plans to expand its West 25th Street operation in order to add the necessary facilities to produce luxury sweaters of cashmere, lambswool, and vicuna – physical building expansions were constructed for over a decade span from 1953 to 1963. For two decades, Lion distributed its line to wholesalers who sold the garments under high-quality brand names to customers such as Pendleton Woolen Mills, Janteen Knitting Mills, Cluett, Peabody, Inc. (Arrow), and Hathaway Shirt Co. However, threatened by low-cost knitted imports from the Far East by 1965, Lion made a switch from wool and pioneered the use of cotton in sweater production; selling its new line directly to retailers such as Brooks Bros., Saks Fifth Ave., L.L. Bean, and Eddie Bauer. Lion Knitting Mills also marketed some of their sweaters under its own labels, such as Gregory John for men and Bryan's Lion for children.⁹ A private company since its founding by the Ensten family, Lion Knitting Mills Co. was turned over to James and Norbert Hibshman in 1971.¹⁰ To explain the Hibshman connection to Lion Knitting Mills Co., James Hibshman was hired in 1932 as an Assistant to Ensten whereas, his older brother, Norbert Hibshman, in 1933, was initially hired right out of high school to polish the Ensten brothers' cars but, later that year, was given full-time employment by performing the arduous task of shoveling coal into the plant's boiler. Upon the conclusion of his service to the

5 Cleveland Plain Dealer "The warp and weave of not-so-free trade," May 6, 1990

6 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "Firm looks to foreign markets," September 3, 1983

7 Van Tassel, David, and John Grabowski, ed. The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History, 2nd ed., 1996, 652.

8 Cleveland Plain Dealer "Mills Here Keep Soldiers Warm," September 1, 1941

9 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "All-American credo dyed in the wool – or cotton," May 27, 1987

10 Cleveland Plain Dealer "Lion Knit Mills Picks Hibshman," May 4, 1959

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armed forces where he served in the Army, in 1946, Norbert returned to work and acquired an interest in the closely held Lion Knitting Mills Co. and, by 1947, he was put in charge of the reopened New York showroom at 347 Fifth Avenue.¹¹ For eight years (1971 to 1979), Norbert and James managed the business together but, in 1979, Norbert became the sole owner when his brother retired.¹² By the early 1980's, Norbert's son, Larry, entered the business and filled the role of President while his father remained Chairman of the Board. During the Hibshman years, the Lion Knitting Mill Co. saw its greatest and worst hours reflected through employment figures; from 85 in 1973, to 240 in 1983, to 200 in 1985, to 180 in 1987, and eventually, by March of 1990, to only 6 who remained to sell the rest of the building and its inventory.¹³ In 1978, Lion Knitting Mills Co. had begun exporting to Japan and Sweden. While roughly 300 knitting mills across the US had gone out of business in the late 1970's and early 1980's due to competition from foreign companies using cheaper labor and products made of lower-priced wool and synthetic materials, Lion Knitting Mills had a sizeable share of the booming cotton sweater market which helped the Cleveland firm to expand its business nationally as well as internationally while other domestic garment makers closed their doors. Always promoting the 'Made in U.S.A.' commitment to quality, everything from yarn, dye, thread, buttons and zippers were products from somewhere in the United States.¹⁴ The company later created its North Bay Comfort Products Division to grow its line of cotton afghan product offerings and markets. With success realized in the diversified product line by tripling sales in the early 1980s, Lion added a new distribution center in Strongsville.¹⁵ By 1985 Lion Knitting Mills had 240 skilled people on its payroll. In an industry besieged by imports, Lion Knitting Mills exhibited a down-home pride. With red, white and blue bunting adorning the front of their building, only two non-American cars in their parking lot (and those were Hondas, presumably from the Marysville, Ohio plant) belong to employees, and company executives being expected to pass the label test on their apparel to show 'Made in U.S.A.' they set the tone against the Buy Un-American theme that was permeating the market at that time. In a 1987 article, Norbert Hibshman was even quoted in saying 'If we're really going to fight to keep jobs, everybody's got to buy American.'¹⁶ Lion Knitting Mills Co. continued offering products to wholesalers and retailers from 1971 to 1990 until operations were ceased --a casualty of the lower-cost imports which flooded the American market.

11 New York Times, "Business Notes," August 23, 1947

12 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "Firm looks to foreign markets," September 3, 1983

13 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "The warp and weave of not-so-free trade" May 6, 1990

14 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "All-American credo dyed in the wool - or cotton," May 27, 1987

15 Van Tassel, David, and John Grabowski, ed. The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History, 2nd ed., 1996, 652.

16 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "All-American credo dyed in the wool - or cotton," May 27, 1987

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Narrative Statement of Significance

(Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Lion Knitting Mills Co. building is significant under Criterion A for its role in the HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE GARMENT INDUSTRY IN CLEVELAND.

As early as 1860 the manufacture of ready-to-wear clothing became one of Cleveland's leading industries. In the decades prior to and just after the Civil War; Jewish entrepreneurs became involved in and eventually dominated the field of ready-made clothing. In 1892, The Plain Dealer listed 22 local manufacturers and wholesale houses in the clothing industry, all of them Jewish.¹⁷ Unlike New York, where 78% of the clothing shops employed five persons or less, Cleveland's garment industry, which ranked second in terms of the number of garment manufacturers and wholesalers to New York's, employed their workers in large, modern factories. By 1910, 50 establishments accounted for four-fifths of the garment workers in Cleveland. Along with the ready-to-wear clothing operations were a number of knitting-mill operations owned or managed by Jews and employing extensive Jewish labor; among these was Lion Knitting Mills which produced high-quality sweaters, and other knitted garments.¹⁸

The garment industry probably reached its peak during the 1920s, when Cleveland ranked close to New York as one of the country's leading centers for garment production. The garment industry declined during the Depression and continuing after World War II, the garment industry in Cleveland declined. Scores of companies moved out of the area, were sold, or closed their doors. Local factors certainly played their part but the rise of the ready-to-wear industry in Cleveland, as well as its decline, paralleled the growth and decline of the industry nationwide.¹⁹

In the early 19th century clothing was still handmade, produced for the family by women in the household or custom-made for the more well-to-do by tailors and seamstresses. The ready-to-wear industry grew enormously from the 1860s to the 1880s for a variety of reasons.²⁰ Increasing mechanization, systems for sizing developed based on millions of measurements obtained by the U.S. Army during the Civil War, the Depression of 1873 made buying off-the-rack garments more acceptable and a less costly alternative to custom-made clothing, but the biggest factors were expansive urbanization and rapid growth during the great wave of immigration in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Most immigrants from 1830-70 came from the German states, Great Britain, and, particularly Ireland, with Cleveland attracting substantial representation from each of these groups.²¹ The most substantial and diverse migration to Cleveland occurred from 1870-1914, the period of the 'new immigration,' in which many Southern and Eastern Europeans came to the U.S. This large exodus was fostered by shortages of land in the home countries, more liberal immigration

17 Cleveland Jewish News, June 18, 2004. Page 33Cleveland: Western Reserve Historical Society. (microfiche).

18 "The Richman Brothers Company." National Register Nomination, September 19, 2012.

19 Van Tassel, David, and John Grabowski, ed. The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History, 2nd ed., 1996, 460.

20 Van Tassel, 461.

21 Ibid.

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policies, increased military conscription, and, particularly for the Jews, persecution.²² In 1900, a third of all Jews in the workforce in the United States were employed in the manufacture of garments.²³ Between the 1890s and 1940s, 7 percent of Cleveland's working population was employed in the garment industry.²⁴ The ethnic origins of those who worked in the industry were as varied as the immigrants who flowed to the U.S. in the early decades of the 20th century. Although Jewish workers played a prominent role, other immigrant groups such as Czechs, Poles, Germans, and Italians were also employed in large numbers, and many of the garment factories were located in the ethnic neighborhoods from which they drew their workforce.²⁵ The 1916 survey of the garment industry by the Cleveland Foundation found that for every 100 workers, 47 were machine operators, 23 were hand sewers, 10 were pressers and ironers, 7 were cutters and 4 were foremen. Men dominated some of these tasks, while women dominated others. Nearly all of the designers and cutters were men. In most cases, machine operators and hand sewers were women.²⁶

In 1880 the Jewish community numbered 3,500 and was composed primarily of German and Hungarian immigrants (based on a census estimate of 160,000 Cleveland residents). Russian and Eastern European Jews fleeing from anti-Semitism and pogroms, also began to arrive during this decade. The Jewish population grew to 30,000 in 1905, 60,000 in 1912, and 90,000 in 1920. The flood that had peaked during the years of World War I came to a virtual end with immigration laws passed in 1924 that effectively closed the U.S. gates to Eastern European immigration. But these four decades of migration were enough to give the Jewish community its dominant Yiddish, Orthodox, and also nonreligious Zionist character. The much smaller earlier group of German Jews, so much more Americanized, provided core economic, social, and community leadership. So different in number and background, German Jews accepted responsibility to help their brethren, mindful of the injunction that all Jews are responsible one for the other.²⁷ And while some became peddlers, the greater number found their way into the garment industry, which even before their arrival developed a factory piecemeal system that made it possible to hire hundreds of semi-trained workers who learned sewing skills in industrial classes. Female immigrants, in particular, mastered the sewing machining and found ready employment in the garment industry. Many of the factories were Jewish owned and provided a multitude of jobs needed into the first decades of the twentieth century. The garment industry is, in retrospect, a major Jewish contribution to Cleveland's economic history; however, it wasn't easy and it wasn't steady. Work in the clothing industry was seasonal and often there were layoffs of five and six weeks between the summer and fall seasons, with periodic layoffs during the rest of the year as well. And just as there was no adjusted overtime pay during busy periods, there was no unemployment compensation during layoffs.²⁸

22 Van Tassel, 459.

23 Green, Nancy L. *Ready-to-Wear and Ready-to-Work: A Century of Industry and Immigrants in Paris and New York*. Durham: Duke University Press, 1997, 217.

24 Van Tassel, 460

25 Ibid.

26 Bryner, Edna. *The Garment Trades: Dressmaking and Millinery*. Cleveland: The Survey Committee of The Cleveland Foundation, 1916, 47.

27 Rubenstein, Judah, and Jane Avner. Merging Traditions: Jewish Life In Cleveland, Revised Edition. 2004

28 Ibid.

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The 1911 garment strike involving 5,000-6,000 workers at thirty-four garment manufacturers, almost all Jews on both sides, points to the industry's makeup at the time. The strikers demanded a shorter (fifty-hour) week, higher wages, and no Sunday work.²⁹ The strike began peacefully and even included community parades, but after a month there were clashes with police and arrests. Some owners hired strikebreakers and housed them in the factory dormitories. The strike wound down to an end by November, and the strikers had little to show for their efforts. In the end, Cleveland had lost ground to its major competitor, New York. Despite this, the Cleveland industry continued to grow but soon began to lose out to the greater East Coast trade center. The unionized Jewish tailors of Cleveland enjoyed a great improvement in their income and regularity of employment thanks to an extraordinary series of agreements between their unions and the Cleveland garment manufacturers, most of them Jews. In 1925, the average men's and women's clothing tailors in the US earned \$1,173, and \$1,384, respectively, which was 136% for the former and 146% for the later of their real wages in 1914. When Cleveland's Garment Manufacturers Association at last accepted unionization, they did so on the basis of a unique series of agreements with the International Ladies Garment Workers Union. Piecework rather than timework continued, but complex production standards were devised to protect the workers' interests. All this could be done more readily in the large, well-regulated factories of the Cleveland industry than in the small sub-contractors' shops of New York. A 1921 agreement brought unemployment insurance and regularity of employment to the highly seasonal industry. Both the ILGWU and the manufacturers intended to squeeze, although not to put out of business, the small outside shops, few of which could meet these union standards. Despite the pressure, major Jewish-owned firms like Joseph and Feiss, Lion Knitting, and Richman Brothers held out against unionization throughout the 1920s with extensive systems of efficiency rewards, bonuses, and welfare plans.³⁰ Measures to provide occupant comfort for employees such as fresh air circulation and music played during work hours were also widely promoted. Until the middle 1930s and the advent of the National Recovery Act, there were mainly "company unions" in the garment industry.

The National Knitted Outerwear Association, Cleveland District, was an association of knitting mills in Cleveland, Ohio, originally affiliated with the national group headquartered in New York City. In the 1930s, the Cleveland District withdrew from the National Association and ceased to exist, and local knitting mills joined the national organization as individual members. The Cleveland Group had re-affiliated with the national organization by 1960, but they continued their meetings and close collaboration. The primary members of the association included Bamberger Reinthal, Lion Knitting Mills, Stone Knitting Mills (Ohio Knitting Mills), H.E. Frisch Knitting Mills, Excelsior Knitting Mills (Dalton), Standard Knitting Mills and North American Knitting Mills.³¹ This was a close-knit group. By the 1950s the Dery, Frisch, Haber Hibshman, Reinthal and other families had been in business for decades. The professional association gave them the chance to exchange information, for example, when members visited

29 Rubenstein, 34

30 Gartner, Lloyd P. History of the Jews in Cleveland. Cleveland: Western Reserve Historical Society, 1978, 273-74

31 Martin, Sean. A Stitch in Time: The Cleveland Garment Industry. U.S. Western Reserve Historical Society, 2015, 62.

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mills in England or hosted visitors in the industry from the Netherlands.³² The nature of the industry necessitated contacts among suppliers and manufacturers and between manufacturers. The families associated with these companies came to know each other well and developed both business and personal ties. Like the workers, they, too, organized into local and national associations. The National Knitted Outerwear Association is perhaps the best example of how leaders in the industry cooperated and collaborated to improve their products, and their sales. The group formed to allow the manufacturers to share resources and to learn from each other about best practices in the field. Members participated in dinners, lectures and golf outings as well. One of the group's joint endeavors was a testing laboratory, created and originally housed at Lion Knitting Mills. All of the Cleveland mills were invited to use this facility until they set up their own laboratories. The lab tested the quality of fibers and helped manufacturers determine their options for making new products and their existing products better. Synthetic fibers transformed the clothing we wore, how it was made and how we wore it. Because of their ability to adapt, companies that had been established for decades, continued to grow, while others were just embarking upon decades of success.³³ According to a 1954 Cleveland Plain Dealer article, Lion Knitting Mills was one of the first in the regional knitting industry to institute a program of group insurance, sale of company stock to employees and a profit-sharing plan, plus a Christmas bonus.

Industrial cities such as Cleveland also experienced rapid growth, and it was during this period that Cleveland's ready-to-wear clothing industry blossomed.³⁴ At the turn of the 20th century, Cleveland ranked fourth amongst cities vying for supremacy in the garment industry in terms of employment. New York City dominated competing cities with Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Cleveland trailing behind. In Cleveland, the garment industry provided a significant percentage of employment opportunities and was second only to iron and steel in terms of total employment numbers.³⁵ By 1910, 80% of Cleveland's approximately 10,000 apparel workers were employed in large and well-equipped factories.³⁶ Until 1893 more Germans arrived annually in Cleveland than did any other national group. By 1900 the city's German population of 40,648 was larger than that of any other foreign-born community.³⁷

The early entrepreneurs of the clothing industry in Cleveland were often Jews of German or Austro-Hungarian extraction. Their previous experience in retailing prepared them for the transition to manufacturing and wholesaling ready-to-wear clothing.³⁸ By 1900 Cleveland's largely Jewish-owned garment industry was among the most important in America.³⁹ Within dynamically expanding Cleveland, its Jews held a distinctive place, just as did the other ethnic and religious groups of the city. In 1910 the Jewish economic position was summed up: "The Jews of Cleveland are engaged in many different commercial pursuits, being important factors in

32 Ibid.

33 Ibid.

34 Van Tassel, David, and John Grabowski, ed. The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History, 2nd ed., 1996, 459.

35 "The Joseph & Feiss Company Clothcraft Shops." National Register Nomination, August 31, 2010.

