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OVC 42-47

Muncie Chevrolet Plant Architectural Drawings, 1918-1920

106 items

Administrative History

In 1897, Thomas W. Warner, former manager of the Cincinnati Electric Light Plant, arrived in Muncie and organized the Warner Electric company, manufacturing electrical specialties and telephone apparatus. Soon thereafter, he created the Warner Lamp Company and, in 1902, the Warner Gear Company. The later manufactured automobile parts, steering and transmission gear.

In 1919, General Motors purchased the T.W. Warner Company, including its land and buildings. At the time, the T.W. Warner Company consisted of a two story office building, a manufacturing building of 105,000 square feet, a heat treatment building, and a power plant and substation.

The plant reopened in 1920 as Muncie Products, a division of General Motors Corporation. The plant manufactured manual transmissions for Oakland, Pontiac, Oldsmobile, Chevrolet and GMC trucks. Muncie Products also made valves and steering gears for several of the GMC car divisions. A Forge Plant was erected in 1929.

In 1932, Muncie Products closed its doors in order to consolidate machining operations at other GM facilities. The plant remained closed until Chevrolet took over the facility in 1935. Passenger and commercial truck transmissions were produced there until World War II when Chevrolet-Muncie converted its product line to meet the needs of the United States military. After the war ended, Chevrolet-Muncie returned to producing commercial transmissions.

The 1950s and 1960s witnessed a rapid expansion and growth of operations at the plant. Several large additions and new facilities were erected as a result to house the plant's growing product lines. These included:

- Major forge expansion and new truck well (1954)
- Addition to the office building (1955)
- 4-speed transmission operations (1957)
- Addition to the manufacturing plant, including new shipping & receiving building (1961)
- Addition to the manufacturing plant (1964)
- Loading railroad docks enclosed, addition to office building, and two new employee entrances plus plant security facilities (1965)

- Addition to manufacturing plant for new 3-speed heavy duty passenger and commercial transmission (1967)
- Addition to manufacturing area for the transfer of the Saginaw transmissions; power plant changed from coal to gas-oil fired boilers; coal and ash handling facilities removed (1968)
- Addition to manufacturing area for production of the 4-speed manual transaxle (1977)

As the U.S. auto industry felt the effects of foreign competition and labor struggles during the late 1970s and 1980s, so too did Chevrolet-Muncie, beginning a long process of layoffs and closing of facilities. As a result, a number of operations and product lines ceased, and administrative control of the plant changed hands repeatedly. In 1984, the plant became part of Detroit Diesel Allison. Two years later, it became part of Hydra-Matic. In 1990, GM combined the Muncie transmission operation with Chrysler Corporation's New Process Gear Corporation and created New Venture Gear, Inc. In 2002, impacted by Daimler's subsequent buyout of Chrysler, the partnership was dissolved and the company renamed New Process Gear.

As of 2006, the GM part of the defunct New Venture Gear (Manual Transmissions of Muncie) is not expected to survive past the present GM-UAW agreement which expires in September 2007, thus ending almost a century of production at the original T.W. Warner Co. facilities.

Source: "Window on the Past and Keys to the Future: 'Highlighting' the History of U.A.W. Local # 499 and Manual Transmissions of Muncie, Indiana" (2004)

Scope and Content

Architectural drawings for buildings erected as part of the T.W. Warner Co., later Chevrolet Motor Co., Muncie, Indiana, between 1918 and 1920. Building drawings include Extension to T.W. Warner Co. Machine Shop (1919), Extension to T.W. Warner Co. Plant #2 (1920), T.W. Warner Co. Machine Shop (1918), Chevrolet Motor Co. Heating Plant (1919), Chevrolet Motor Co. Chassis Small Parts Plant (1919), and Chevrolet Motor Co. Sub-station (1920).

