

Allison Machine Shop (2014)

Significance and Documentation Worksheet

Part of State Form 45937 (R11 / 5-14)

Primary sources are essential to your research and the research of the Indiana Historical Bureau. Every point placed on this form should be supported by **at least one reliable primary source**. You may cite a primary and secondary source for a point, but **submit copies only of primary sources for review**. Include author, title, date, and page number for sources, where available.

TIP: EACH POINT FIELD ONLY ALLOWS 350 CHARACTERS, ABOUT TWO (2) LENGTHY SENTENCES.

Point 1

The Indianapolis Motor Speedway was founded with the intent of testing and improving American automobiles and played a significant role in the substantial early 20th century Indiana automobile industry.

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

1919-20 Indpls. Board of Trade; Motor Age; San Francisco Chronicle, 1914

Where did you find this source?

HathiTrust [U; U of M] & Genealogy Bank database

Point 2

Indianapolis Motor Speedway founders James A. Allison, Carl G. Fisher, Frank W. Wheeler, and Arthur C. Newby again collaborated to incorporate several racing teams in September 1915, when WWI threatened sufficient race entries from Europe. ("There are not as many foreign cars and foreign drivers in this year's contest as there were in 1913 and 1914... ." Motor Age v.27-1915)

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

Articles of Incomp.- ISTD & POLC; Motor Age; World Herald: Omaha, 1916

Where did you find this source?

IN State Archives; HathiTrust [U of M]; Genealogy Bank

Point 3

James A. Allison built a machine shop near the race track to facilitate working on and improving automobiles on his and other racing teams (1916-1917).

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

Machine Shop for Mr. J. A. Allison, Herbert L. Bass Co., 1916-10

Where did you find this source?

Allison Transmission, Inc. Archival Collection

Point 4

Upon American involvement in WWI, Allison cancelled the Indianapolis 500 and dedicated his machine shop's (now Allison Experimental Co.) resources to the war.

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

1917: Motor Age, Philadelphia Inquirer, Salt Lake Telegram, Saginaw Daily

Where did you find this source?

HathiTrust [Princeton] & Genealogy Bank database

Point 5

Through government contracts and sub-contracts, Allison Experimental Co. contributed to the war effort through the production of experimental tanks & Liberty aircraft engines.

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

Bulletin of Airplane Eng. Dept. 1918-19; War Dept. Claims, 1920; Goldthwait

Where did you find this source?

Google Books; IU Center for Study of History & Memory

Point 6

As the Allison Engineering Co. (1921), the company experienced continued growth and diversification, earning a reputation for innovation and precision work in aviation, marine, and other manufacturing industries.

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

Allison Motors (ca. 1921); 1926 Payroll; Motor Boating Ads; 1927 Aviation

Where did you find this source?

ATI Collection; Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust Archival Collection

Significance and Documentation Worksheet *(continued)*

Point 7

Following founder James A. Allison's death, GM purchases Allison Engineering Co. in 1929 to gain a foothold in the aviation industry. ("The outlook for Allison Engineering Company seems to be particularly promising and with the development of new aeroplane engines, and particularly the large engine for the Navy... ." GM Detroit Executive Committee Minutes, 12-3-1929).

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

GM Corp. Appropriation Req. & Exec. Committee Minutes, (1929-31)

Where did you find this source?

Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust Archival Collection

Point 8

As a GM division, Allison developed the V-1710 throughout the 1930s, which became the primary engine powering U.S. WWII pursuit aircraft after U.S. entry into the war in 1941.

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

V-1710 Drawings (1930s); War Album (ca.1945); 1942-09, AllisoNews, (2)6

Where did you find this source?

RRHT Collection; ATI Collection

Point 9

Allison Division produced 70,000 V-1710s by war's end and grew to 23,000 employees as well as 88 acres of manufacturing space.

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

AllisoNews (1944-3(17), 1945-5(2), 5(4)); Dept. Functions, 1949; War Album

Where did you find this source?

ATI Collection

Point 10

The wartime contributions of Allison Division were honored with the Army-Navy E Production Award 4 times.

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

War Album (ca. 1945); Army-Navy Production Award, 11-5-1942 (program)

Where did you find this source?

ATI Collection; RRHT Collection

Point 11

Allison continued to evolve as a major manufacturing anchor in Speedway, with the creation of a transmission engineering department and the development and production of significant commercial and post-war military transmissions, such as the CD-850.

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

AllisoNews (1946-6(9), 1951-10(34), 1959-19(6); Inside Indy Ops. 1987-7(4)

Where did you find this source?

ATI Collection

Point 12

Companies descendant of James A. Allison's 1917 machine shop are- aircraft operations (under Rolls-Royce since 1995) and transmission operations, as Allison Transmission, Inc. Not far from the original machine shop in Speedway are Allison Transmission global headquarters, where innovation and production of military and commercial transportation products has continued into the 21st century.

Source (title of primary source, date, page number, etc.)

1995 DOD Release; IMPACT 1999-11(3), 2002-14(3); 1950-2013 Patent list

Where did you find this source?

DOD website; ATI Collection

DO NOT attach additional Significance and Documentation Worksheets or narrative essays to your application. In order to review all applications fairly and in a timely fashion, IHB staff **will not** review additional materials.