36 Van Tassel, 460.

37 Van Tassel, 559.

38 Van Tassel, 460

39 Ibid.

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industrial and commercial enterprises, particularly in the manufacture of cloaks and clothing and all kindred garment industries... They conduct the leading department stores and are among the most skillful garment workers....”⁴⁰ Garment production was often categorized depending on whether the firm produced men’s or women’s garments. In 1916, Cleveland ranked fourth in the production of women’s garments. It had many successful firms devoted to this area of production, including H. Black & Co. (NR 2001), Printz-Biederman, and Bobbie Brooks.⁴¹

Garment manufacturing started in the Flats area along the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland but by the early 20th century was concentrated in what is now called the Warehouse District, an area bounded by West 6th and West 9th streets and Lakeside and Superior avenues. As the garment industry spread to other areas of the city, the Cleveland Worsted Mills dominated the skyline on Broadway near East 55th Street, producing fabric for Cleveland manufacturers, as well as garment manufacturers in other parts of the country. During the first three decades of the 20th century, the garment industry spread from downtown to the east side—Bobbie Brooks on Perkins Avenue, the Dalton Co. at East 66th and Euclid, Printz-Biederman Co. on East 61st near Euclid, Bamberger-Reinthal Co. on East 61st at Kinsman, and the Richman Brothers Company on East 55th.⁴² Lion Knitting Mills Co. began its humble operations at 1011 Power Ave. in Cleveland but, by the 1920’s, had moved to a newly constructed facility at 3256 W. 25th St. to utilize the skilled immigrant labor force of newly arrived Poles, Germans and Italians living on Cleveland’s near west side. With only 32 employees on their payroll by the late 1920’s, the new facility was designed with growth in mind. According to the building permit, the engineer’s load capacity and occupant usage calculations were designed with 90 occupants in mind. The company would not only realize this growth but, at its peak, had 225 employees at its West 25th headquarters plus 15 full-time salesmen as well as offices / showrooms in New York, Atlanta, Seattle, Dallas, Los Angeles and Denver to service its 1400 customers who retail its men’s, women’s and children’s sweaters, afghans, lap robes and bed jackets through stores and by mail order.⁴³

In an industry known for seasonal layoffs, many of the employees of the Lion Knitting Mills Co. celebrated consistent employment and uncommonly long careers spanning several decades. A 1944 newspaper photo caption includes the names and likenesses of four Lion Knitting Mills Co. employees noting a combined 72 years’ service with the company; Mrs. Marie Hager, Mrs. Antoinette Larea, Mrs. Helen Kalna and Miss Lilian Pilot.⁴⁴ In 1955, during a banquet at the Hotel Lakeshore in Lakewood, Ohio, one 40-year employee of the Lion Knitting Mills Co. and 29 other employees were awarded service pins by Harold Ensten. As noted in that article, a listing of the employees included: 40-year tenure award to Vance A. Sweet; 25-year tenure awards to Mrs. Stella Czalkiewicz and Samuel B. Hibshman; 15-year tenure awards to Miss Dorothy Akers, L.H. Blake, Mrs. Dorothy Forbes, Volney E. Henderson and John Yourish; 10-year tenure awards to Mrs. Eva Fanz, Miss Jeanette Fisher, Mrs. Fannie Marencik, Mrs. Catherine Oleski, William Schwartz and Mrs. Laura Shimp; and 5-year tenure awards to Mrs.

40 Gartner, 274.

41 Van Tassel, David, and John Grabowski, ed. The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History, 2nd ed., 1996, 460.

42 Ibid.

43 Cleveland Plain Dealer, “*Firm looks to foreign markets*” September 3, 1983

44 Cleveland Plain Dealer, (photograph with caption) page 6-A February 13, 1944

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Margaret Adolph, Mrs. Mary Balint, Mrs. Leola Bates, Mrs. Anna Costanzo, Mrs. Jean Dickey, Mrs. Frances Gergat, Mrs. Rose Kelly, Mrs. Mary Gomer, C. Raymond Klosinski, Miss Mary Laviano, Mrs. Evelyn Mariatt, Miss Dolores Oleski, Joseph V. Paoletta, Mrs. Louise Patrick, Mrs. Cecelia Smith and Mrs. Vera Stein.⁴⁵ That same year, 1955, as part of the 25th annual Greater Cleveland Safety Campaign, Lion Knitting Mills Co. was awarded an industrial safety award in the 51 to 200 employee category under the manufacturing division for its ability to avoid any disabling accidents during the contest period.⁴⁶

The Lion Knitting Mills Co. building is significant under Criterion A for its role in GARMENT DESIGN, INVENTION AND INDUSTRY.

Lion's first product, the varsity or award-letter sweater, was knitted on hand-operated machines. In earlier years, Lion Knitting Mills applied an assembly line piecework technique to clothing production, with a worker specializing in one piece or another rather than sewing an entire garment.⁴⁷ Eventually, the sewing machine made large-scale production possible.⁴⁸ By World War I, the company had installed belt-driven knitting machines which were used to make woolen watchcaps for the U.S. Navy. The use of "Union Special" sewing machines was noteworthy and widely promoted innovation at Lion Knitting Mills changing the way clothing was made. These machines essentially revolutionized the garment industry by doing away with the old bundle system. This enabled each operator to remain continuously on one operation, resulting in greater and better production.

As a mechanism to protect new ideas and innovation in design, beginning in 1919, Louis H. Ensten began successfully pursuing patents for many of patterns and products of The Lion Knitting Mills Co. He applied for and received thirty-five (35) in all and, with them, included detailed instruction related to an item's purpose as well as its design specifications and assemblage complete with accompanying diagrams. Over the course of his career and on behalf of Lion Knitting Mills Co., he also filed several patent infringement suits tried by the U.S. Supreme Court against individuals and businesses.

Patents issued to L.H. Ensten by the United States Patent Office in 1919 included: Hat (patent #D737594 and #D426371), Hooded Cowled Scarf (patent #D693096), Hood and Scarf Combination (patent #8505117), Hooded Wrap – reversible head cover with attached (patent #D681919), Endless Scarf (patent #D668842), Hooded Scarf (patents #D621591 and D555330), Neck Scarf (patent #D529682), Scarf Garment (patent #5115517) and Round Ball Hat (patent #D355976).⁴⁹

Patents issued to L.H. Ensten by the United States Patent Office in 1921 included: Winter Hat (patent #D737547), Round Ball Hat (patent #D355976) and Cap (patent #D285982).⁵⁰

Patents issued to L.H. Ensten by the United States Patent Office in 1922 included: Ponytail Hat (patent #D564183), and Head Gear System (patent #6789266).⁵¹

45 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "30 Lion Knitting Mills Vets Hailed," June 26, 1955

46 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "Win Industrial Safety Awards," December 11, 1955

47 Grabowski, John and Diane Ewart Grabowski, ed. Cleveland: A history in motion, 2000, 125.

48 Grabowski, 114-117.

49 United States Patent and Trademark Office, Patent Full Text and Image Database. Web.

50 Ibid.

51 Ibid.

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Patents issued to L.H. Ensten by the United States Patent Office in 1923 included: Head Wear Specifically But Not Exclusively for People Experiencing Hair Loss (patent #8266721), and Multi Purpose Head Sweatband (patent #4394782).⁵²

Patents issued to L.H. Ensten by the United States Patent Office in 1932 included: Cap (patent #D665154), Collapsible Hat with Retaining Means (patent #3739401) and Knitting Method for a Buttonhole Knit Product (patent #5259209).⁵³

Patents issued to L.H. Ensten by the United States Patent Office in 1936 included: Mask (patent #D751211), Hood and Scarf Combination (patent #8505118), Head and Neck Covering (patent #D690487), Beanie with Opening Having Button and Loop Closure (patent #D615282 and D591933), Hood with Hinged Mask Piece (patent #7603724), Head Garment (patent #D596382), Article of Headwear and Method of Making Same (patent #7290293), Article of Clothing (patent #7096511), Multidimensional Camouflage Outer Wear Garment System (patent #6499141), Head Covering (patent #6272690), Neck and Ear Warmer (patent #D379027), Protective Head Cover (patent #D366347), and Article of Headwear (patent #7117544).⁵⁴

During World War I, Lion Knitting Mills did a great deal of experimental work in conjunction with the quartermaster corps and produced thousands of navy watch caps and other items. The American head comforter, which the army used in large quantities for wear under the standard issue steel helmet, and the messenger muffler used by army motorcycle riders, were designed by Lion Knitting Mills.⁵⁵

In 1940, Lion Knitting Mills offered its services to the Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot, the Bureau of Ships and the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts. Under the direction and guidance of these departments, a program of experimental research was inaugurated at the mill.⁵⁶ During World War II, Lion Knitting Mills developed the fatigue sweater style for the armed forces.⁵⁷

In September 1983, the Lion Knitting Mills Co. was one of only twenty US companies that were invited by the US Commerce Department to exhibit products at the international men's and boys' wear trade show in Paris which, at that time, was the largest show of its kind in Europe and which attracted 40,000 buyers from 90 countries.⁵⁸

The Lion Knitting Mills Co. building is significant under Criterion A for
THE COMPANY'S ROLE IN PROMOTING WAR PRODUCTION.

At the onset of World War I, hundreds of thousands of men flocked to recruiting stations to join the armed forces. Still, the war effort needed more. In May 1917, Congress passed the Selective Service Act and, a month later, President Wilson realized that the scale of the coming struggle would require the resources of the entire nation, he implemented a military draft. The vast majority of Americans responded to the President's call with patriotic selflessness. A massive 24 million men registered, of which the government actually called 6,400,000 into service. "In all,

52 Ibid.

53 Ibid.

54 Ibid.

55 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "Lion Knit Mills Will Get 'E' Served U.S. in Last War, Too," February 13, 1944.

56 Ibid.

57 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "The warp and weave of not-so-free trade," May 6, 1990.

58 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "Firm looks to expand to foreign markets," September 3, 1983.

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1,389,474 registrations were made in Ohio (in Cuyahoga County alone 111,687 men had registered ⁵⁹ and 154,236 Ohioans were actually drafted into the service.” ⁶⁰

The draft affected young, unmarried men the most – 90% of draftees were single. According to his WWI Jewish Serviceman Questionnaire, Harold Ensten was drafted on June 3, 1918 for military service ⁶¹ and served in the Army infantry 157 Depot Brigade before being drafted as Discharge Corporal to Gordon, Ga in November 1918 where he served Headquarters Company of the 331st infantry, 83rd division. ⁶² Harold Ensten then spent 3-1/2 months overseas with the American Expeditionary Forces from October to January 1919 and, on February 8, 1919 he was honorably discharged from duty so that he could resume his position as President of Lion Knitting Mills. Louis Ensten avoided military service by listing “Executive Officer” as a draft exemption on his WWI Draft Registration Card since his brother had already been drafted and enlisted. Married men, farmers and essential war industries workers had a fairly easy time obtaining deferments from the draft because it was vital that these industries and operations continue so as not to cripple America’s industrial ability to supply itself for war. ⁶³

For those serving in the ranks, a uniform was provided. Garments were durable and of reasonable quality but standard issue uniforms were not always well fitting. Hand-knitted items in quality wools added comfort as well as something more personal to the experience of wearing a uniform. Additionally, wool is a time-tested outdoorsman's material that maintained its insulating properties even when wet so the “woolies” (as woolen garments were affectionately referred to by servicemen) became enormously popular. A booklet entitled Knitting for the Merchant Navy referred to an excerpt from a merchant seaman’s correspondence considered representative of hundreds received: “*words are inadequate for me to describe the pleasure on the men’s face when they collected their woollies for use on board their ships. It means so much to the men to be warmly clothed, makes all the difference to their cold hours of duty.*” ⁶⁴

The war changed the operations of the companies that made clothing. The nation needed garment manufacturing and wartime initiatives involved cooperation with the government, often times requiring significant changes in production as well as regulations limiting what garment manufacturers could produce and sell for non-military purposes during wartime. The entrepreneurs of Cleveland’s garment industry were happy to offer help to the country that had offered them such opportunity. ⁶⁵ Cleveland’s garment industry – built by nineteenth-century immigrants including European Jews, Czechs, Poles, Germans and Italians – in a way, also went to war, producing uniforms, knit scarves, helmet liners, putters and parachutes. ⁶⁶ In order to meet the needs of the armed services, Lion Knitting Mills had been almost totally converted from

59 Rose, William Ganson. Cleveland: The Making of a City. 1950, 765.

60 Roseboom, Eugene H. and Francis P. Weisenburger. A History of Ohio. 1996, 337.

61 WWI Jewish Serviceman Questionnaire, 1917. Record of Harold Veit Einsten: Cleveland, Cuyahoga; Ohio

62 War Record of American Jews, 1920. Record of Harold V. Ensten. National Archives, New York, NY

63 Grolier Educational Corp. The New Grolier Encyclopedia of World War II, 1995, 56.

64 Howell, Geraldine. Wartime Fashion: From Haute Couture to Homemade, 1939-1945. 2012, 124-125.

65 Martin, Sean. A Stitch in Time: The Cleveland Garment Industry. U.S.: The Western Reserve Historical Society, 2015, 78.

66 Albrecht, Brian and James Banks. Cleveland in World War II. 2015, 62.

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peacetime production of woolen garments to wartime production of woolen watch caps for the U.S. Navy and sweaters for the armed forces.

The close of World War I brought serious adjustments to Ohio.⁶⁷ During the hardest years of the Depression, one-third of the people in Cleveland were out of work. The National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA) was enacted by Congress in June 1933 and was one of the measures by which President Franklin D. Roosevelt sought to assist the nation's economic recovery during the Great Depression.⁶⁸ In July 1933, Congress provided 300,000,000 dollars of RFC (Reconstruction Finance Corporation) funds to be loaned to local governments to provide a dole or work relief and to lessen the hardships of unemployment. Under this act, by the middle of 1933 almost 19,000,000 dollars was distributed by Ohio to various counties. During the administration of the National Industrial Recovery Act, Louis Ensten served as Chairman of a committee of Cleveland knitters cooperating with the federal government.⁶⁹ A year later, with the effects of the Depression still being felt nationwide, Congress cancelled the requirement of repayment for such loans. However, during this time of general economic downturn, Lion Knitting Mills was largely unaffected because the company had secured a contract to design and make knitted caps and sweaters for the armed forces based on their contribution to World War I. The outbreak of World War II stimulated defense orders and prosperity returned. In 1940, Harold completed a World War II Draft Registration Card; however, at 52 years old and married, it does not appear he was drafted for service in that World War. Lion Knitting Mills repeated its record of war relief just as they had during World War I and focused 98% of its production on military garments during World War II. During the war, Ohio's diversified rural-urban economy met the challenge by producing products and supplies. One problem affecting all Cleveland industry was a shortage of workers as men were drafted for the armed services and the demand for war materials soared. By 1943, a forty-eight-hour workweek was ordered for all Cleveland employers of eight or more workers.⁷⁰ Wages rose sky-high. There was a 68% increase in employees; many new workers were women or blacks.⁷¹ While men held executive and management positions, the Lion Knitting Mills Co. had a predominantly all female workforce with 150 female employees.

World War II contracts received by Ohio industries up to May 1945 were of such extent that the state ranked fourth (after Michigan, New York and California) in the value of such contracts. Accounting to almost \$18 billion, these contracts were distributed among various classifications, the most important being aircraft, ordnance, and shipbuilding, in that order.⁷² Cleveland was the State of Ohio's chief city involved in the production of these industries.

Many industries excelled in wartime production, and the tremendous effort put forth by their employees was noted. The Army-Navy "E" Award was an honor presented to a company during World War II for excellence in production of war equipment. The award was also known as the Army-Navy Production Award. The award consisted of a pennant for the plant and emblems (pins) for all employees in the plant at the time the award was made. The pennant was a triangular swallowtail with a white border, with a capital E within a yellow wreath of oak and

67 The Encyclopedia of Ohio, 1994, 108.

68 Roseboom, Eugene H. and Francis P. Weisenburger. A History of Ohio, 1996, 362.

69 Jewish Review and Observer. September 4, 1936. Western Reserve Historical Society, (microfiche - Roll 19)

70 Albrecht, 2015, 63.

71 The Encyclopedia of Ohio, 1994, 109.

72 Ibid

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laurel leaves on a vertical divided blue and red background. ARMY is on the red background and NAVY on the blue background. Usually an Army officer and a Navy officer would be present at a ceremony when a company would assemble all the employees and a ceremony would ensue. After the award of the pennant to the plant (to be flown), the employees present would receive their emblems. A total of 4,283 companies received the award in the course of the war. This amounted to approximately 5 percent of the companies in the nation engaged in war work. Approximately 50% of the Awards went to plants having less than 500 employees, generally considered as smaller war plants.⁷³ The Army-Navy E Award program was terminated after the war ended.

On Tuesday, February 15, 1944, Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Dillon (serving as officer in charge of the Army contracting branch, procurement division of the Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot) made the Army-Navy E award presentation while Lieutenant Commander M.A. Mangan of the Cleveland Office of Inspector of Naval Material and Staff Sargent Herbert Thorpe, Jr presented the citation and E pins to the officers and employees of Lion Knitting Mills. The company was recognized for its contributions to provide numerous items of headwear, mufflers, wristlets and sweaters to the armed forces as part of the war effort.⁷⁴

About The Ensten Brothers – A Close "KNIT" Pair

Siegfried H. Einstein, father of Louis and Harold Ensten, was born in Buchau, Germany in 1862 – a small town in the district of Baden-Wuttemberg. Their Mother, Marie Mary Schwarzenberg, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1856; however, both her parents were German Jews born in Germany. Siegfried and Marie had only two children; Louis and Harold.

Louis H. Einstein (later changed to Ensten) was born on November 6, 1886 in Cleveland, Ohio. He attended University School for Boys in Cleveland Heights before graduating from Central High School and, later, Case School of Applied Science. Before becoming an officer (Secretary and Treasurer) of the Lion Knitting Mills, he first worked for Citizens Savings & Trust Co. and then for Keller Knitting Co. Louis married and had two children: Alice and Frances.