Language

Materials entirely in English

Restrictions

None

Access Points

Architectural drawings 1910-1920

Architecture, Domestic

General Motors automobiles

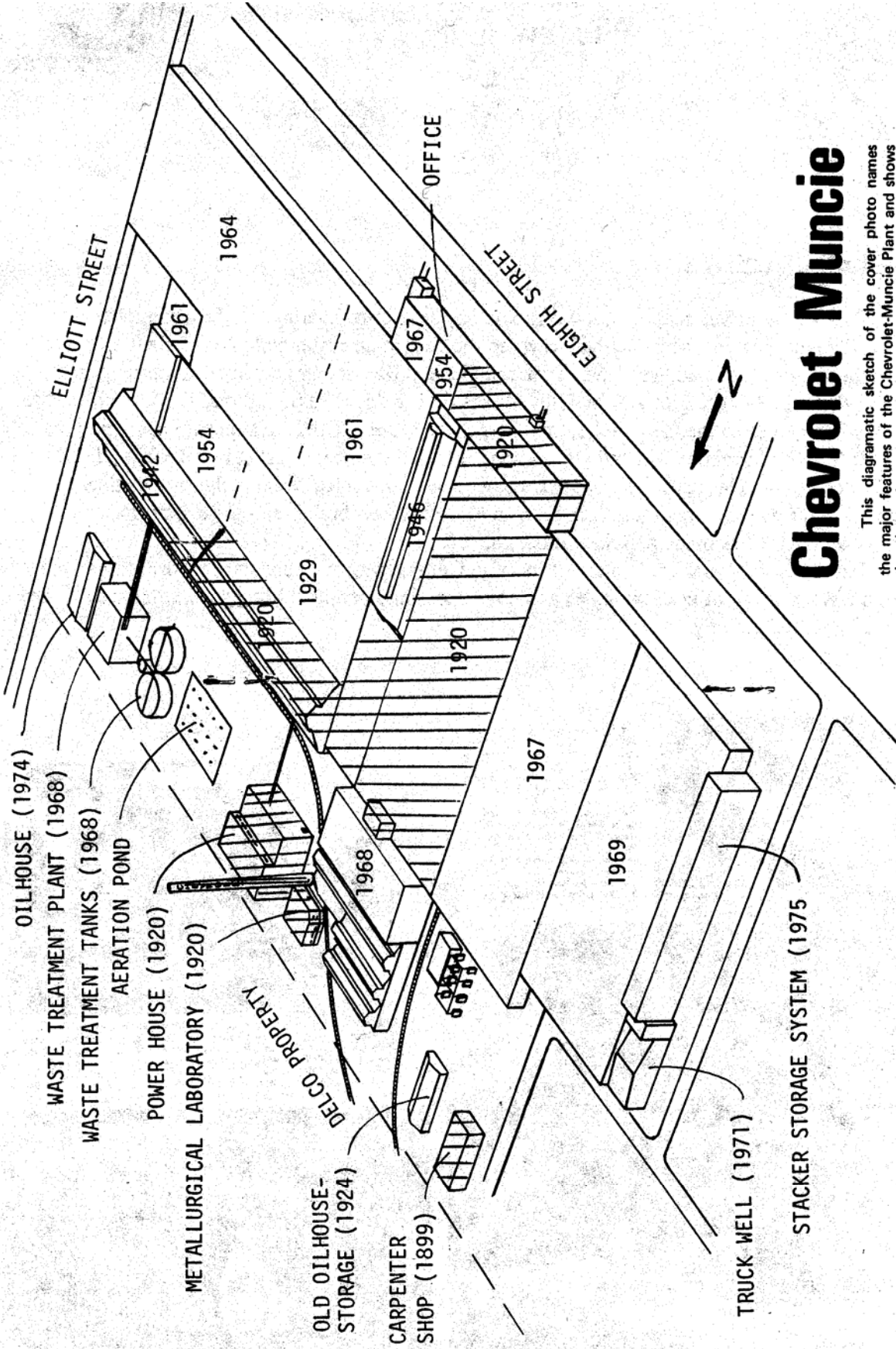
General Motors Corporation. Chevrolet Motor Division.

T.W. Warner Company (Muncie, Ind.)

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D. Hartwig, 2006.

Revised by M. Read, 3/2008.



Chevrolet Muncie

This diagrammatic sketch of the cover photo names the major features of the Chevrolet-Muncie Plant and shows the dates they were completed. In 1920, the plant was operated as the Muncie Products Division of GM which closed in 1932. In 1935, it was reopened by Chevrolet.

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Container List

Cabinet Drawer

Contents

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OVC 42
Extension to Machine Shop, T.W. Warner Co., Muncie, Ind. /
Indiana Bridge Company, Project #8312.

Description of material:

- Sheet 1, 11/17/1919: xerographic; 36 x 24 in.
- Sheet 2, 7/14/1919: xerographic; 36 x 24 in.
- Sheet 3, 7/18/1919: xerographic; 36 x 24 in.
- Sheet 4, 7/19/1919: xerographic; 36 x 24 in.

15 2

OVC 43
Extension to T.W. Warner Co. Plant #2, Muncie, Ind. /
Indiana Bridge Company, Project #8480.

Description of material:

- Sheet 1, 4/7/1920;
- Sheet 2, 3/20/1920;
- Sheet 3, 3/1920;
- Sheet 4, 4/19/1920; xerographic; 36 x 23 ½ in.
- Sheet 5, 4/26/1920; xerographic; 36 x 23 ½ in.
- Sheet 6, 4/24/1920; xerographic; 36 x 23 ½ in.
- Sheet 7, 5/12/1920; blueprint; 36 x 24 in.
- Sheet 8, 5/1/1920; blueprint; 36 x 24 in.
- Sheet 9, 5/4/1920; blueprint, 36 x 24 in.
- Sheet 10, 5/17/1920; blueprint, 36 x 24 in.

15 2

OVC 44
Machine Shop, T.W. Warner Co., Muncie, Ind. /
Indiana Bridge Company, Project #8165.

