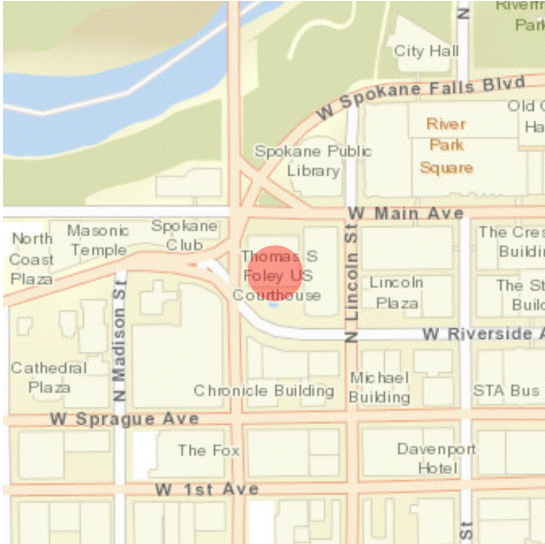


Historic Property Report

Resource Name: United States Courthouse

Property ID: 154928

Location



Address: 920 W RIVERSIDE AVE, SPOKANE, WA 99201
Tax No/Parcel No: 35183.2309
Plat/Block/Lot: GLOVERS RES B2 B3 INC 40FT VAC STP E OF & ADJ
Geographic Areas: SPOKANE NW Quadrangle, T25R43E, Spokane Certified Local Government, Spokane County, T25R43E18

Information

Number of stories: N/A

Construction Dates:

Construction Type	Year	Circa
Built Date	1967	<input type="checkbox"/>

Historic Use:

Category	Subcategory
Government	Government - Courthouse
Government	
Government	Government - Courthouse
Government	

Historic Context:

Category
Architecture
Politics/Government/Law



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Architect/Engineer:

Category	Name or Company
Architect	Culler, Gale, Martell & Ericson
Architect	McClure & Adkison
Architect	Walker & McGough

Thematics:

Local Registers and Districts

Name	Date Listed	Notes
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Project History

Project Number, Organization, Project Name	Resource Inventory	SHPO Determination	SHPO Determined By, Determined Date
2011-06-00088, , Assessors Data Project: Spokane Commercial	6/1/2011	Not Determined	
2016-06-04208, GSA, Foley Courthouse Spokane	6/15/2016	Not Determined	
2016-12-08751, , Spokane Mid-20th Century Modern Survey 2016	9/18/2017		
2017-05-03687, SUPP, Foley Courthouse Survey			

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Photos



West and south facades



Front (south) facade



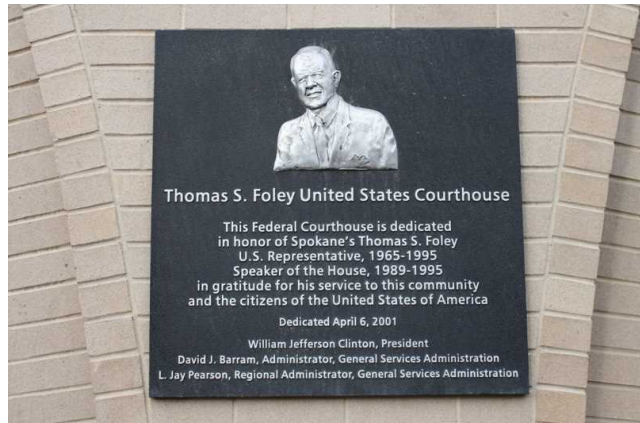
Front entry (south) facade



Front entry, south facade



Dedication plaque, 1966



Dedication plaque, 2001

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East facade, south end



East facade, north end



North facade, walkway



North facade, stair



North facade, garage entry

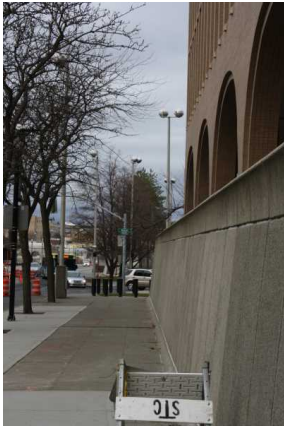


West facade

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Sidewalk along west facade



Arcade, typical



Base of arcade, typical



Windows, typical



Plaza, west end



Plaza and water feature

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Plaza and fountain



Plaza, benches, typical, post office behind



Setting, Riverside Dr.