Harold Veit Einstein (later changed to Ensten) was born on October 13, 1889 in Cleveland, Ohio. According to the 1940 Census, Harold's highest reported school grade was 8th grade. At the age of 23, he went into business with his brother and was appointed President of the Lion Knitting Mills Co. Harold married and had two children: Mary and Robert. Outliving his older brother (Louis H. Ensten date of death September 4, 1936), Harold Ensten served as President of Lion Knitting Mills for 46 years until a company employee of 27 years, James R. Hibshman was promoted from his post of Executive Vice President to President in May 1959. At that time, Harold Ensten was elected Chairmen of the Board and Treasurer – a role he continued to fill until his death on February 28, 1976, at age 86.⁷⁵

It is interesting to note, according to Cuyahoga County marriage records, in a dual ceremony on New Years Eve 1932, Harold (age 43) married Esther Ruth Light (age 23) and Louis (age 46) married Eva Mae Douglas (age 27) in Cleveland, Ohio.⁷⁶

73 Naval History and Heritage Command "Army-Navy E Award." Web.

74 Cleveland Plain Dealer, "Lion Knit Mills Will Get 'E' Served U.S. in Last War, Too," February 13, 1944.

75 Cleveland Plain Dealer "Lion Knit Mills Picks Hibshman," May 4, 1959

76 The Jewish Independent. Cleveland, OH. Western Reserve Historical Society (microfiche – reel 12, vol 63)

Lion Knitting Mills
Name of Property

Cuyahoga, Ohio
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About the Garment Industry in Cleveland Today – A Stitch In Time.

According to Sean Martin in his book “A Stitch in Time: The Cleveland Garment Industry” the influence of the garment industry on today’s city is easy to miss. Many factories stand forlorn, in ruins, with little sign that they once employed thousands. The flag no longer flies outside the shell of the building that housed Richman Brothers on East 55th Street. The home to so many Slovenian workers has become a hulking reminder of the city’s industrial past. The buildings that made up the Joseph & Feiss on West 53rd Street are covered with ivy and graffiti. The National Screw building on Stanton Avenue, the home to knitting mills, is completely gone. Stanton Avenue simply ends in a grove of trees, proof that the very landscape of the city is changing. The owners and workers left long ago for the suburbs and other opportunities. Their descendants often have only a vague notion about how their ancestors made a living.⁷⁷

Like the buildings we often drive past without a second thought, Cleveland’s contribution to fashion is easily overlooked, too. Steve Tatar’s pop-up shops for Ohio Knitting Mills are one of the most visible signs of the industry left in Cleveland.⁷⁸ Other significant aspects of the legacy of the garment industry are harder to detect but perhaps more important. The philanthropy of garment industry entrepreneurs helped to establish and lead organizations that became central to the welfare of the community.⁷⁹ The workers themselves are a no less important legacy of the industry. Making dresses, cloaks, suits, and sweaters enabled them to buy homes, feed their families, send children to school and live comfortably in retirement. Work in the garment industry offered them a chance to learn skills and eventually find jobs elsewhere. Work side by side with others from so many different backgrounds also facilitated the assimilation of the immigrant and better relations between blacks and whites. Many of the former employees of these companies have fond memories of their decades at work.⁸⁰

77 Martin, Sean. A Stitch in Time: The Cleveland Garment Industry. U.S.: The Western Reserve Historical Society, 2015, 104.

78 Ibid.

79 Martin, Sean, 105.

80 Ibid.

Lion Knitting Mills
Name of Property

Cuyahoga, Ohio
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Bryner, Edna. *The Garment Trades: Dressmaking and Millinery*. Cleveland: The Survey Committee of The Cleveland Foundation, 1916.

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Cleveland Landmarks Commission Files, Cleveland City Hall

Cleveland Plain Dealer Historical Newspaper Database, Cleveland Public Library

- “Mills Here Keep Soldiers Warm” – September 1, 1941
- “Lion Knit Mills Will Get ‘E’: Served U.S. in Last War, Too” –February 13, 1944
- “Head of Knitting Firm, 65, Feted” – October 14, 1951
- “For Extended Service” – June 4, 1953
- “30 Lion Knitting Mills Vets Hailed” – June 26, 1955
- “Win Industrial Safety Award” – December 11, 1955
- “Defense Sirens to Signal Drills in Industry” – September 11, 1956
- “Lion Knit Mills Picks Hibschan” – May 4, 1959
- “Wins Cap Order” – October 22, 1964
- “Firm looks to foreign markets” – September 3, 1983
- “All-American credo dyed in the wool – or cotton” – May 27, 1987
- “The warp and weave of not-so-free trade” – May 6, 1990

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“The Richman Brothers Company” National Register Nomination, April 12, 2012

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Lion Knitting Mills

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Cuyahoga, Ohio

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World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-18, Records of Harold V. Ensten and Louis H. Ensten, City: Cleveland; County: Cuyahoga; State: Ohio. Web. Ancestry.com

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Lewis Publishing Company, 1918 - [Cleveland \(Ohio\)](#), page 466-67.

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<https://sites.google.com/site/clevelandanditsneighborhoods/home>

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http://www.clevelandretailcommission.org/Clevelands_History.html.

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Union Special Machine Company, Chicago, IL 1922.

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Lion Knitting Mills
Name of Property

Cuyahoga, Ohio
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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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property .712 acres (30,922 SF)

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)

1. Latitude: 41.465636 Longitude: -81.700413
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

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Or
UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 17 | Easting: 441485 | Northing: 4590481 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

Parcel No. 1 (parcel number 007-34-037) - *Situated in the City of Cleveland, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, and known as being part of Sublot No. 3 and part of Sublot No. 4 in John and Nicholas Meyer's Subdivision of a part of Original Brooklyn Township Lot No. 67, as shown by the recorded plat of said Subdivision in Volume 3 of Maps, Page 20 of Cuyahoga County Records, and bounded and described as follows:*

Beginning on the Westerly side of West 25th Street, at the Northeasterly corner of land conveyed to Ernest and Anna Juergens, by deed dated January 5, 1917, and recorded in Volume 1900, Page 462 of Cuyahoga County Records;

Thence Northerly along the Westerly line of West 25th Street, 79 feet more or less to the Southeast corner of land conveyed by John Meyer and Wife to Georga Schmehl, by deed dated December 22, 1884 and recorded in Volume 372, page 627 of Cuyahoga County Records;

Thence Westerly along the Southerly line of land so conveyed by Meyer to Schmehl, 188 81/100 feet to the Southwest corner thereof;

Thence Northerly along the Westerly line of the land so conveyed to Schmehl, which Westerly line is the Easterly lie of a 25 foot right of way as described in said deed from Meyer to Schmehl, 47 95/100 feet to the Northerly line of said Sublot No. 3;

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Thence Westerly along the Northerly line of said Sublot No. 3, 25 feet to the Northwest corner thereof;

Thence Southerly along the Westerly line of said Sublots Nos. 3 and 4, 126 50/100 feet more or less to the Northwesterly corner of land so conveyed to Ernest and Anna Juergens;

Thence Easterly along the Northerly line of land so conveyed to Juergens, about 206 82/100 to the place of beginning;

Parcel No. 2 - *Situated in the City of Cleveland, County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, and known as being the Southerly 65 feet front of Sublot No. 4 in John and Nicholas Meyer's Subdivision of a part of Original Brooklyn Township lot No. 67 as shown by the recorded plat of said Subdivision in Volume 3 of Maps, Page 20 of Cuyahoga County Records, and bounded and described as follows:*

Beginning at the intersection of the Westerly line of West 25th Street, 65 feet;

Thence Westerly parallel with the Northerly line of Meyer Avenue, S.W. about 206 82/100 feet to the Westerly line of said Sublot No. 4;

Thence Southerly along the Westerly line of said Sublot No. 4 about 64 75/100 feet to the Northerly line of Meyer Avenue, S.W.

Thence Easterly along the Northerly line of Meyer Avenue, S.W., 200 feet, 8 inches to the place of beginning.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property includes all land historically associated with The Lion Knitting Mills Company as described in the Deed and listed as consolidated parcel number 007-34-037, per the Cuyahoga County Auditor records.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Sharon Trsek/Architectural Historian
organization: Marous Brothers Construction
street & number: 1702 Joseph Lloyd Parkway
city or town: Willoughby state: Ohio zip code: 44094
e-mail strsek@marousbrothers.com
telephone: (440) 391-5420
date: 1/25/2016

Lion Knitting Mills
Name of Property

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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 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: The Lion Knitting Mills
City or Vicinity: Cleveland **County:** Cuyahoga **State:** Ohio
Photographer: Sharon Trsek **Date Photographed:** November 2013
Photograph Number, Description and Camera Direction: Listed Below

Photograph # 0001 of 36

Description: Front perspective from opposite side of West 25th

Camera Direction: West

Photograph # 0002 of 36

Description: West 25th from edge of property line.

Camera Direction: South

Lion Knitting Mills
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Photograph # 0003 of 36

Description: Neighboring property North on West 25th

Camera Direction: West / slightly Northwest

Photograph # 0004 of 36

Description: Exterior fire escape – North Elevation

Camera Direction: South

Photograph # 0005 of 36

Description: Rooftop water tower (taken with telephoto zoom lens)

Camera Direction: South / Upward

Photograph # 0006 of 36

Description: Perspective of three-story addition

Camera Direction: Southwest

Photograph # 0007 of 36

Description: Single-story addition at rear of property adjoining rear of three-story addition

Camera Direction: South / slightly Southeast

Photograph # 0008 of 36

Description: Meyer Avenue / West 25th intersection

Camera Direction: Southwest

Photograph # 0009 of 36

Description: Meyer Avenue taken from opposite side West 25th

Camera Direction: West

Photograph # 0010 of 36

Description: Masonry detail at front entrance

Camera Direction: West / Upward

Photograph # 0011 of 36

Description: Cornice Southeast corner of original building

Camera Direction: West / Upward

Photograph # 0012 of 36

Description: Vacant lot on opposite side of West 25th

Camera Direction: East

Photograph # 0013 of 36

Description: West 25th and setback of building from street.

Camera Direction: Northeast

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Photograph # 0014 of 36

Description: South elevation in perspective

Camera Direction: Northwest

Photograph # 0015 of 36

Description: Meyer Avenue

Camera Direction: West

Photograph # 0016 of 36

Description: West 25th (mix of residential and commercial)

Camera Direction: Northwest

Photograph # 0017 of 36

Description: South elevation – rear half of original building

Camera Direction: North

Photograph # 0018 of 36

Description: Rear fire escape and additions in background

Camera Direction: North

Photograph # 0019 of 36

Description: Additions (3-story and 1-story to rear of original building) and fenced parking lot

Camera Direction: North

Photograph # 0020 of 36

Description: Original building and 3-story addition in perspective from opposite side of Meyer Ave.

Camera Direction: Northeast

Photograph # 0021 of 36

Description: South elevation of three-story addition

Camera Direction: Northeast

Photograph # 0022 of 36

Description: South elevation of single-story addition

Camera Direction: North

Photograph # 0023 of 36

Description: Single family residences neighboring lot

Camera Direction: Northwest

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Photograph # 0024 of 36

Description: Rear property line w/ additions in the background

Camera Direction: North / slightly Northeast

Photograph # 0025 of 36

Description: Meyer Avenue from edge of rear property fence

Camera Direction: East / slightly Southeast

Photograph # 0026 of 36

Description: Basement

Camera Direction: Northeast

Photograph # 0027 of 36

Description: Basement

Camera Direction: Northwest

Photograph # 0028 of 36

Description: First floor front office space

Camera Direction: Northeast

Photograph # 0029 of 36

Description: First floor interior including columns, flooring freight elevator and dumbwaiter

Camera Direction: South / slightly Southwest

Photograph # 0030 of 36

Description: Wood doors from corridor into finished space

Camera Direction: West

Photograph # 0031 of 36

Description: Staircase in original building between floors 2 & 3

Camera Direction: Southwest

Photograph # 0032 of 36

Description: Transition space from original building to addition

Camera Direction: West

Photograph # 0033 of 36

Description: Industrial Steel Sash

Camera Direction: Northeast

Photograph # 0034 of 36

Description: Freight Elevator at 2nd Floor

Camera Direction: Northeast

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Photograph # 0035 of 36

Description: Pair of historic loading doors

Camera Direction: West

Photograph # 0036 of 36

Description: 3rd Floor Corridor within original building

Camera Direction: North

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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| Lion Knitting Mills |
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Section number 7 Page 1

(pictured top) an historic perspective looking Northwest of Lion Knitting Mills along West 25th Street, (pictured below left) close up of the water tower, (pictured below right) interior view.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Section number 7 Page 2

Articles of
Incorporation 1912

THE STATE OF OHIO, COUNTY OF Cuyahoga, ss.

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county, this ninth day of December, A. D. 1912, the above named L. H. Einstein L. H. Einstein Samuel Pollack Leb. R. Burns and M. P. Koelliker who each severally acknowledged the signing of the foregoing articles of incorporation to be his free act and deed, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

WITNESS my hand and official seal on the day and year last aforesaid.

W. H. Kinney
Notary Public.

THE STATE OF OHIO, COUNTY OF Cuyahoga County, ss.

I, CHARLES S. HORNER, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, within and for the county aforesaid, do hereby certify that W. H. Kinney whose name is subscribed to the foregoing acknowledgment as a Notary Public was at the date thereof a Notary Public in and for said county, duly commissioned and qualified, and authorized as such to take said acknowledgment; and further that I am well acquainted with his handwriting, and believe that the signature to said acknowledgment is genuine.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court, at Cleveland, Ohio, this 9 day of December, A. D. 1912

Charles S. Horner
Clerk

W. H. Kinney
Deputy Clerk, Common Pleas Court, Cuyahoga County, Cleveland, Ohio.

X₂ P115-25A
Form A 32563
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
or
The Lion Knitting
Mills
916
Company.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State, at Columbus, Ohio, on the 10th day of Dec., A. D. 1912, and recorded in Volume 165, page 300, of the Records of Incorporations.

Alban H. Graves
Secretary of State.

REMARKS.
Articles of Incorporation must be subscribed by at least five persons, a majority of whom must be citizens of Ohio. They may be acknowledged before any other officer authorized to take acknowledgments of this kind, and this official must be certified to by the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the acknowledgment is made.

2 copies

Doc ID --> A090_0617

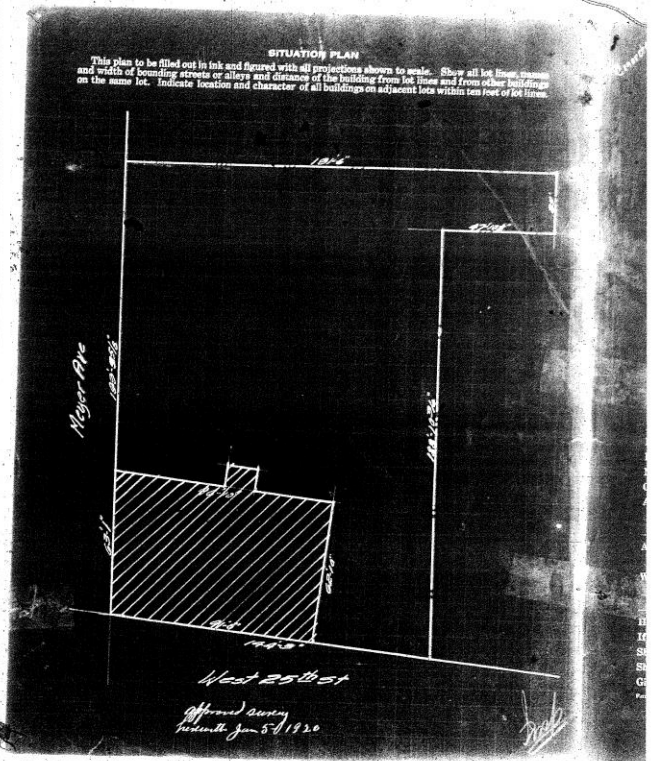
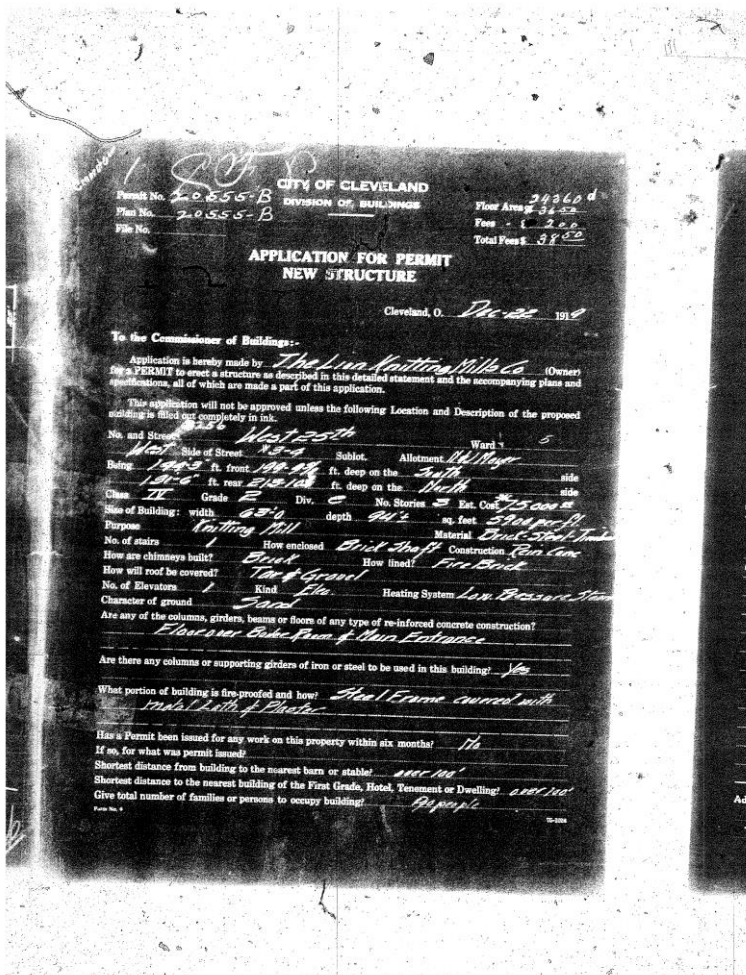
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Section number 7 Page 3

Original City of Cleveland Application for New Structure Permit December 22, 1919 for The Lion Knitting Mills Co. (Pages 1 and 2).