Description of material:

- Sheet 1, 4/5/1918; 1 blueprint and 1 xerographic; 36 x 24 in.
- Sheet 2, 3/26/1918; 1 blueprint and 1 xerographic; 36 x 24 in.
- Sheet 5, 5/7/1918; 1 blueprint and 1 xerographic; 36 x 24 in.

15 2

OVC 45
Heating Plant for Chevrolet Motor Co., Muncie, Ind. /
W.E. Wood Co. Building & Construction, Project #534.

Description of material:

OVC 42-47 Muncie Chevrolet Plant Architectural Drawings 6

Sheet 1, 11/29/1919, revised 2/16/1920; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 2, 11/29/1919, revised on 12/8/1919; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 3, 11/29/1919, revised 12/13/1919; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 4, 11/25/1919, revised 12/8/1919; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 5, 11/29/1919, revised 12/12/1919; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 6, 11/29/1919, revised 12/15/1919; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 7, 11/29/1919, revised 12/30/1919; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 8, 11/24/1919, revised 12/8/1919; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 9, 12/15/1919, revised 12/31/1919; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 10, 11/29/1919, revised 12/10/1919; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 11, 11/28/1919, revised 12/12/1919; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 12, 1 of 2, 2/6/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 12, 2 of 2, 2/6/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 13, 12/26/1919, revised 1/2/1920; ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 14, 12/24/1919, revised 1/9/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 15, 12/6/1919, revised 12/12/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 16, 12/6/1919, revised 12/26/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 17, 12/17/1919, revised 1/5/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 18, 1/5/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 19, 12/30/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 20, 11/24/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 21, 11/24/1919, revised 12/15/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 22, 11/24/1919, revised 12/16/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 23, 11/24/1919, revised 12/16/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 24, 11/24/1919, revised 12/16/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

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Sheet 25, 11/24/1919, revised 12/16/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 26, 11/24/1919, revised 12/23/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 27, 11/24/1919, revised 12/16/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 28, 12/16/1919, revised 12/22/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 29, 12/21/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 30, 12/30/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 31, 12/10/1919, revised 12/12/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 32, 12/10/1919, 12/12/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 33, 12/30/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 34, 1/6/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 35, 12/27/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 36, 1/19/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 37, 1/27/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 38, 2/18/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

38 sheets: ink on linen; 42 x 26 in.

15 2

OVC 46

Chassis Small Parts Plant, Chevrolet Motor Co., Muncie, Ind. /
W.E. Wood Co. Building & Construction, Project #533.

Description of material:

Sheet 1, 9/17/1919, revised 11/18/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 2, 9/17/1919, revised 2/3/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 3, 9/17/1919, revised 11/18/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 4, 1 of 2, 10/18/1919, revised 2/5/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 4, 2 of 2, 12/13/1919, revised 2/23/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 5, 10/2/1919, revised 12/18/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 6, 10/1/1919, revised 12/18/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 7, 10/3/1919, revised 10/20/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 8, 10/8/1919, revised 12/20/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 9, 10/10/1919, revised 11/5/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

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Sheet 10, 10/20/1919, revised 2/3/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 11, 10/20/1919, revised 11/18/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 12, 10/24/1919, revised 12/30/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 13, 10/4/1919, revised 12/18/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 14, 10/1919, revised 12/18/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 15, 10/23/1919, revised 12/18/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 16, 10/15/1919, revised 12/18/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 17, 10/30/1919, revised 1/22/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 18, 10/27/1919, revised 2/3/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 19, 10/30/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 20, 10/31/1919, revised 12/18/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 21, 10/24/1919, revised 11/5/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 22, 10/22/1919, revised 10/30/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 23, 10/18/1919, revised 2/3/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 24, 10/17/1919, revised 12/18/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 25, 12/17/1919, revised 2/3/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 26, 2/2/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 27, 1/31/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 28, 12/10/1919; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 29, 12/18/1919, revised 2/3/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 30, 12/18/1919, revised 2/6/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

Sheet 31, 1/30/1920; ink on linen, 42 x 26 in.

15 2

OVC 47

Sub-station for Chevrolet Motor Co., Muncie, Ind. /

W.E. Wood Co. Building & Construction, Project #534.

Description of material:

Sheet A-1, 2/4/1920, revised 4/9/1920; ink on linen, 25 ½ x 41 in.

Sheet A-2, 2/6/1920, revised 3/1/1920; ink on linen, 25 ½ x 41 in.

Sheet A-3, 1/29/1920, revised 4/9/1920; ink on linen, 25 ½ x 41 in.

Sheet A-4, 1/29/1920, revised 3/1/1920; ink on linen, 25 ½ x 41 in.

Sheet A-5, 2/7/1920, revised 4/9/1920; ink on linen, 25 ½ x 41 in.

Sheet A-6, 2/7/1920, revised 3/24/1920; ink on linen, 25 1/2 x 41

in.

Sheet A-7, 2/7/1920, revised 3/5/1920; ink on linen, 25 ½ x 21 in.