WTOP Transmitter

Original Name: WTOP Transmitter

Address: 2115 University Boulevard West
Silver Spring (Wheaton), MD 20902

Architect(s): E. Burton Corning

Year Of Construction: 1939

Current Status: Industrial and Manufacturing

Original Use: Radio Transmitter

In Wheaton, Maryland, we find the unexpectedly urbane WTOP Transmitter in a park-like setting. These beautifully massed volumes are the work of E. Burton Corning in 1939. The style is a mix of Art Deco and early International Style, reminiscent of the work of Le Corbusier. President Franklin Roosevelt is said to have liked it. The sign on the cover picture indicates that this is not a recent image, but the building exterior has changed very little over the years, although the interior equipment has undoubtedly been kept up to date. The building is constructed of three stacked, stark sections of white plaster, almost resembling the prow of a cruise ship. The main, flat-topped portion of the structure rises to three stories and is curved and unadorned except for a small band of glass block windows at one end. The two lower stories are staggered beneath and both contain long, horizontal bands of glass blocks. The second story, with a curved end as well, is cantilevered and supported by two slim, grey columns.
Static (Fixed) Google Map:

Dynamic (Searchable and Expandable) Google Map:

https://tinyurl.com/yxle6eu3