United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Section number 7 Page 4

Original City of Cleveland Application for New Structure Permit December 22, 1919 made by The Lion Knitting Mills Co. (Pages 3 and 4) and Original City of Cleveland Permit to Build dated January 7, 1920.

TABLE OF DATA REQUIRED

| FLOOR | LIVE OR DEAD FLOOR | BEAMS AND GIRDERS | | | | FLOOR JOISTS | | | | HOW IS FLOOR TO BE USED OR OCCUPIED | NUMBER OF PARTITIONS |
|---------|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | MATERIAL | SIZE | SPAN IN FEET | SPACING IN FEET | MATERIAL | SIZE | SPAN IN FEET | SPACING IN FEET | | |
| 1st | 150 | Steel | 12" x 12" | 12 | 8' 0" | S.P. | 10 1/4" | 16" | 16" | Shop | 1 |
| 2nd | 150 | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | Office Shop | 20 |
| 3rd | 150 | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | Workshop | 40 |
| 4th | | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | " | Knitting | 30 |
| 5th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ROOF | 50 | " | 12" x 12" | 12 | 8' 0" | " | " | " | " | | |
| RAFTERS | | THICKNESS OF WALLS IN INCHES | | | | STUDDING | | | | POST & COLL. | |
| STORY | HEIGHT OF STORY | FRONT | REAR | SIDE | FIRE | PARTY | DIVISION | MATERIAL | SIZE | POST | COLL. |
| 1st | 14' 0" | 21" | 6" | 6" | | | | | | 4" x 4" | 4" x 4" |
| 2nd | 13' 0" | 21" | 6" | 6" | | | | | | 4" x 4" | 4" x 4" |
| 3rd | 13' 0" | 17" | 6" | 6" | | | | | | 4" x 4" | 4" x 4" |
| 4th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9th | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10th | | | | | | | | | | | |

Additional Information: Building equipped with auto motor 2nd roller system.

Architect: The Lion Knitting Mills Co. Address: 152 1/2 Euclid Ave.

Gen. Cont'r: The Lion Knitting Mills Co. Address: 152 1/2 Euclid Ave.

Mason Cont'r: _____ Address: _____

Carpenter Cont'r: _____ Address: _____

Steel Inspr: C. S. G. R. Address: 100 Euclid Ave.

Concrete Inspr: _____ Address: _____

Supt: _____ Address: _____

The acceptance of the Permit herein applied for shall constitute an agreement on the part to abide by laws of the State of Ohio relating to the work to be done thereunder, and said agreement is a condition of said permit.

It is a further condition of this permit that:

The Lion Knitting Mills
Owner
Whiting Power 156 1/2 Euclid Ave.
Address: _____
(To be signed by Owner or Attorney in fact.)

To the Commissioner of Buildings:-
I hereby certify that I have examined this application and the plans and specifications forming a part thereof and that they have been approved.

Examiner of Plans: J. L. Lope
Engr. of Heating and Ventilation: _____
City Electrician: _____
Comm. of Smoke: _____
Dept. of Public Service: _____

Cleveland, O., Jan 7 1920
I hereby approve the above application for a Permit to Build.
Commissioner of Buildings

To the Commissioner of Buildings:-
Work was commenced on the within described building on the 16 day of 1920
and completed on the _____ day of _____ 1920, and a final inspection made on the _____ day of _____ 1920, and the building found to be in accordance with the above application, except as follows:

Sweeney Inspector.

No. 20555 B CITY OF CLEVELAND

PLANS: 20555-B DIVISION OF BUILDINGS

PERMIT TO BUILD FEE #32.50

PERMISSION IS HEREBY GRANTED TO THE Lion Knitting Mills Co. Address: Whiting Power 156 1/2 Euclid Ave.

TO ERECT A BUILDING AS FOLLOWS: LOCATION: 32 1/2 W 75th CLASSIFIED GRADE 2 DIV. 4 STORIES 3 SUB-DIV. 1

IN FURNISHANCE OF THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AS HERETOFORE SUBMITTED BY THE APPLICANT AND APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF BUILDINGS.

PROVISION IS HEREBY GRANTED FOR THE ERECTION OF A TEMPORARY ONE STORY SKELETON FOR UNFINISHING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BUILDING FOR WHICH THIS PERMIT IS ISSUED.

IN CASE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS BUILDING IS NOT COMPLETED TO THE TOP OF THE MAIN FLOOR JOISTS WITHIN SIX MONTHS FROM THIS DATE OR IS WORK ON THIS BUILDING IS SUSPENDED FOR ANY CAUSE FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS, THIS PERMIT SHALL BECOME NULL AND VOID.

THIS PERMIT CONVEYS NO RIGHT TO USE OR OCCUPY ANY STREET OR SIDEWALK, OR PORT THEREOF, EITHER TEMPORARILY OR PERMANENTLY.

KEEP THIS PERMIT CONSPICUOUSLY POSTED AT THE BUILDING DURING THE CONSTRUCTION THEREOF.

PERMIT TO BUILD

Commissioner of Buildings

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Section number 7 Page 5

Project costs overview. Job Started December 1919 – Job Completed October 1920.

The Lion Knitting Mills Co. - West 25th & Meyers Ave., - Job #264
 Job Started, - Dec. 1919 - Job Completed Oct. 1920
 Size, 62'-10" x 91'-0" & 96'-10"
 Type of Construction - Mill

Floor Loads *150#/sq ft - Panels 20'x16'*
 Height of Stories, Basement 11'-0", 1st floor 13'-0",
 2nd Fl. 13'-0", 3rd Fl. 13'-1" Aver.

No. sq. ft. - 24,280 incl. elevator shaft
 No. cu. ft. - 303,500

Elevators - No. 1 Type El. Fr. Speed 65' - Cap. 4000#
 Size - 9'-3" x 10'-0"

Boiler - No. 1 Kind, Mills - Size 1444-14-3

| Contractors | Contract Price | Cost Sq.Ft. | Cost Cu.Ft. |
|---|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| <u>General Contract</u> - F. W. Ruple Constr. Co., - | \$63,232.22 | 2.68 | .208 |
| Excavation, Concrete, Masonry | | | |
| Structural Steel, Carpenter, | | | |
| Glass & Glazing, Steel Sash, | | | |
| Plastering, Toilet Partitions | | | |
| <u>Roofing</u> -Branagan Roofing Co, | 539.00 | .022 | |
| <u>Sheet Metal</u> -Jacob Halter & Son Co, | 150.00 | .006 | |
| <u>Fire Doors</u> -McWatters & Company, | 354.50 | .015 | |
| <u>Peelle "</u> -The Peelle Co, | 765.00 | .032 | |
| <u>Kinnear "</u> -The Kinnear Mfg. Co, | 145.00 | .006 | |
| <u>Heating & Plumbing</u> -The Weiss Heating & Plumbing Co, | 9,871.13 | 0.41 | 0.06 |
| <u>Sprinkler</u> -The Rockwood Spr. Co, | 5,634.52 | 0.24 | 0.0048 |
| <u>Elevator</u> -The Warner Elev.Co, | 3,875.00 | 0.164 | |
| <u>Mastic Floors</u> - R. W. Johns-Manville Company, | 637.98 | 0.027 | |
| <u>Sprinkler Tank</u> -The Challenge Co, | 2,813.00 | 0.12 | |
| <u>Hardware</u> -W. Bingham Company, | 419.90 | .017 | |
| <u>Wiring</u> -The Mattien Elec.Co, | 1,423.00 | .06 | |

Total,..... \$89,860.25

Building Cost.....\$2.70
 Total Cost.....\$3.70

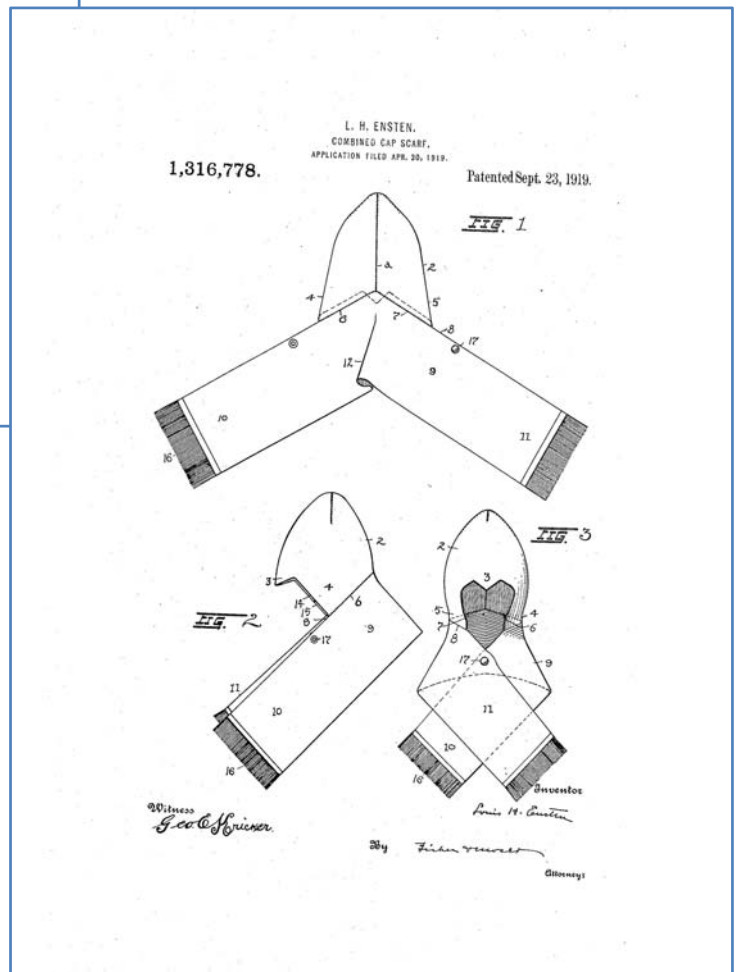
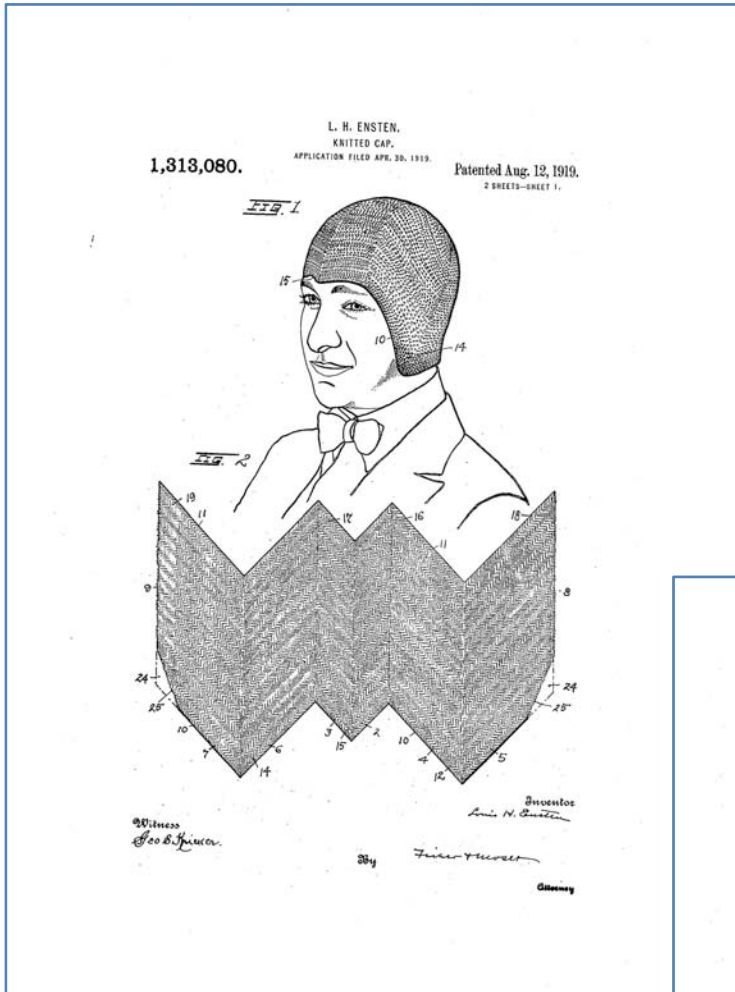
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Patent Patterns held by L.H. Ensten for Lion Knitting Mills



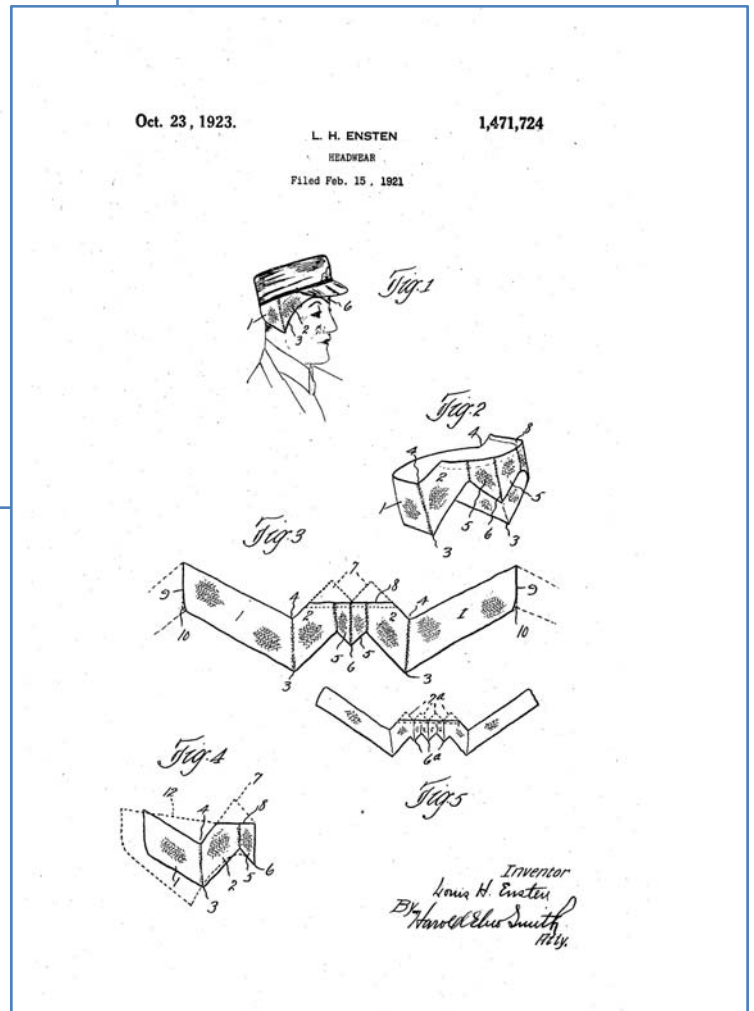
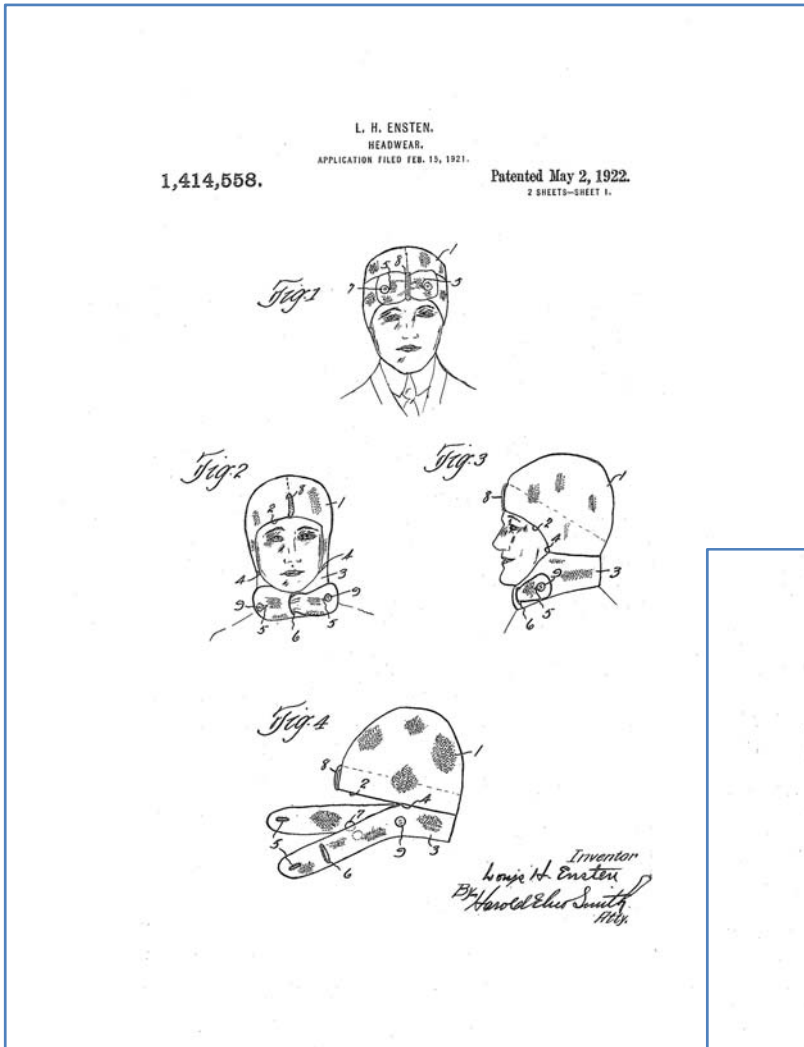
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Patent Patterns held by L.H. Ensten for Lion Knitting Mills



