

## **OLD PATENT OFFICE**

F and G Streets between Seventh and Ninth Streets, NW

Constructed in four sections over a 31-year period beginning in 1836, this is one of the nation's largest and most impressive Greek Revival buildings. Despite its long design and construction history (involving four architects), it is remarkable for its unity and its bold, simple monumentality—unsurpassed in 19th-century American civic architecture. The building now houses the National Portrait Gallery and National Museum of American Art.