

OLD POST OFFICE
 WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



View of main entrance to the Old Post Office building

Client: Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation
Contractors: Gilbane Construction Co. (general contractor), and Tri-Con Inc. (landscape contractor)
Artist: Aleksandra Kasuba (mosaicist)

Intent

Saved from the wrecker's ball in the 1970's, the Old Post Office Building has since undergone a total architectural renovation to become a popular tourist attraction. As part of the Pennsylvania Avenue redevelopment program, the old trolley queuing area in front of the Old Post Office was redesigned into a vibrant pedestrian plaza. A relocated historic statue and decorative paving provide a humanizing touch of local history and contemporary art, thus reclaiming a derelict space previously given up to cars and buses. As project landscape architect Mr. LaPierre was responsible for the design and construction supervision of all plaza and streetscape improvements. The main plaza design is the result of a collaboration of the landscape architect and an artist/mosaicist, whom he selected for the project, and was funded by an NEA grant as part of the PADC's Arts on the Avenue Program.



Bird's eye view of Old Post Office plaza