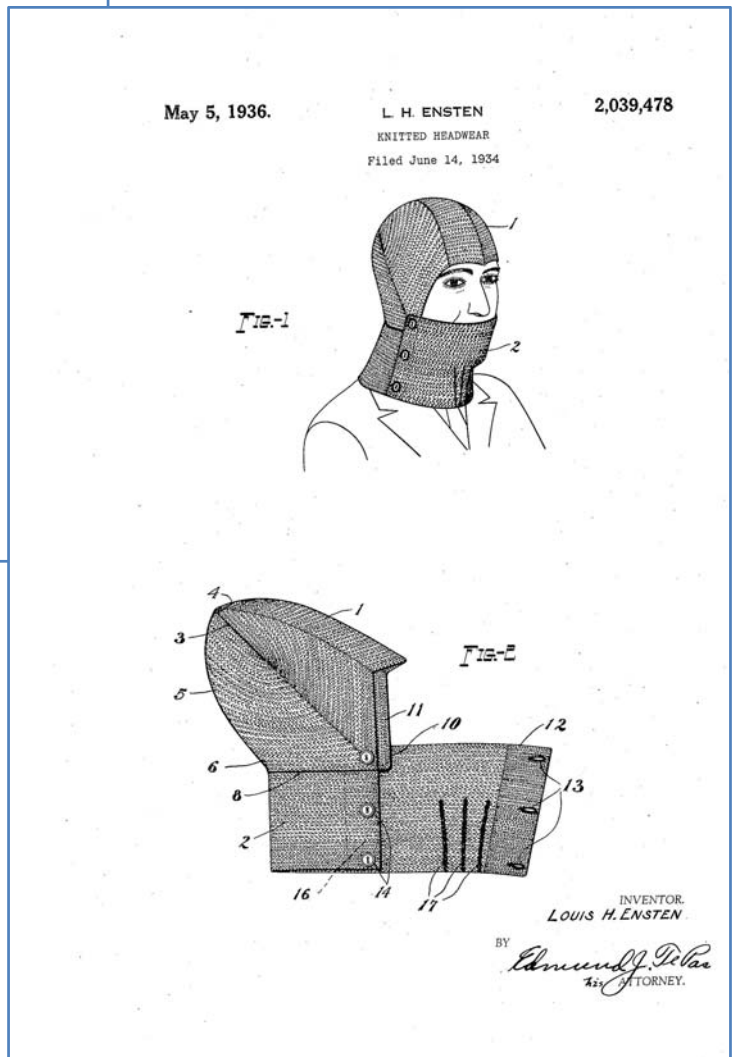
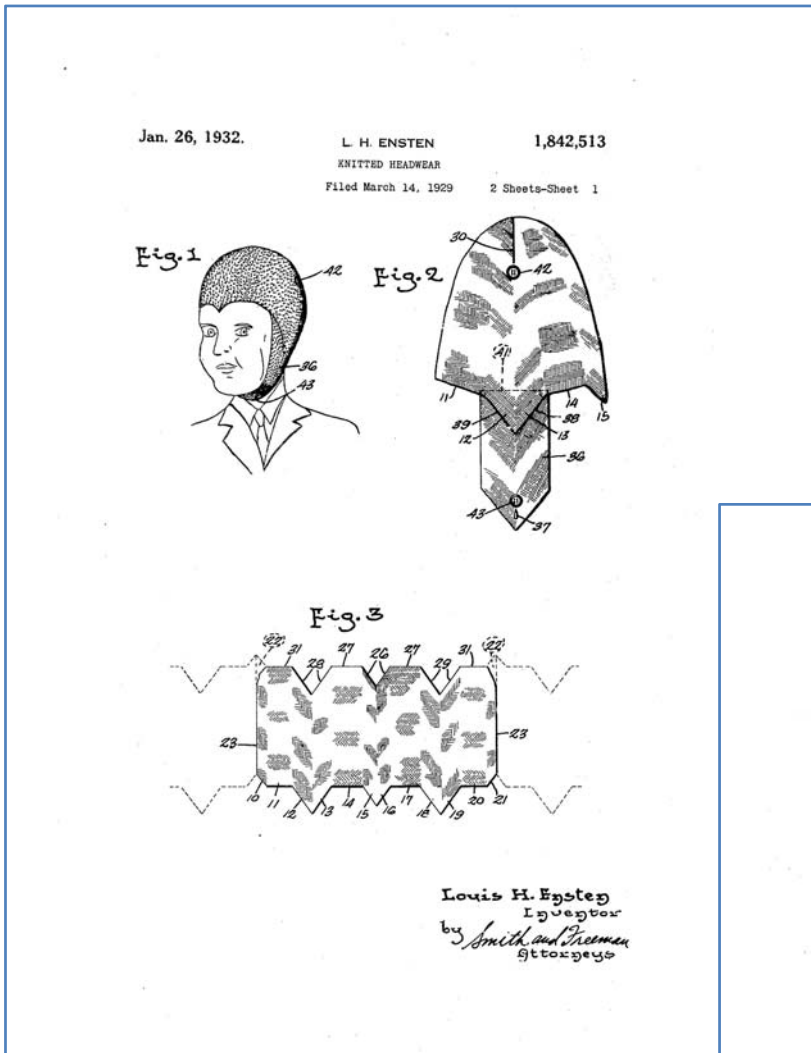
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Patent Patterns held by L.H. Ensten for Lion Knitting Mills



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1921 Advertisement from Boys Life Magazine for Ace Cap garment (below)

1944 Advertisement for Ace Cap garment (right)

66



Hey Buddie! Where's Your Ace Cap?

YOU can laugh at the coldest winds that blow—and at snow-balls too, with an **Ace** on your head. Boy, but it's comfortable!

Fits right over forehead, ears and the back of your neck. So light you don't know you have a **cap** on, yet, it's the warmest **cap** you ever wore—yes and the snappiest, too!


Made in all colors, boy scout colors, and your own school stripes.

If you don't know who has **Ace Caps** in your city, send us the name of the nearest dealer.



ACE
Knitted Caps

THE LION KNITTING MILLS COMPANY
WEST 25th STREET & MEYER AVENUE, CLEVELAND, OHIO



**GENUINE
ACE CAP**


All Wool

IN 3 WEIGHTS

Ace, the streamlined, aviator style cap is knitted exclusively of warm, pure, virgin wool worsted. Available in three weights: Bantam weight, Medium weight, and Heavy weight.

This versatile all wool cap protects forehead, neck and ears. Stays up or down without buttons or snaps. Choice of American winter sport champions for 25 years.

Buy now for Christmas. One size fits all heads. In school stripes and solid colors. At good stores everywhere.



THE LION KNITTING MILLS CO.
3256 West 25th Street • Cleveland 9, Ohio

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1922 Boys Life Magazine Advertisement for Ace Cap garment



“Boy, but she’s Great”

fits like a glove—and nifty? Just try one on and see!

A REGULAR cap for regular fellows, fine for outdoor games and sports. In mild weather turn it up all around and you’ve a light, easy-feeling cap that clings close to your head. When cold, wear as shown here and ears, forehead and back of your neck are warm and comfy.

What’s the color or stripe you want? Write us for illustrated booklet and name of the store that has Ace Knitted Caps.

Ever Wear this Ace Muffler Cap?
If you want a knitted cap and muffler all in one be sure to send for booklet showing this Ace Adjustable Muffler Cap. It’s a dandy.

The **Lion Knitting Mills Company**
West 25th Street, Cleveland, Ohio

ACE Knitted Caps
Trade Mark Registered Pat. Aug 12, 1920

Sure Enough Demand!

Here is evidence sufficient that boys do want Ace Caps and Ace Muffler Caps. Thousands of inquiries are actually pouring in on us every week in response to our national advertising. And the campaign has only just started.

Get in touch with your jobber or write us direct and we’ll have your wholesaler supply you. Ace Caps are one of the most rapid sellers you can present. Better wire us.

The **Lion Knitting Mills Co.**, W. 25th Street, Cleveland

“Please send me a booklet on your Ace Muffler Cap. I am advertising in my school paper.”

“I have just ordered a dozen of your caps for my boys.”

“I have just ordered a dozen of your caps for my boys.”

“I have just ordered a dozen of your caps for my boys.”

ACE Knitted Caps
Trade Mark Registered Pat. Aug 12, 1920

ACE Knitted Caps
Trade Mark Registered Pat. Aug 12, 1920

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An advertisement for W.B Davis Company of Cleveland (a clothier) which features "Lion Sweater Coats" as one of its product offerings.

Hickok
monogram belt buckles and vest-ograms—none of the accessories of correct dress add more of an air of individuality than these. Made by the Hickok Manufacturing Co., Rochester, N. Y.

When you buy a trunk you can look at the purchase in two ways: you can either get one that will only meet your immediate requirements; or you can get one that will meet both your present and your future requirements, one that will give you better service and that is guaranteed against damage.
We are agents for the
Indestructo
Guaranteed Trunk

Now, when every patriotic American is making war on waste and practicing thrift, the low prices and proverbial wearing qualities of
Holeproof Hosiery
appeal to every pocketbook.

Correct style, combined with the temper-conserving oval button hole and the laundry-defying reinforced edge are outstanding features which explain the popularity of
Lion Collars

Men who are alert to the fine points of shirt style and shirt quality find their greatest satisfaction in
Excello Shirts
the brand that has come to mean the best in shirtdom. Made in Paterson, N. J., by the Excello Shirt Co. The patterns, colors, style and fineness of materials for the Fall of 1917 are all in keeping with the standards such a manufacturer must maintain.

Before a hat is allowed to carry the Davis name it must stand up under an exceedingly rigid inspection—for we trust our reputation to our belief that they will give satisfaction.
It is natural, then, that we should entrust the manufacture of so many of the hats that bear the Davis private brand to a house that is so famous for the quality of its products as
The Crofut & Knapp Co.
South Norwalk, Conn.
Many of the Davis Superfine, Davis De Luxe and Davis Special hats are made in their factories.

Among the makers of fine hats none has won a more deserved good name than the famous French house of Mossant, Vallon & Argod, manufacturers of
Mossant
Soft Hats
for which we are the sole agents for Cleveland. In special favor this year are the superb Mossant bowlers.
Jacob J. Seeds & Co. of Philadelphia are the wholesale selling agents for the United States and Canada.

Football managers and players will find special interest in the department devoted to men's athletic apparel, where there is a complete and satisfying showing of
Lion Sweater Coats
Made in Cleveland by the Lion Knitting Mills.

Scarfs with character! There's something about
Blanchard & Price
Neckwear
that is plainly apparent to the eye, yet very difficult to describe—character!
These are the better grade scarves that have the exclusive feature known as the "Wafer Thin Neckband"—ties that are highly satisfactory, both to the man who wears them and to the store that sells them. Made by Blanchard & Price, 112 Fifth Ave., New York.

Progress
When a merchant speaks of progress, the word should, it seems to us, imply not merely the gaining of a greater volume of business, or the attainment of larger size, but more especially the achievement of a greater measure of usefulness to the buying public and to the community at large.
It is our hope that we may make steady progress towards giving the sort of service which was our aim in planning the up-to-date building which we now occupy.
The W B Davis Co.
327-335 Euclid Avenue
(New location—first door West of Old Arcade)

Lyford Scarf
in a color that "looks right" on him. A great many of our better class scarfs come from the dependable house of Charles W. Lyford & Son, New York.

We recommend
Munsingwear
because these famous union suits give the sort of satisfaction that recommends us.
Their perfect fit, soft yarns, smooth seams, washability and durability afford comfort to millions of satisfied users—thousands of them right here in Cleveland.

"Conscientious" is a big word—especially when applied to the manufacturing of merchandise—so we are saying a good deal when we refer to our popular-priced neckwear as having been conscientiously made.
That means that it gives the buyer liberal value—that the materials and workmanship are as good as it is possible to give at the price paid.
Many of the popular-priced scarfs that bear the Davis label are made for us by
The Cleveland Neckwear Co.
of Cleveland

E & W
Shirts and Collars
They are made for each other—and each is an ideal blending of quality and style—"Troy's Best Product."
We carry the largest E & W stock in Cleveland.

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Jewish Infantry record for Harold Ensten noted January 1, 1920 (top left), WWII Draft Card for Harold Ensten (top right), and Draft Card for Louis H. Einstein (bottom right).

WAR RECORD OF AMERICAN JEWS
CLEVELAND

Compiled by the Office of War Records of the American Jewish Committee, in cooperation with the Jewish Welfare Board and other leading organizations, as a permanent memorial of Jewish Service in the World War and as a contribution to American and Jewish history.

1. Name in Full Harold U. Ensten

2. Present Service or Business Address 1051 Power Ave., Cleveland, Ohio

3. Legal Residence 1899 East 90th St., Cleveland, Ohio

4. Date and Place of Birth Jan 13, 1889, Cleveland, Ohio

5. Next of Kin mother, Cleveland, Ohio; father, Buchan, Wrentham, Maine

6. Education (if college or university graduate, give name of institution, date of graduation and degree obtained):
Harvard A.B. 1916, L.S.B. 1918.

7. Occupation Manufacturer, Lion Knitting Mills Co.

8. Service (Army? Navy? Marine? Civil?) Army

9. Branch (such as Infantry, Field Artillery, Medical Corps, Pay Corps, etc.) Infantry

10. Rank Corporal

11. Method of entrance into service (Enlisted, Drafted, Inducted, etc.) drafted

12. Date of entrance into service Jan 3, 1918

13. Length of time spent overseas or absent, counting toward service elsewhere 3 1/2 yrs

14. Date of leaving service (if still in service, so state) Feb 8, 1919

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 29, 1897 and on or before February 16, 1907)

SERIAL NUMBER 945 NAME (PRINT) Harold (name) Ensten ORDER NUMBER

2. PLACE OF BIRTH (PRINT) 3021 Keswick Rd. Cleveland, Cuy. Ohio

3. MAILING ADDRESS same

4. TELEPHONE Lo. 4433-Rds 5. AGE IN YEARS 52 6. PLACE OF BIRTH Cleveland

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs Esther Ensten 3021 Keswick Rd. Cleveland, Ohio

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS Lion Knitting Mills Company 3256 West 25 St. Cleveland, Ohio

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.
Harold Ensten

Form 1 3477 REGISTRATION CARD 240 100

1. Name in full Louis H. Einstein Age in yrs 30

2. Home address 1899 E. 90th Cleve. O.

3. Date of birth Nov. 6 1886

4. Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? Natural Born

5. Where were you born? Cleveland O. U.S.A.

6. If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?

7. What is your present trade, occupation, or office? Manufacturer

8. By whom employed? Lion Knitting Mills

9. Where employed? 1051 Power Ave., Cleve. O.

10. Married or single (specify which)? Single Race (specify which)? Caucasian

11. What military service have you had? None

12. Do you claim exemption from draft, specify grounds? Executive Officer

I Affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.
L.H. Einstein

34-2-18-1 REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1. Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? Tall (Slender, medium, or stout (which)? Slender)

2. Color of eyes? Brown Color of hair? Brown Build? 40

3. Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? No

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

H.E. Cheworth
(Signature of registrar)

209
City or County Cleveland State Ohio
Time 5:10 PM
(Date of registration)

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Article from *The Plain Dealer*. September 1, 1941, "Mills Here Keep Soldiers Warm" within the content of the article, the following is mentioned "... The Lion Knitting Mills Co. has obtained army orders for 15,000 pairs of woolen anklets for military clothing and 15,000 pairs of wristlets, according to Harold V. Ensten, company president and treasurer." (below).

