Manufacturing/Industrial

Manufacturing and industry were extremely important to the Dayton region’s development. Dayton, Kettering, and Vandalia all had large factories. Some of the larger concerns, however, could not be surveyed. McCall’s, for example, has been demolished. The four factories associated with General Motors have all had significant alterations and additions. Each facility also has stringent security restricting access to the property.

There were, however, numerous small-scale light industrial buildings constructed in various sections of the city. Some of these manufacturing facilities produced defense-related products. An architecturally distinct industrial area discovered during the project was an enclave of warehouses and light industrial buildings built on the former McCook Field site in the mid-20th century, just north of downtown. Leo and Stanley Streets, extending east from the McCook Industrial Park, are lined with similar buildings. Eight buildings built between 1944 and 1968 were documented during the survey project.

Since constructed in 1959, this property has hosted companies related to aircraft and defense contracting. American Machine & Foundry Co. (MOT-05441-13), now AMF, became a top military contractor in the post-WWII years. Including the Vandalia plant, AMF controlled and operated 42 plants and 19 research facilities scattered across 17 countries by 1961, producing everything from remote-controlled toy airplanes to Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM), launching systems, including those for Titan, Atlas, and Minuteman.

Leland Electric Company, a local concern, moved to this location in 1959. It became a division of AMF, probably in 1960, when that company located in Vandalia. The Leland division, which eventually became GE Aviation through a series of acquisitions, produced electric systems for aircraft and missiles. Today, the development of military and civilian aircraft systems continues at the facility, which was built in 1952-53. Milton Rogers Williams of Lorenz & Williams was the architect.
The Univis Lens Company (MOT-05507-48) at 401 Leo Street, Dayton, was another defense supplier during WWII, producing optical lenses for both military and civilian use. See the Political/Social Welfare section for additional information regarding this company.

**Globe Industries** (MOT-05509-48) was founded in 1940 by Max Isaacson, the former Chief Patent Attorney at Patterson Field. Located in this building from its construction in 1954 until 1966, Globe manufactured miniature electric motors for cooling electronic equipment in military aircraft and later expanded production to a range of standard parts that could be used in custom assemblies. The company’s current building at 2275 Stanley Ave. (MOT-05513-50) was also included in the survey.

Representing one of the earlier buildings in the McCook Industrial Park, the former **Reich Machinery Rebuilding Company** (MOT-05508-48) building was constructed in 1946. From 1951-70, the Dayton Machine Tool Co. was located here. Both businesses represent Dayton’s metal fabrication and tool and die industrial sectors, a component of the city’s industrial heritage since the 19th century.

Located in McCook Industrial Park, this building, constructed in 1953, represents a small-scale industrial concern. From 1955 until 1967, it was occupied by **Metallurgical Services, Inc.** (MOT-05515-48), which provided heat-treating services.
Another entrant in Dayton’s printing and publishing sector, **Stanley Greetings, Inc.** (MOT-05510-48), a greeting card publishing company still in existence as Vagabond Creations, was located here from the building’s construction in 1950 until 1953. In the 1960s, the building was occupied by Master Consolidated, a manufacturer of oil-fired space heaters, portable power tools, and tractor-drawn farm equipment.

The **Burroughs Corp.** (MOT-05291-43) conducted a business machine manufacturing and retail operation in this building constructed in 1964. Located just north of downtown on a busy corridor, the company is in the vicinity of several mid-20th-century office and institutional buildings. It is of note that the company located its manufacturing facilities close to downtown during a time when most manufacturers, both large and small, were relocating to the edge of the city or to the suburbs.