

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY (OLD PATENT OFFICE), F and G Sts. between 7th and 9th Sts., NW., 1836-1867, William P. Elliot and Ithiel Town, Robert Mills, Thomas U. Walter, Edward Clark, architects. Stone, 3 stories, hollow rectangle, gabled roof behind parapet; central Doric porticos on each facade, S portico earliest; modeled after Parthenon; coursed rusticated ground floor, giant pilasters between each bay; vaulted interior rooms, some galleries by Cluss and Schulze after 1877 fire; one of many government buildings in which architectural responsibility shifted and involved many notable architects. Restored; some alterations. Greek Revival. Originally housed Patent Offices and displays; Clara Barton and Walt Whitman both worked here and helped care for the wounded hospitalized here after the Battle of Antietam; now houses National Collection of Fine Arts and National Portrait Gallery. Museum.
Federal/Smithsonian Institution: NHL; HABS.