MILLS HERE KEEP SOLDIERS WARM

Sweaters, Caps, Coats and Bedding Go to Uncle Sam

Thousands of Uncle Sam's soldiers and sailors will derive comfort and warmth this fall and winter from woolen wearing apparel and other materials manufactured in Cleveland knitting mills and woolen shops.

The Bamberger-Reinthal Co., which is filling orders for 31,000 knitted turtle-neck sweaters for the United States Army, has been delivering the sweaters at the rate of more than 2,000 a week.

Arthur J. Reinthal, vice president of the company, said the concern was completing an army order for 15,000 knitted caps. The company has already supplied the army air corps with 19,000 "mechanics' caps" and has made 140,000 blue "wrench caps" for the United States Navy.

New contracts were recently awarded by the War Department to Bamberger-Reinthal for 1,000-worsted sweaters, 7,183 wool caps and 4,500 wool mufflers.

The Lion Knitting Mills Co. has obtained army orders for 15,000 pairs of woolen anklets for military clothing and 15,000 pairs of wristlets, according to Harold V. Ensten, company president and treasurer.

Material for Overcoats

The Colonial Woolen Mills Co., which has received nearly \$1,000,000 worth of government contracts in the last year, is winding up delivery on an order for 100,000 yards of khaki overcoating material. Previous orders were for more than 150,000 yards of the material.

Carl J. Hahn, president of the company, said the material, made from woolen yarn manufactured by the Colonial mills, was purchased by the army quartermaster corps for use by manufacturers of uniforms.

In addition to the woolen cloth operations, the Colonial plant, which employs nearly 300 workers, is making woolen blankets for various divisions of the navy, for the United States Maritime Commission and the United States Treasury Department.

Due to an increased volume of business, Hahn said, the company has leased another woolen mill at Gilsum, N. H. This mill, formerly idle, now employs about 100.

20,000 Mattresses Ordered

H. Goodman, Inc., mattress manufacturer, is completing work on orders for 20,000 cotton felt mattresses that will be used in army barracks, hospitals and other military establishments.

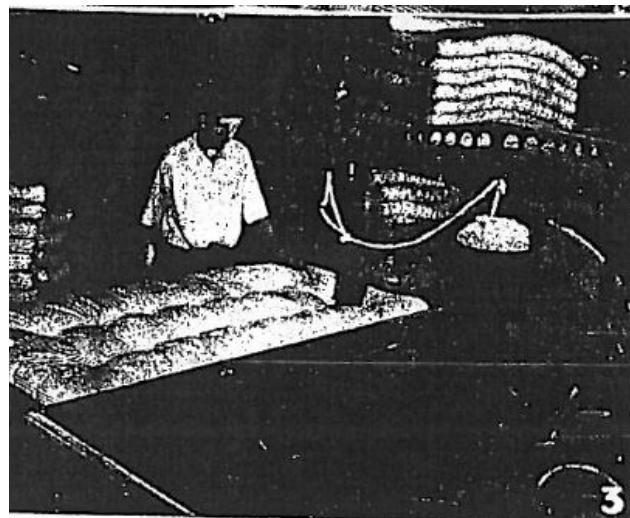
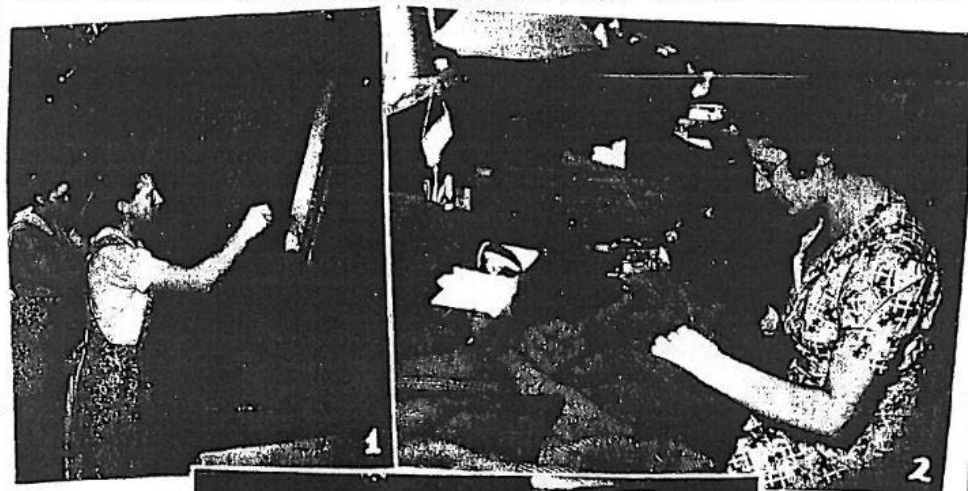
Phillip H. Goodman, president of the company, which is operating its large plant at capacity, said the output of the government mattresses had been at the rate of about 150 a day.

The Goodman concern supplied nearly 1,000 mattresses for dormitories at the Ravenna shell-loading plant and has made a large quantity of mattresses for lake steamers engaged in the ore trade.

The Wagner Awning & Manufacturing Co. recently completed an army order for 20,000 mattress covers. J. Roy Flink, assistant general manager and secretary, said. He added that the company was making "blackout covers" to blot out lights on military vehicles and also was producing tarpaulins and tool kits for army trucks.

Other defense products of the Wagner concern, which has a payroll of approximately 300, include covers for motors and machinery used in defense production.

These Cleveland Workers Assure Soldiers Warm Clothes and Good Rest



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Military garment – a knitted Army balaclava (face mask) produced by The Lion Knitting Mills Co. with close-up photo of garment label.



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Military garment – a Navy Wool Watch Cap produced by The Lion Knitting Mills Co. with photo of Navy Seamen wearing the garment during their service.



Wins Cap Order
 The Small Business Administration Cleveland regional office reports Lion Knitting Mills Co. here has been awarded a \$121,322 contract by the Defense Clothing & Textile Supply Agency, Philadelphia, for knit caps.



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Excerpts from *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*: February 13, 1944, Lion Knitting Mill receives the Army-Navy "E" for Excellence for its production of knit goods used by armed forces (top left). June 4, 1953, John Kalna and Miss Lillian Pilat were awarded their 25 year pins by the company president, Harold. V. Ensten (bottom right).

Lion Knit Mills Will Get 'E';
Served U. S. in Last War, Too

The Lion Knitting Mills Co., 3256 W. 23th Street, will be awarded the Army-Navy "E" for excellence in production at a ceremony at the mill at 4 p. m. Tuesday.

This concern, which has been manufacturing knitted goods since 1912, has helped develop numerous items of headwear and mufflers, wristlets and sweaters now being used by the armed forces.

Lieut. Col. Robert J. Dillon, former New York work-clothing manufacturer who is now serving as officer in charge of the contracting branch, procurement division, Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot, will make the presentation to the concern.

Lieut. Commander M. A. Mangan of the Cleveland Office of Inspector of Naval Material will read the citation on behalf of the navy and will announce the awarding of "E" pins to the employees.

Assisting Commander Mangan in the presentation of pins will be Staff Sergt. Herbert Thorpe, jr., who is recuperating at Fletcher General Hospital, Cambridge, O., from injuries suffered when the bomber in which he was a tail gunner crashed in a fog at the southern tip of England.

Only One to Survive
Sergt. Thorpe was the only member of the 11-man crew to survive. He has been awarded the Purple Heart.

The Lion Knitting Mills Co. is repeating its record of World War I when the mill did a great deal of experimental work in conjunction with the quartermaster corps and produced thousands of navy watch caps and other items. The American head comforter, which the army used in large quantities for wear under the standard steel helmet, and the messenger muffler, used by army motorcycle riders, were designed by the company.

In 1940 the mill offered its services to the Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot, the Office of Quartermaster Depot, the Bureau of Ships and the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts. Under the direction and guidance of these departments,



FOR EXTENDED SERVICE. Among workers of the Lion Knitting Mills Co. honored last night for long-time employment were John Kalna and Miss Lillian Pilat, shown receiving 25-year pins from Harold V. Eastein (right), president. A 40-year pin, a trophy and an oil painting went to Enstein for his leadership and affiliation with the company beginning one year after it was founded by his late brother, Albert. Nearly 150 attended the presentation banquet at Hotel Lake Shore.

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Excerpts from *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*. October 14, 1954, the paper reports of the company celebrating their president, Harold V. Ensten's 65th birthday (left). September 9, 1956, Lion Mills participates in the observance of National Civil Defense Week by conducting a defense drill (middle). June 26, 1953, thirty Lion Mill employees are rewarded for their years of service by company president, H.V. Ensten (right).

Head of Knitting Firm, 65, Feted

Company employees of the Lion Knitting Mills, 3256 W. 25th Street, honored their president, Harold V. Ensten, yesterday afternoon with a surprise birthday party. He was 65.

The 150 women employees baked cakes and prepared other foods in their homes which was served in the company cafeteria.

The company was one of the first in the knitting industry here to institute a program of group insurance, sale of company stock to employees and a profit-sharing plan, plus a Christmas bonus.

18—A

CD Sirens to Signal Drills by Industries

Part of Observance of National Week

Cuyahoga County's air raid sirens, sounding at 11 a.m. Tuesday as part of the area-observance of National Civil Defense Week, will set off several industrial defense drills.

The Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp., 3341 Jennings Road S.W., will stage an evacuation of its office force to an adjoining parking lot in the 10-minute siren drill.

Its fire brigade will be called upon to put out a fire in a designated location.

The Lion Knitting Mills Co., 3256 W. 25th Street, will conduct a drill, according to Dorothy Akers, personnel manager.

The Patterson-Sargent Co., 1325 E. 38th Street, will evacuate its personnel with the sounding of the "alert" signal.

All Cleveland schools have been requested to conduct a security drill. Many schools plan to distribute CD pamphlets and booklets to pupils.

Auxiliary police from the five

30 Lion Knitting Mills Vets Hailed

A 40-year employee of the Lion Knitting Mills Co. and 29 other employees were awarded service pins last night by the company president, H. V. Ensten, at a banquet in Hotel Lake Shore, Lakewood.

Vance A. Sweet, the 40-year employee, will also receive a drill press as a special gift. Maintenance superintendent at Lion, he lives at 4609 Wetzel Avenue S. W.

Mrs. Stella Czalkiewicz and Samuel B. Hibshman received 25-year service pins and gold watches. Awarded 15-year pins were Miss Dorothy Akers, L. H. Blake, Mrs. Dorothy Forbes, Volney E. Henderson and John Yourish.

Mrs. Eva Fanz, Miss Jeanette Fisher, Mrs. Fannie Marencik, Mrs. Catherine Oleski, William Schwartz and Mrs. Laura Shimp received 10-year awards.

Five-year pins went to:

Mrs. Margaret Adolph, Mrs. Mary Balint, Mrs. Leola Bates, Mrs. Anna Costanzo, Mrs. Jean Dickey, Mrs. Frances Gergat, Mrs. Rose Kelly, Mrs. Mary Gomer, C. Raymond Klosinski, Miss Mary Laviano, Mrs. Evelyn Mariatt, Miss Dolores Oleski, Joseph V. Paoletta, Mrs. Louise Patrick, Mrs. Cecelia Smith and Mrs. Vera Stefn.

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Excerpts from *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*. May 4, 1959, James Hibshman is promoted to president of the company (top left).

Excerpts from *The Plain Dealer*. December 20, 1963, Lion Mill hosts dinner for soldiers "adopting" orphans for the evening (top right). October 22, 1964, Lion Knitting Mills is awarded a contract by the Defense Clothing & Textile Supply Agency for knit caps (bottom).

**Lion Knit Mills
Picks Hibshman**

The Lion Knitting Mills Co., 3256 W. 25th Street, announced yesterday that James R. Hibshman, a company employe for 27 years, has been promoted from the post of executive vice president to president.

He replaces Harold V. Ensten, president for the past 46 years who has been elected chairman of the board and treasurer.

Other appointments included: Norbert K. Hibshman, elevated from vice president in charge of production to executive vice president; Raymond Kenyon, to assistant vice president and production manager; Stanley Yourish, to assistant vice president and director of knitting, and William Wolfe, to executive assistant.

Greeting the Season

**Nike Unit 'Santas'
to Treat Orphans**

Santa Claus will be dressed in olive drab instead of bright red when he calls at St. John's Home in Painesville this year.

Seventeen orphans at the home will be adopted for a day (Dec. 29) by the soldiers of Battery "A", 3d Missile Battalion (Nike), in Painesville.

They will be treated to dinner at the Army base, then taken roller skating and to a movie, at the expense of the soldiers.

This is the second year the men at the base are donating their time and money to the orphans.

mas fare at Hotel Statler Hilton tonight and tomorrow.

One or the other, or both, will be held today by Gamma Epsilon (Euclid Ballroom, 9 p.m.) and Flora Stone Mather College of Western Reserve University (Grand Ballroom, 10 p.m.)

Tomorrow's schedule includes Lion Knitting Mills (Grand Ballroom, 6 p.m.), Al Sirat Grotto (Ohio Room, 6 p.m.) and Cities Service Oil Co. (Euclid Ballroom, 7 p.m.)



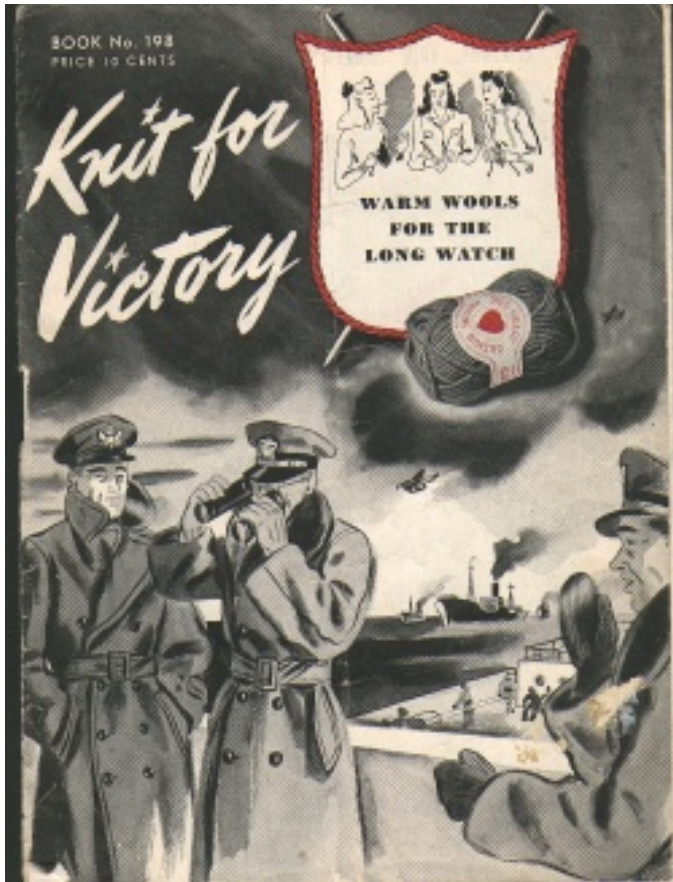
Four staff members of the Cleveland Public Library will sing Christmas carols from

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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WIN INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AWARDS

National Carbon, Harshaw Chemical Tops Here

National Carbon Co., Inc., and the Harshaw Chemical Co. last night were announced as top winners in the 25th annual Greater Cleveland Safety Campaign which ended Sept. 30.

They will be honored, along with 168 other companies, at an industrial safety award banquet in Hotel Carter tomorrow night.

National Carbon led the manufacturing division of the contest with a total of 1,064,516 man hours of work during the six-month period without a single disabling accident.

Leader in the nonmanufacturing division was the Harshaw Chemical Co. main office with a six-month record of 391,964 man hours without disabling accidents.

Avoid Disabling Accidents

Seven other companies free of disabling accidents during the contest were:

The Brunner Co., 1 to 50 employes; Lion Knitting Mills, 51 to 200 employes; Pressed Steel Division, Republic Steel Corp., 201 to 300 employes; and the Glidden Co., 501 to 1,500 employes. All are in the manufacturing division.

Similar awards for non-manufacturers go to Economy Buick Co., 1 to 50 employes; Sherwin Williams Co. (printing plant), 51 to 200 employes; and Cleveland Coal and Coke Chemicals of U.S. Steel Corp., 201 to 500 employes.

