Neon Sign Survey

Description of sign(s)

1. Name: The Griffin Cocktails

2. Owner: Aaron Chepenik and Jonathan Hensleigh

3. Address: 511 Fremont St E 89101

3b. Additional Site Details (information on site, site history, owner comments): Opened in February of 2007 as a medieval British pub/ tavern style bar. This location brought on a wave of revitalization of the East Fremont District especially since many new bars/restaurants started to open in this area after this bar did.

4. Condition (1-5 scale, with 5 being excellent, written description): \_5- still looks relatively new\_\_\_\_\_

5. Form (pylon, blade, porte cochere, etc): Blade and overlay neon on building

6. Specific Description: \_Placed above the entrance their brick building the letters “The Griffin Cocktails” is painted with white block letters outlined with black paint is painted on the building itself. These letters have skeletal neon surrounding the letters. “The Griffin” letters are yellow tubes and do illuminate green at night, the word cocktails lights up white. To the left of the entrance but still on the building is a green painted griffin drinking a painted white martini ( also all outlined with black paint) The neon tubing outlining the griffin is a yellow tubing but glows green at night ( possibly argon inserted to make it glow green).

The Blade is placed a little left of the entrance and hangs off of the building by two blue steel beams, but in between the beams is a beautiful swirl design. At the top of the Blade there is a green griffin sipping a martini (same design as the one painted on the building). At the base of the griffin is white ‘THE’ letters painted with skeletal neon. Then below is the blue portion of the blade spelling out ‘GRIFFIN’ in a Brittanic looking font in white channeled letters which do illuminate white at night. This part of the blade is outlined in neon ,possibly argon, since it does illuminate blue at night. On the side of the blade ( if you’re looking from the road) there are about 14 red curved neon tubes lining the sign.

7. Type of Display (neon, incandescent, etc): Neon

8. Media (steel, plastic, fiberglass, etc): Steel and brick wall

9. Non-neon treatments: \_Using the brick wall as a portion of the sign is a design not seen often

10. Animation: Oscillation of red neon tubes on the side of the sign

11. Environment (surrounding properties, neighborhood):\_Located in the Fremont East District in between Las Vegas Blvd. and 6th St. This location has The Vault to the East of it and The Smashed Pig Gastropub. It is across the street from the Park and Evil Pie. In the middle of the street right in front of the Griffin Bar is the Martini Glass.

Artistic Context

1. Manufacturer: \_\_YESCO\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Designer: Architect of Record: \_Owners Aaron Chepenik and Jonathan Hensleigh-Aaron stated that the blade portion of the sign was inspired by the old Boulder Club Blade sign

3. Date of Installation: \_\_Slightly before they opened so late 2006/early 2007\_

4. Date(s) of any major redesign/move: \_None\_

5. Thematic Influence (design elements found on similar signs, elements related to the property, linkage to previous themes, trends, context): Griffin shows that it has a medieval and kind of fantasy kind of feel since its interior does have that cool medieval tavern vibe to it, especially with their fireplaces. Using their brick wall as a part of the sign is a cool innovative way to use their space and stay true to their theme.

6. Artistic Significance (themes and representation, era: time and design, trends, context): Medieval theme. The blade is a prominent theme in the 50’s/60’s, though their blade sign was inspired by the Boulder Club (opened 1931-1960) blade.

Surveyor Notes

1. Research locations (archives, library, recorder’s office, etc)

\_Acessor’s page, outreach to owner Aaron Chepenik

2. Research notes-

3. Any other relevant surveyor remarks-Possible use of argon within their yellow painted tubes, similar to the Yucca Motel sign’s leaves. The Blade does look very similar to the Boulder Club blade, so it’s awesome to see modern properties paying homage to the ones that are no longer around.

\_\_\_\_Emily Fellmer\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ August 15, 2017\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Surveyor Date**

**\*Please attach a map from the assessor’s site when possible.**