



68-022 ERCO

6501 Lafayette Avenue

Riverdale Park

Built in 1939, the ERCO (Engineering Research Corporation) building is a two-story industrial structure with a large administrative block finished in the Moderne style and a larger rear factory that is without ornamentation. This industrial building mimicked the design of contemporary transportation machinery such as ships, airplanes, and automobiles, and industrial and consumer products such as bicycles, toasters, radios, and vacuum cleaners. Owned by Henry Berliner, the ERCO plant is representative of the significant developments in aviation that took place in the county; the factory produced the Ercoupe (the first tricycle aircraft that was touted as characteristically incapable of spinning) and was later adapted to meet defense needs during World War II.