

PRATT & WHITNEY PLANT  
East Power House  
(Pratt & Whitney Plant, Building No. 48)  
1500-2000 East Bannister Road  
Kansas City  
Jackson County  
Missouri

HAER No.MO-118-O

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD  
Midwest Regional Office  
National Park Service  
601 Riverfront Drive  
Omaha, Nebraska 6810

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

PRATT & WHITNEY PLANT  
East Power House  
(Pratt & Whitney Plant, Building No. 48)

HAER No. MO-118-O

Location: 1500–2000 East Bannister Road, Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri

Present Owner: U. S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration

Present Use: Used as a powerhouse for the entire complex.

Significance: From the initial years of Pratt & Whitney with its Double Wasp engines, through the years of Westinghouse, responsible for manufacturing the J34 Gas Turbine engine, to the development of thermonuclear weapon components during the Cold War, the Kansas City Plant housed a multi-disciplinary engineering and manufacturing facility tied to the nation's homeland security. Due to the diversified requirements of subsequent corporations, the original Pratt & Whitney Plant was modified and added to, meeting the needs of on going technological advances while retaining the structural elements that made this complex a landmark of American industrial design.

Report prepared by: Cydney Millstein, principal, architectural historian  
Architectural & Historical Research, L.L.C., Kansas City, Missouri

Mary Ann Warfield, cultural historian, Kansas City, Missouri

Date: April 9, 2012

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date of Construction: 1961
2. Architect/Engineer: Lutz and May, Architects and Engineers, Kansas City
3. Builder/Contractor/Supplier: Unknown
4. Original Plans: Yes
5. Alterations and Additions: No

B. Historical Context

The East Power House served as a powerhouse facility used in conjunction with Building 05 (West Boiler House). While similar in purpose, the East Power House contains chillers but no boiler capacity. The East Power House is also the location of the console room where system monitoring and control for the entire complex is carried out.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

The building occupies 12,958 gross square feet and contains one floor with a mezzanine platform for associated equipment. The building measures approximately 60' x 220'.

1. Architectural Character: Modern Industrial
2. Condition of Fabric: Good

B. Description of Exterior

This one-story brick flat roofed building is a steel-braced frame structure with a masonry block exterior. The foundation is concrete; the plan is irregular in shape. There are several overhead doors and swing doors located on the west façade.

C. Description of Interior

PRATT & WHITNEY PLANT  
East Power House  
(Pratt & Whitney Plant, Building No. 48)  
HAER No.MO-118-0  
(page 3)

Due to restricted access, it was not possible to examine the interior of the building.

D. Site

The building is centrally located within the complex and is attached to Building 13 at the northwest facade.

PART III. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Primary Sources

NNSA Archives. Bannister Federal Complex, 1500-2000 East Bannister Road, Kansas City, Missouri.