Setting, Spokesman-Review building



Setting, Spokane Club



Setting, Spokane Civic Building

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Monaghan statue



FederalCourthouse_Spokane (3).JPG



FederalCourthouse_Spokane (2).JPG



FederalCourthouse_Spokane (1).JPG



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Property ID: 154928

Inventory Details - 6/1/2011

Common name:

Date recorded: 6/1/2011

Field Recorder: Artifacts Consulting, Inc.

Field Site number: 35183.2309

SHPO Determination

Detail Information

Characteristics:

Category	Item
Form Type	Commercial

Surveyor Opinion

Significance narrative: Data included on this historic property inventory form (HPI) detail stemmed from County Assessor building records imported by the Washington State Department of Archaeology of Historic Preservation (DAHP) into WISAARD in 2011. This upload reduces data entry burden on community volunteers and historical societies participating in the survey and inventory of their communities. The intent of this project is directed specifically to facilitating community and public involvement in stewardship, increasing data accuracy, and providing a versatile planning tool to Certified Local Governments (CLGs).

Currently survey and inventory projects at the local level produce a field form for each property surveyed and include digital photographs. Volunteers doing the survey track down and manually enter all the owner, parcel, and legal data manually. Manual data entry diminishes accuracy and quantity of resources volunteers can survey. Recognizing this, DAHP uploaded building data for each Certified Local Government (CLG) on properties that were built in or before 1969 to provide an accurate and comprehensive baseline dataset. Volunteers doing survey work need only to verify data, add in photographs and extent of alterations and architectural style data, as well as expand upon the physical description and significance statement as new data is collected. For planning purposes, the attrition rate of properties built in or before 1969 can start to be measured to guide stewardship priorities.

Project methodology entailed use of the University of Washington's State Parcel Database (<http://depts.washington.edu/wagis/projects/parcels/development.php>) to provide the base parcel layer for CLGs. Filtering of building data collected from each county trimmed out all properties built after 1969, as well as all current, previously inventoried properties. Translation of building data descriptors to match fields in HPI allowed the data upload. Calculation of point locations utilized the center of each parcel. Data on this detail provides a snapshot of building information as of 2011. A detailed project methodology description resides with DAHP. Project team members: Historic Preservation Northwest, GeoEngineers, and Artifacts Consulting, Inc. (project lead).

Physical description: The building at 920 W Riverside Avenue, Spokane, is located in Spokane County. According to the county assessor, the structure was built in 1966 and is a commercial professional building. Also according to the county assessor, the structure was remodeled in 1992. The commercial building is a 9-story structure.



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Historic Property Report

Resource Name: United States Courthouse

Property ID: 154928

Inventory Details - 6/15/2016

Common name: Thomas Foley US Courthouse

Date recorded: 6/15/2016

Field Recorder: Rebecca Nielsen

Field Site number:

SHPO Determination



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Resource Name: United States Courthouse

Property ID: 154928

Inventory Details - 9/18/2017

Common name: Federal Building

Date recorded: 9/18/2017

Field Recorder: Diana Painter

Field Site number:

SHPO Determination

Detail Information

Characteristics:

Category	Item
Foundation	Concrete - Poured
Form Type	Commercial - Two-Part Vertical Block
Roof Type	Flat with Eaves
Roof Material	Asphalt/Composition - Built Up
Cladding	Brick
Structural System	Masonry - Poured Concrete
Plan	Rectangle

Styles:

Period	Style Details
Modern Movement	New Formalism

Surveyor Opinion

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: Yes

Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): Yes

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local): Yes

Significance narrative: History. The United States Courthouse, now called the Thomas S. Foley U.S. Courthouse, houses the Eastern District of U.S. District Court and serves as a combined courthouse and federal building. Other major tenants are the U.S. Attorney's Office, the U.S. Marshals Service, and the Internal Revenue Service. It is the largest federal building in northeastern Washington. The building shares a site with and is connected to the Spokane Federal Building and U.S. Post Office next door, through a second-level walkway. The building, which was constructed in 1967, was re-named after Thomas S. Foley in 2001. Foley was the 57th speaker of the U.S. House of representatives from 1989 to 1995, and represented Washington State's 5th congressional district as a Democratic member for 30 years, from 1965 to 1995 (General Services Administration, "Thomas S. Foley U.S. Courthouse Fact Sheet").

The U.S. Courthouse is directly east of the Riverside Avenue Historic District, listed in 1976. The National Register nomination for this district describes its genesis as follows: "Riverside Avenue Historic District in Spokane encompasses a well-preserved portion of

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the inner city which early in the century was called the 'Civic Center' because of the concentration of monumental buildings within it and because of its development at the height of the City Beautiful movement as a lineal public square."

Architectural Context. The U.S. Courthouse is designed in the New Formalist style. New Formalism is the name given to an architectural style that emerged in the 1960s and is most often seen in public or civic and commercial architecture. New Formalism, also called Neo-Formalism, applies the formal geometries of classicism in new forms, materials, and decorative expressions. Buildings designed in this style often display simple volumes on a raised base, one story or more in height. Formal rhythms and overall symmetry are reinforced with colonnades and pilasters. Alternatively, applied decoration may be seen in the form of patterned screens or grills. Either form may incorporate geometries that express an overall pattern, akin to an egg crate. The plastic qualities of concrete are often expressed.

Character-defining features of the New Formalism style can include simple building forms with flat roofs, often raised on pilotis or an enclosed, recessed base; regular geometric rhythms seen in colonnades, overall geometric patterning, or other features recalling the symmetry of classicism; extensive use of modeled surfaces, exploiting the plastic qualities of concrete; geometric features that accentuate the roofline in place of a traditional cornice; and/or symmetrical fenestration that is secondary to the overall form and expression of the building.

The U.S. Courthouse shares a number of qualities with another of Spokane's major examples of New Formalist architecture: the Parkade building at 511 W Main Avenue. Both are tall, with pronounced vertical ribs, terminating in a curved cornice with punched openings. The Parkade building is humorous in its design qualities, however, whereas the U.S. Courthouse, using a similar vocabulary, creates a dignified, monumental expression of the same architectural style.

Architects. The U.S. Courthouse was designed by a consortium of Spokane architects consisting of Culler, Gale, Martell & Ericson; McClure & Adkison; and Walker & McGough. It was constructed by Nelse Mortensen & Company of Seattle.

Carroll Leo Martell was born June 8, 1912 in Beulah, North Dakota. After graduating from high school, he worked for the Civilian Conservation Corps, earning a dollar a day toward college. Martell eventually made it to the University of Kansas – where he led a dance band on clarinet for extra cash – graduating summa cum laude with a BS in Architecture and the Alpha Rho Chi Medal in 1935. He married in 1936; the newlyweds lived in Chicago and Washington, D.C. while Martell served as an associate architect for the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1936 to 1945. The family moved to Spokane following World War II, where he practiced as Carroll Martell from 1948-52; then as Culler, Gale, Martell. One of the largest in the Pacific Northwest, the firm underwent various naming iterations over the years as it added partners: at one time, in addition to architects John Culler (Carnegie Institute of Technology 1938), Fulton Gale (University of Idaho 1947), and Donald Ericson (University of Washington 1952), principals included engineers Kenneth Norrie and Walter Davis. In addition to the U.S. Courthouse, the firm was responsible for a number of iconic Spokane-area landmarks, including Shadle Park (1956) and Kellogg (1957) High Schools; Rockwood Manor (1960); and Pearce (1966), Dryden (1967), and Dressler (1968) Halls on the Eastern Washington University campus. Martell was active in his profession, his community, and his church. He died in Coupeville, Washington on August 14, 2004 at 92.

