

Alt # 73002257

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Ohio
COUNTY: Summit
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE 4-11-73

1. NAME

COMMON: **Goodyear Airdock**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **South side of the Akron Airport**

CITY OR TOWN: **AKRON** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: **14**
John F. Seiberling, Jr.

STATE: **Ohio** CODE: **039** COUNTY: **Summit** CODE: **153**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **Goodyear Aerospace Corporation**

STREET AND NUMBER: **1210 Massillon Road**

CITY OR TOWN: **AKRON** STATE: **Ohio** CODE: **039**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Summit County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER: **53 E. Center Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **AKRON** STATE: **Ohio** CODE: **039**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Ohio Historic Landmarks--Phase I**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1967** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **The Ohio Historical Society**

STREET AND NUMBER: **1982 Velma Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbus** STATE: **Ohio** CODE: **039**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building under consideration is a semi-paraboloid shaped structure which has been described as "half a silkworm's cocoon, cut in half the long way." The structure's maximum length is 1,175 feet, its maximum width is 325 feet and its maximum height is 211 feet. The building is constructed of sheet metal attached to eleven parabolic arches, spaced at 80-foot intervals.

At both ends of the building are identical spherical doors. The doors are two-piece and shaped somewhat like one-quarter of an orange peel. Each door weighs 600 tons. The doors are fastened at the top by hollow forged pins 17 inches in diameter and six feet long. The doors rest on 40 wheels set radially on curved railroad tracks.

On either side of the building approximately 100 feet above ground level is a row of 12 windows. Atop the structure at the northeast end is a control tower and radio aerial.

The airdock may be said to "breathe", since it is mounted on rollers to compensate for expansion and contraction due to temperature changes. At the time it was built, it was the largest building in the world without interior supports.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1929**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Goodyear Airdock was constructed in 1929 by the Goodyear Zeppelin Corporation from plans created by the Wilbur Watson Engineering Company of Cleveland, Ohio. Work began on April 20, 1929 and by November 25 the Airdock was completed at a cost of 2.2 million dollars.

With the construction of the Airdock, Akron became one of the centers for development and construction of lighter-than-air ships. Among the first large airships to be constructed was the Navy dirigible ZRS-4 (U.S.S. Akron - 1929-1931). In 1934 another dirigible, the U.S.S. Macon was built in the Airdock.

At the present time the building is a part of the Goodyear Aerospace complex. The structure is no longer used for its original purpose. It houses the photographic division of the Goodyear Aerospace Corporation.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Goodyear Aerospace Corporation. "Goodyear Aerospace Airdock." Public Relations Dept., Goodyear Aerospace Corp., July, 1971.

Grlsmer, K. H., Akron and Summit County. Akron, 1959 (?). pp. 444-448.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "	N 41°	01'	54"
NE	° ' "	° ' "	W 81°	28'	19"
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 9.0

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Amos J. Loveday, Jr.

ORGANIZATION _____ DATE **July, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
5479-B Rockwood Court

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbus** STATE: **Ohio** CODE: **039**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	Ohio
COUNTY	Summit
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:	Goodyear Airdock		
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:	South side of the Akron Airport		
CITY OR TOWN:	Akron		
STATE:	Ohio	CODE	COUNTY:
		039	Summit
			CODE
			153
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:	Goodyear Aerospace Corporation		
DATE OF PHOTO:	1967		
NEGATIVE FILED AT:	Goodyear Aerospace Corporation 1210 Massillon Road Akron, Ohio		
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
View of Airdock from the east.			

INT: 154-72

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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DATE OF PHOTO:	?		
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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
View of Airdock doors at the northeast end of the building.			

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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DATE OF PHOTO:		?	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Goodyear Aerospace Corporation	
1210 Massillon Road Akron, Ohio			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
View of Airdock looking north, from the air.			

INT: 154-72

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

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AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
South side of the Akron Airport			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Akron			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Ohio	039	Summit	153
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle Akron East, Ohio			
SCALE:			
1:24,000			
DATE:			
1967			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Property boundaries where required. 2. North arrow. 3. Latitude and longitude reference. 			

INT: 155-72

April 26, 1973

Goodyear Aerospace Corporation
1219 Massillon Road
Akron, Ohio

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to inform you that the Goodyear Airdock has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service, United States Department of Interior.

The nomination was made in connection with a state plan to identify and document prehistoric and historic places in Ohio which qualify for National Register status under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. All nominations are approved by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board.

Enclosed is a brochure explaining the purposes and goals of the National Register of Historic Places.

Congratulations for recognizing the importance of, and the need for, the careful and sensible preservation of Ohio's landmarks. Your farsightedness will surely serve as an example to other individuals and organizations in this state.

Sincerely,

Judith Kitchen
Architectural Historian

JK/glk
enclosure

Ohio Historic Preservation Office

National Register of Historic Places File Checklist

The following materials are contained in this file of the National Register form for:

Name: Goodyear Airdock

County: Summit

Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form

Multiple Property Nomination form

Photograph(s)

Photograph(s) (copies)

USGS map(s)

USGS map(s) (copies)

Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)

Correspondence

Other news clip, SIA newsletters, negative
