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# Finding Aid for General Motors Manufacturing Progress records Collection 510

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on May 11, 2022.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids History Center

111 Library Street NE

Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

[localhis@grpl.org](mailto:localhis@grpl.org)

URL: <https://www.grpl.org/research/history/>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Grand Rapids History Center
<b>Title:</b>	General Motors Manufacturing Progress records
<b>ID:</b>	Collection 510
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1941-1945
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 Linear feet
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	During World War II, the B29 Bomber airplanes and the 120 mm AA gun mounts were built at the General Motors Stamping Division of Fisher Body in Grand Rapids. This collection includes manufacturing records of these two products.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Fisher Body Co. was a Detroit based manufacturer of automobile bodies for Chandler Motor Car Co. and Cleveland Automobile Co. It became a division of General Motors in 1926; building bodies only for General Motors. During World War II, the Fisher Body plants in Cleveland and Grand Rapids expanded production to B-29 airplanes, guns and tank parts.

The Grand Rapids Stamping Division began production of the B-29 Bomber Flap Track and Flap Track Carriage in 1942. This aircraft had a superior flying range and a bomber with increased load capacity. The B-17 bomber, predecessor to the B-29, was known as the "Flying Fortress." However, there was a need for a bomber with a higher load capacity and flying range to traverse the Pacific Ocean as a consequence of the attack on Pear Harbor in 1942. Additionally, this plant also manufactured the 120 mm AA gun mount and parts which extended over a duration of 39 months beginning in December 1941 and continuing till February 1945.

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## Content Description

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This collection contains two binders of Manufacturing Progress Records and photographs for the General Motors Corporation, Fisher Body Stamping Division in Grand Rapids . One binder includes information such as general history, production and shipping of the B-29 bomber. The second binder includes information on the 120mm AA gun mount. It details the shipping, supply chain and labor constraints that impacted productivity.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased material from unknown source, P2004.036.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History
- business records
- World War, 1939-1945
- Weapons industry
- General Motors Corporation

## Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
120 MM AA Gun Mount Vol 2 , 1942-1945	Box 1	binder 1
120 MM AA Gun Mount Vol 2 loose photographs	Box 1	Folder 1
B-29 Superfortress Flap Track and Carriage Assembly, 1941-1945	Box 1	binder 2
B-29 Superfortress Flap Track and Carriage Assembly loose photographs	Box 1	Folder 2