Win Special Awards

Special awards will go to the Ohio Bell Telephone Co., Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland and the East Ohio Gas Co. Non-accident awards will go to 154 other companies.

The contest was sponsored by the Industrial Commission of Ohio, the Cleveland Safety Council and the northern Ohio chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers.

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Want Ads: Knitters (1919), operators (1923), forelady (10/1/1927), power machine operators (1944), stenographer (6/26/1944), sewing machine operator (1/2/1945), presser (1/16/1949), clipper (6/1/1952), cutter (10/30/1952), washer (4/3/1955), knitter mechanic (7/18/1955), stitchers and overcasters (7/28/1957), seamers-sergers (8/9/1961), loopers (4/11/1963), cost estimator (3/19/1964).

KNITTERS
LION KNITTING MILLS
 Whitney Bldg.
 1051 Power av.

CLIPPER
 Experienced in clipping and finishing sweaters; clean, pleasant surroundings; music while you work; piece rates; West Side preferred.
LION KNITTING MILLS
 3256 W. 25 St.

CUTTER
 Woman or man; experienced in using electric knife on knit goods; simple cutting, not pattern laying; pleasant working conditions; piecework plus overtime.
 Lion Knitting Mills, 3256 W. 25

OPERATORS
 Experienced on Union specials. Lion Knitting Mills, 3256 W. 25th and cor. Meyers av.

WASHER
 Experienced in running industrial machines in woolen mill or laundry; 2d shift; hourly rate.
LION KNITTING MILLS
 3256 W. 25 St.

FORELADY
 Experienced on finishing knit goods. Applications confidential. The Lion Knitting Mills Co., 3256 W. 25th.

KNITTER MECHANIC
 Excellent opportunity for steady employment in pleasant working conditions; circular or flat machines; fixing experience required; hourly rate plus overtime. Lion Knitting Mills, 3256 W. 25 St.

POWER MACHINE OPERATORS: Experienced in sewing knit goods on Union Special Seamers; excellent hourly and piece work rates; war work; pleasant surroundings. Free health and accident insurance. The Lion Knitting Mills Co., 3256 W. 25th.

Stitchers AND Overcasters
 EXPERIENCED
 1st and 2nd Shifts
 Employee benefits
 Lion Knitting Mills
 3256 W. 25 St.

Seamers-Sergers
 Merrow Operator, pocket stitchers, button and button-hole sewers, stitchers and cutters, experienced operators on knit goods. Day or night shift.
 Interviews from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 The Lion Knitting Mills Co.
 3256 W. 25 St.

STENOGRAPHER: 20-30; must be accurate and like to work with people; interesting steady position in personnel office of West Side plant; peacetime industry; now engaged in war work; hourly rate, plus overtime. Lion Knitting Mills, 3256 W. 25th.

SEWING MACHINE OPERATORS: Experienced in sewing knit goods on Union Special seamers; excellent hourly and piecework rates; war work; pleasant surroundings, music while you work; free health and accident insurance. The Lion Knitting Mills Co., 3256 W. 25th.

LOOPERS
 Experienced in operating standard looping machine on sweaters. 1st and 2nd shifts.
 Lion Knitting Mills Co.
 3256 W. 25th St.

COST ESTIMATOR
 Excellent opportunity in fast growing knitting mill for cost estimator or junior cost accountant. Some time study or MTM experience helpful but not necessary. Will train conscientious individual. Company benefits.
LION KNITTING MILLS
 3256 W. 25 St.

PRESSER
 Experienced or will train; piecework plus overtime.
 Lion Knitting Mills
 3256 W. 25 St.

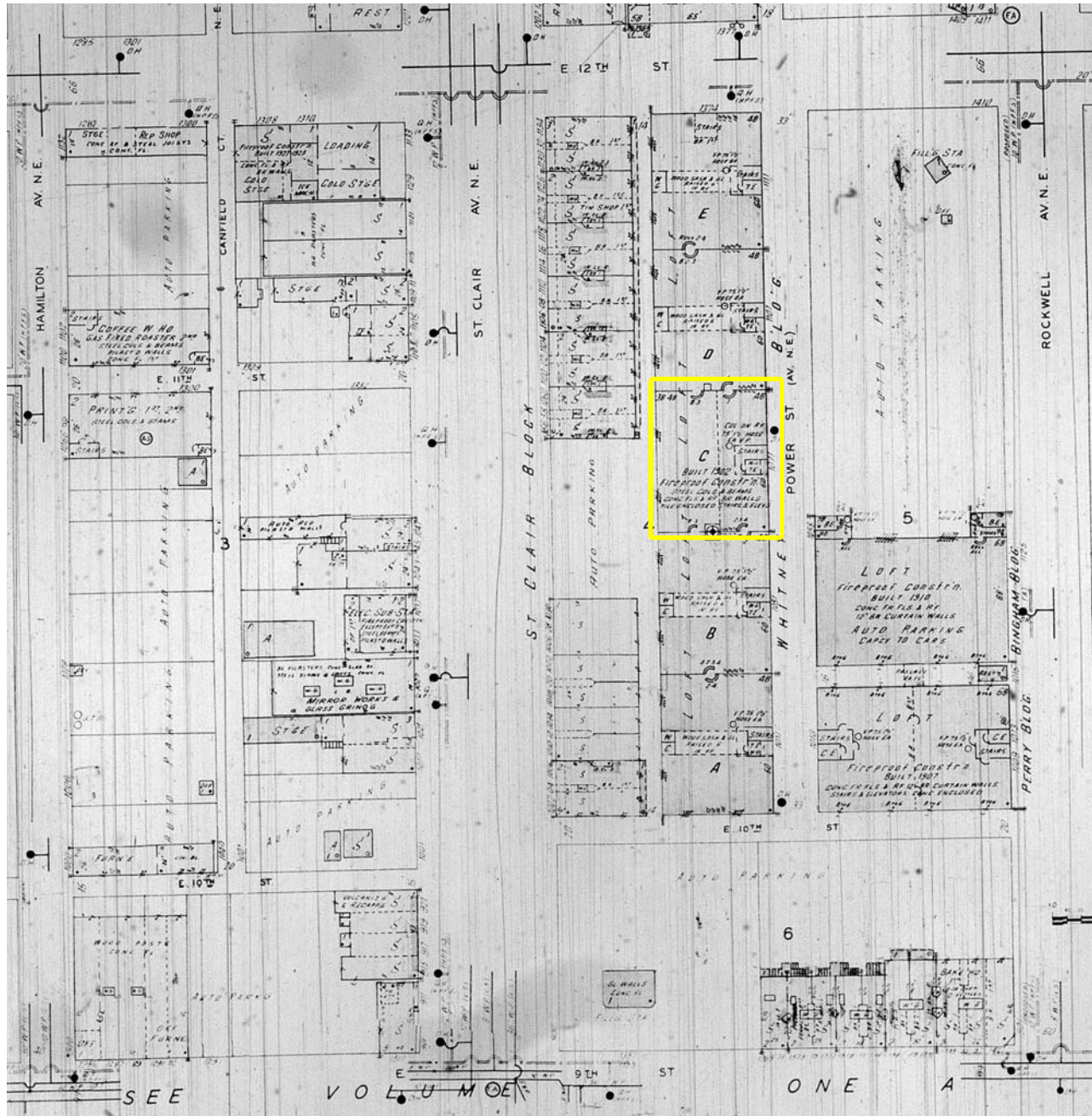
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Cleveland, OH (reduced in size – not to scale).
First location of Lion Knitting Mills Co. building was 1011 Power Avenue.



Sanborn, Vol. 1, plate 31, 1952
Shows Power Avenue (which does not appear on the 1967 updated Vol. 1 because the street, which ran between East 10th & East 12th Streets in Downtown Cleveland no longer exists).

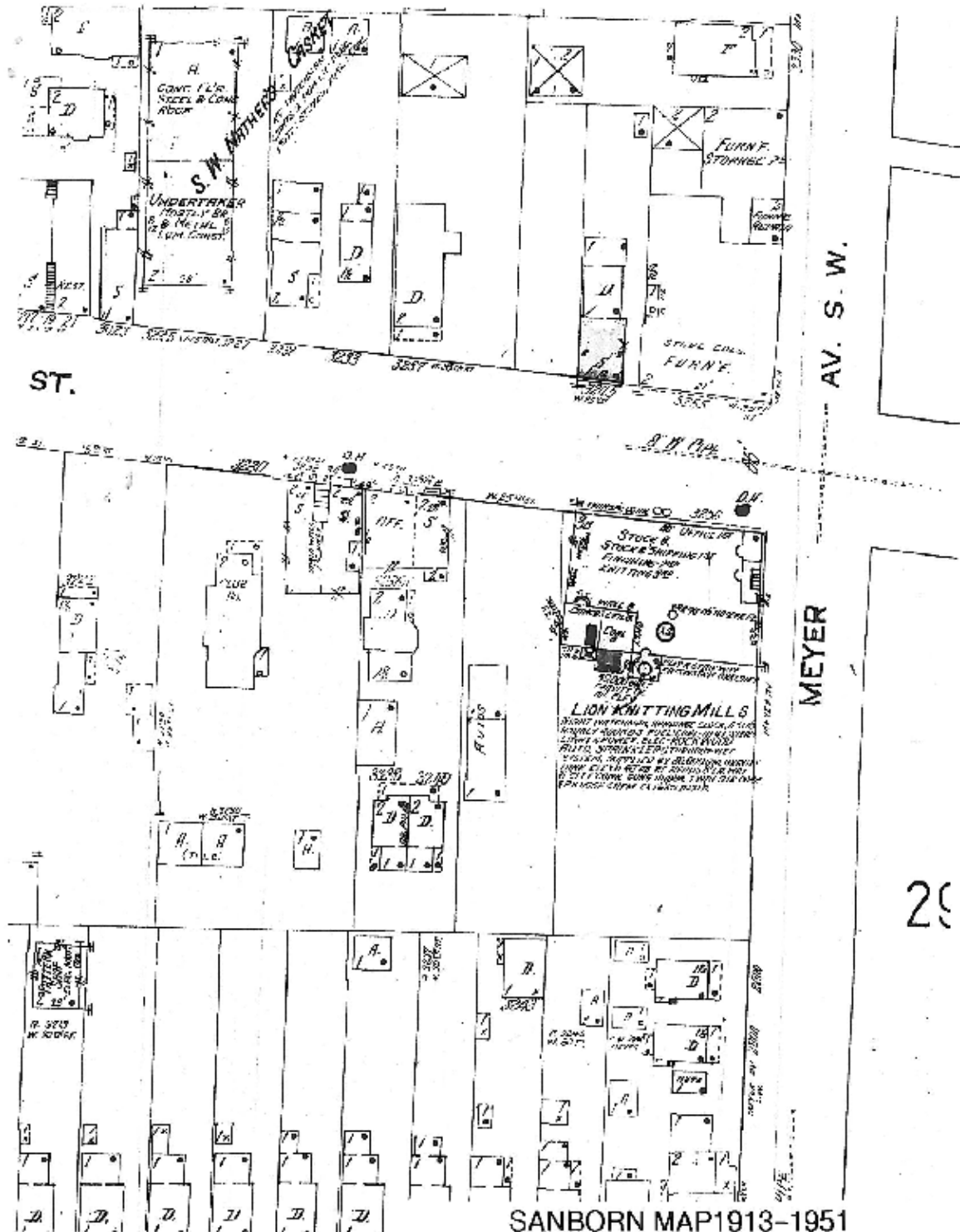
**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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Section number 7 Page 22

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Cleveland, OH (reduced in size – not to scale).
Second location of Lion Knitting Mills Co. building at 3256 West 25th Street



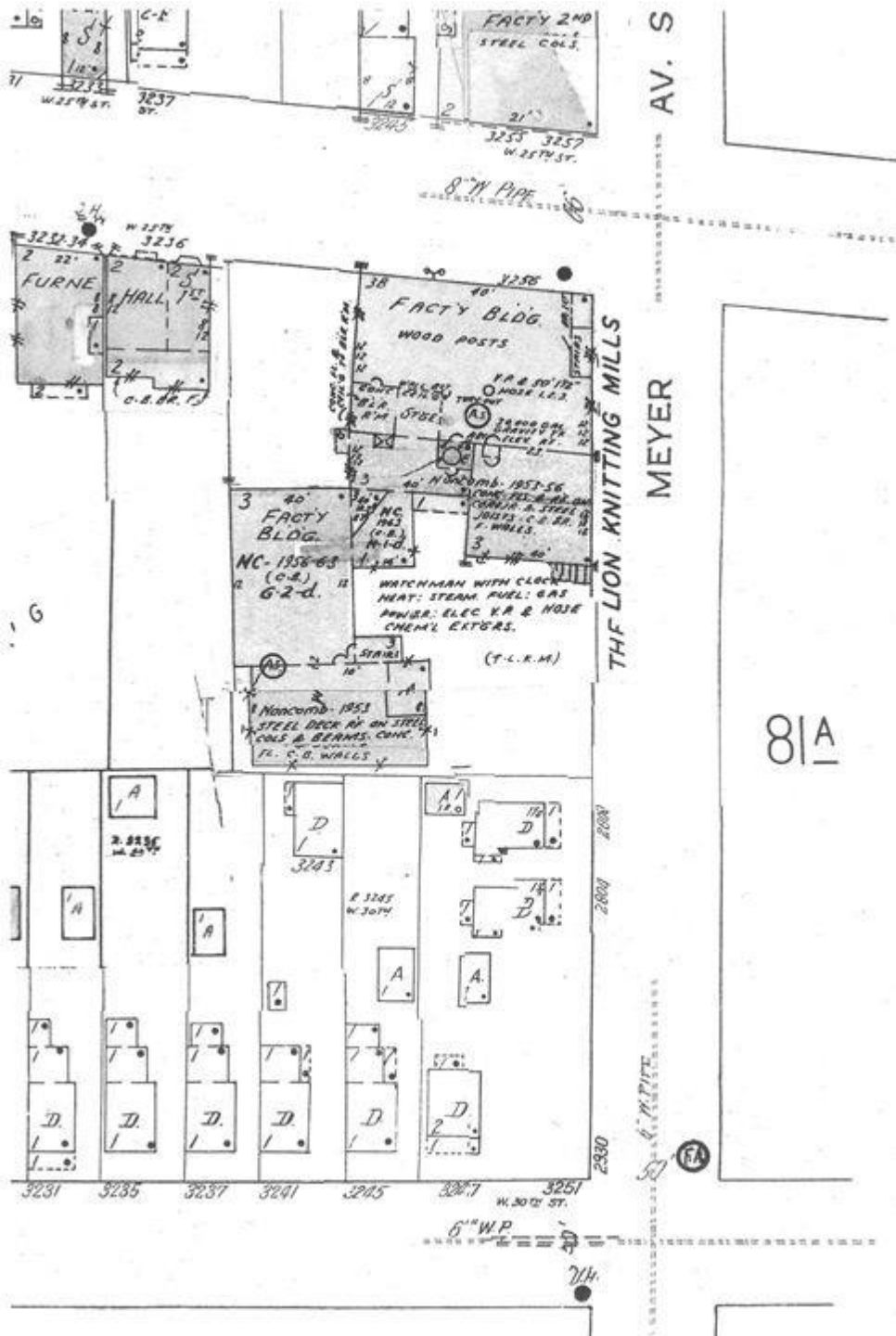
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

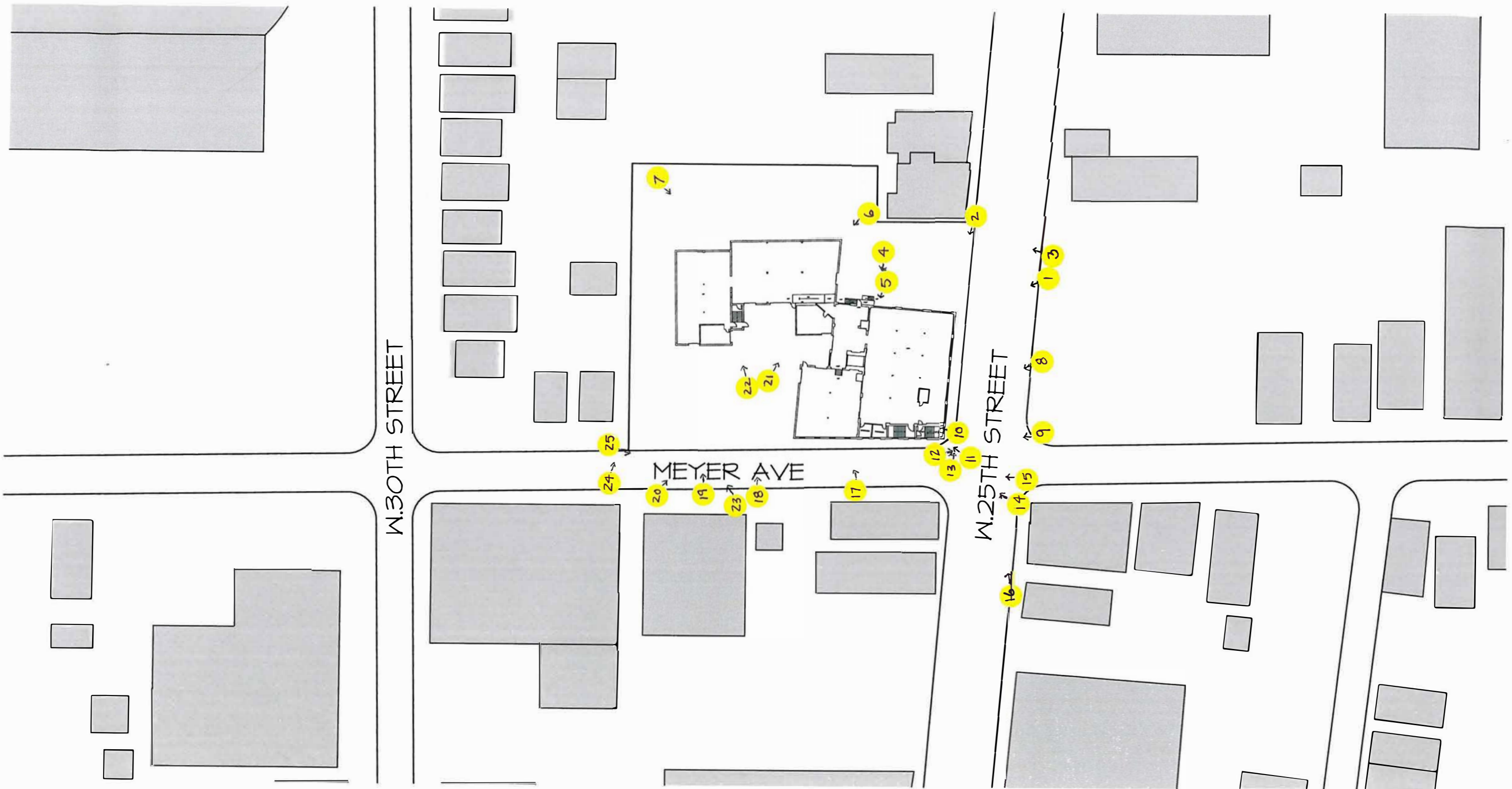
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Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Cleveland, OH (reduced in size – not to scale).

