

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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NEW POST OFFICE BUILDING HABS DC-814  
(Ariel Rios Federal Building)  
Twelfth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington  
District of Columbia

These photographs were taken as part of a HABS study of Federal Triangle that resulted in the book, *A Quest for Grandeur*, by Sally Kress Tompkins and Jack Boucher of HABS.

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Jack E. Boucher, photographer, 1993

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|----------|---|
| DC-814-1 | Perspective view looking to hemicycle on Twelfth Street (east facade); view includes the Ionic colonnaded pavilions and the sidewalk-level arcade   |
| DC-814-2 | Close view of the central pavilion in the curving east facade to show paired columns and pediment with sculpture by Adolph Alexander Weinman entitled "The Spirit of Progress and Civilization"                           |
| DC-814-3 | Close view of the sidewalk or ground level arcade; note curvature of wall. The building plan includes two semicircular units set back to back to form a "X" and the curving facade on Twelfth Street is highlighted here. |
| DC-814-4 | View looking up to entablature of the central pavilion  |
| DC-814-5 | View inside the sidewalk level arcade; the original globe lighting fixtures have been replaced with octagonally shaped lanterns   |
| DC-814-6 | Interior view of hallway; note how it follows the curvature of the hemicycle  |

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HABS DC-814  
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- DC-814-7 Interior view, anteroom of the postmaster general's reception hall; shown here are two of the six aluminum statues of postal delivery men
- DC-814-8 Interior view, postmaster general's reception room
- DC-814-9 Interior view, fourth floor elevator lobby; the walls are decorated with murals by Reginald Marsh
- DC-814-10 Interior view, detail view of the balustrade; the balustrade is cast bronze and consists of two ribbed posts alternating with a single post decorated with twisted serpents
- DC-814-11 Interior view, detail view of balusters
- DC-814-12 Interior view, view looking up through the center of the seven-story spiral staircase; in the center of the spiral is a chandelier with exposed bulbs at each floor level. It culminates in a chrome and brass globe.
- DC-814-13 Interior view, detail view of chandelier globe
- DC-814-14 Perspective view of door to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; the bureau occupies the southern third of the building
- DC-814-15 View along arcade
- DC-814-16 Close view of the arcade to show the ornate lanterns placed by the openings
- DC-814-17 View of the colonnade on the plaza-side facade (west)
- DC-814-18 Close view of the colonnade along the plaza-side facade