Arcadia Metal Products Headquarters Building

801 S. Acacia Avenue 1955 Mid-Century Modern Status: Unrecognized Significant Property



Emmons & Jones, quintessential 20th century modernist architects, designed this 50,000-sq.-ft. building for Arcadia Metal Products, a 1950s-era manufacturer of sliding glass doors and windows. The architects featured several unusual design concepts in the building, incorporating large expanses of sliding glass doors for the exterior walls of the building. The building was designed for future expansion by means of tilt-up panels which could be removed easily for additional production room. The office area featured walls of glass that slid open to private garden terraces. Two garden courts were featured in the lobby area. The building's design dissolved boundaries between indoor and outdoor space, and the factory is considered one of Emmons & Jones' most successful industrial projects. During their lengthy careers, Emmons and Jones would receive dozens of citations and architectural awards, including the 1959 Architectural Firm Award from the American Institute of Architects – the only Los Angeles firm to ever win the award.

Arcadia Metal Products would be one of numerous manufacturing plants constructed in post-World War II, Fullerton. As the largest manufacturer of sliding glass doors in the nation, Arcadia eventually would provide jobs for 170 employees in the late 1950s. By 1960, the company had vacated the building, moving to new facilities in Vernon, Ca.

This building has been altered somewhat with additions, but the front façade still retains the Mid-Century Modern design of glass and metal.