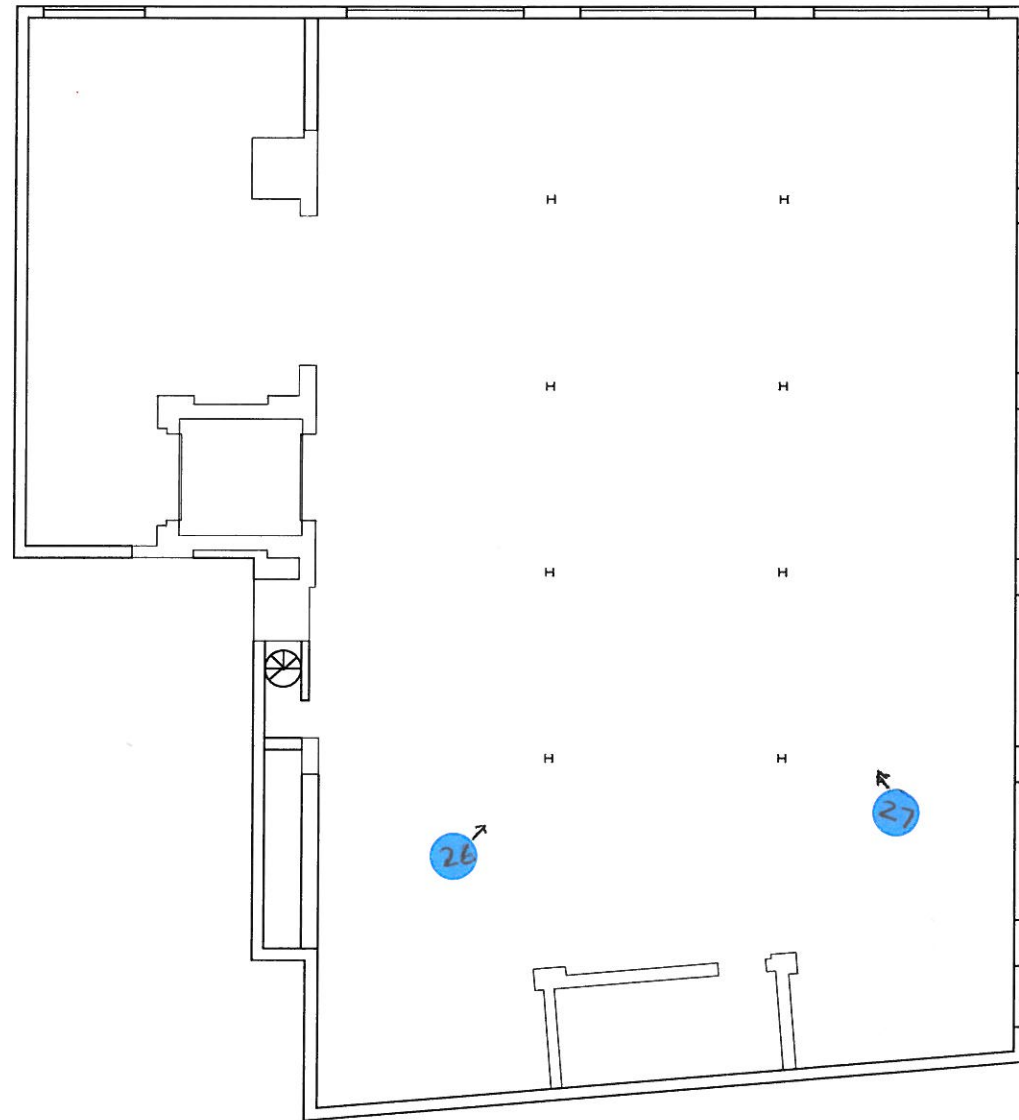




Site Plan
 1/64" = 1'-0"



Lion Knitting Mills
 December 18, 2013



WEST 25th STREET

MEYER AVENUE



BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: $\frac{1}{16}$ " = 1'-0"



MEYER AVENUE

WEST 25th STREET



1ST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

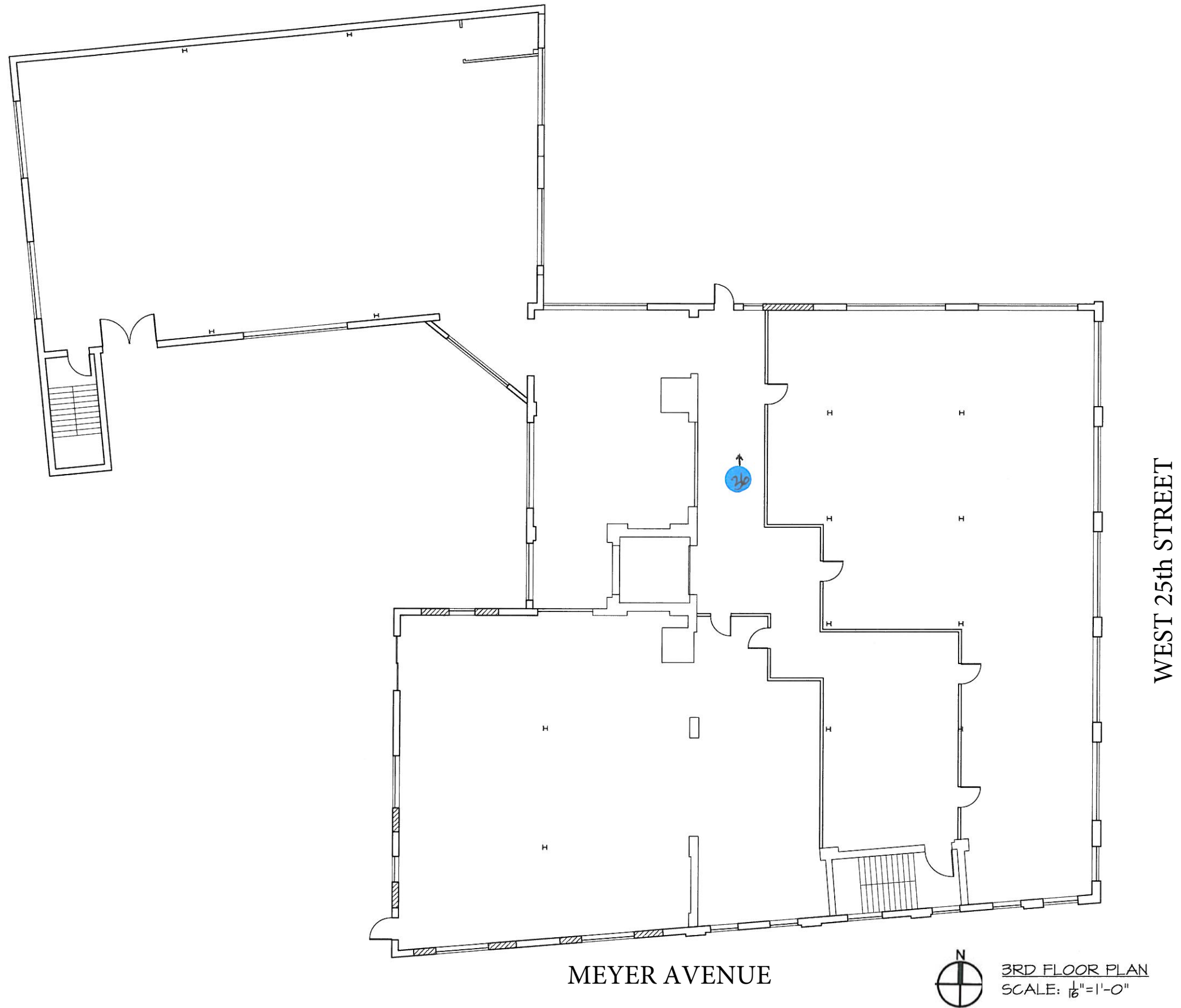


MEYER AVENUE

WEST 25th STREET



2ND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/16"=1'-0"



Lion Knitting Mills- Existing Photographs



Aerial view from Southeast - West 25th Street & Meyer Avenue



Aerial view from East - West 25th Street & Meyer Avenue

Lion Knitting Mills- Existing Photographs



Aerial view from Southwest - West 25th Street & Meyer Avenue



Aerial view from West- West 25th Street & Meyer Avenue

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

Section number map Page 1



Lion Knitting Mills
Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

NAD 27

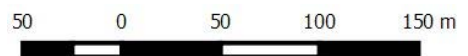
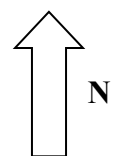
Z 17

N 441485

E 4590481

Latitude: 41.465636

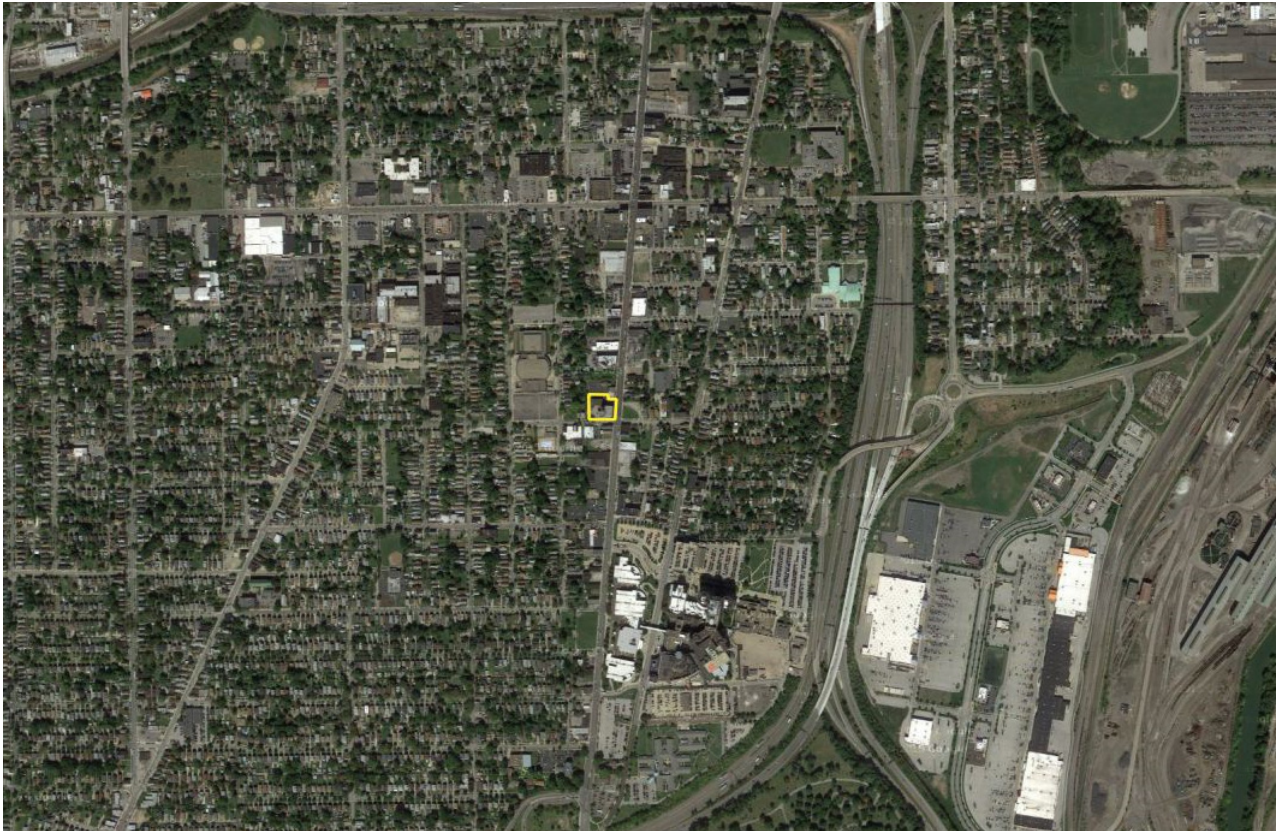
Longitude: -81.700413



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

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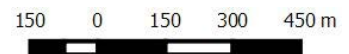
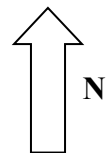


Lion Knitting Mills
Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

NAD 27

Z 17
N 441485
E 4590481

Latitude: 41.465636
Longitude: -81.700413





3256 W. 25th.

KREDO INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY

325 W. 25th.

KREDO INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY

W. 25th



KREDO INDUSTRIAL SUPP

BAIT TACKLE



THE GREAT COMMISSION
SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10:30
BHS CHURCH FOR THE KIDS!!
TUESDAYS AT 7:00 BIBLE STUDY
FREE REEL 4TH FLOOR AT 6:00 PM
GUY'S CLOSET 6TH FLOOR 6:00 PM











Meyer

W. 25 S.

3256 W. 25th.

KREDO INDUST



W. 25 St

W 25

25

31

NO PARKING
ANY TIME

NO PARKING
ANY TIME







MEYER

W. 25





FOR LEASE
SPACE AVAILABLE
216 741-9319

W. 25 St

KREDO INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY

SPEED
LIMIT
25





W. 25 St



KREDO INDUSTRIAL S

SPEED LIMIT 25



HAIR PLACE
(216) 661-5008



KREDO INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY

KREDO INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY

25 St

FOR
SE
74
19

STINKS
BAIT TACKLE
& CONVENIENCE STORE
216-741-1335 3259 W 25th

NO PARKING
BUS STOP

ATM

LIVE BAIT
SOLD HERE





NO
PARKING
ANY
TIME
→



TWO HOUR
PARKING
7 AM
6 PM





NO PARKING
ANYTIME







NO
BLOCK
DRIVE

NO
PARKING
ANY
TIME

NO
HOURLY
PARKING



2800







HARRINGTON





EXIT











In Case Of Fire
Elevators Are Out Of Service



Use Exit

CAUTION
ELECTRIC
RISQUE
CUIDADO
RISQUE DE
ELECTRICIDAD

NOT AN
EXIT





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Lion Knitting Mills

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OHIO, Cuyahoga

DATE RECEIVED: 7/29/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/18/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/02/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/13/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000617

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9/12/2016 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A

REVIEWER Patricia Andrews

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 9/12/2016

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.

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 July 22, 2016
For nomination of the Lion Knitting Mills to the National Register of
Historic Places: Cuyahoga 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: _____



RECEIVED 2280

JUL 29 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

July 22, 2016

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 one (1) new National Register nomination for Ohio. All appropriate notification procedures have been followed for the new nomination submission.

NEW NOMINATION
Lion Knitting Mills

COUNTY
Cuyahoga

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the following: Lion Knitting Mills, Cuyahoga County, OH.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lox A. Logan, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

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

Enclosures