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Royal A. McClure (1917-2006) and Thomas R. Adkison (1917-86) established their Spokane firm in 1947. Both graduated from the University of Washington in 1941 with bachelor's degrees and went on to work for Seattle architect J. Lister Holmes, who was perhaps best known in the early 1940s as the chief architect for Seattle's 878-unit Yesler Terrace Defense Housing project. McClure & Adkison's work was widely published in a number of prestigious architectural publications of the day, including *Architectural Forum*, *Arts + Architecture*, and *Progressive Architecture*. From 1947 to 1966 they practiced throughout the state – particularly in the Spokane area and eastern Washington – designing university buildings, schools, hospitals, clinics, and churches. The U.S. Courthouse was one of their most highly visible commissions. Both McClure and Adkison were active in the AIA and served on many local and regional committees and boards, including as charter members of the Planning Association of Washington. McClure, a Seattle native, received a Masters in Architecture from Harvard University in 1946 and was later the recipient of the prestigious Arthur Wheelwright Fellowship for travel in Europe, awarded in 1954-55 by Harvard for professional achievement. In addition to his design work, McClure was acting head of the University of Idaho's Department of Architecture in 1947-48. After 1966, McClure practiced on his own, then as McClure/Nixon beginning in 1970. Tom Adkison, an Idaho native, went on to practice as Thomas R. Adkison after 1966. He was in charge of the Expo '74 World's Fair site plan and proposed a plan for a Spokane Metro Center on the north bank of the river. He was elected to the AIA College of Fellows in 1978.

Established in Spokane in 1953, Walker & McGough received national awards for design excellence from the AIA in 1959 and 1969. The firm's work was included twice in *Progressive Architecture's* annual review of American architecture (in 1967 and 1969); its 1969 Farm Credit Bank project was featured in the German journal *Baumeister*. Walker & McGough's residential work was also featured extensively in a number of design textbooks, including *Inside Today's Home* by Ray and Sarah Faulkner and *The Art of Interior Design: A Text in the Aesthetics of Interior Design* by Victoria Kloss Ball. The firm continues today, with offices in Spokane and Seattle, as Integrus Architecture. Born in Spokane in 1923, Bruce Morris Walker was a 1947 graduate of the University of Washington bachelor of architecture program (following service in the Navy during World War II); in 1951 he earned a master of architecture degree from the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, where he studied under Walter Gropius. While there, Walker won several national design competitions, including first prize in a joint NAHB and *Architectural Forum* small house competition. After traveling and studying in Europe on the Appleton Traveling Fellowship – given in recognition of his scholastic performance – Walker returned to Spokane in 1952. A year later, at the suggestion of fellow Spokane architect Royal McClure, he formed a partnership with John W. McGough. Walker was named a fellow of the AIA in 1979. He died in Spokane in 2005. John Witt McGough was born in 1925 in Spokane. He attended Moscow High School and the University of Idaho, where he graduated with a bachelor of science in architecture in 1950. McGough was also accepted into the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, but elected to get to work rather than continue his studies. McGough spearheaded the company's foray into the area of justice facilities planning, and established the first chair for a visiting professor of architecture at his alma mater. He was elected to the University of Idaho's Alumni Association Hall of Fame in 1981. In 1985, he left Walker & McGough to form the McGough Group. McGough was named a fellow of the AIA in 1975, and died in Spokane in 2005.

Physical description: Location and Setting. The U.S. Courthouse is sited in one of the most significant locations in Spokane, noteworthy for both its urban design qualities and its importance as a civic

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center. This was recognized in 1976, when it was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as the Riverside Avenue Historic District. The building is located in the west end of downtown Spokane, in the southeast quadrant of the intersection of Main Avenue and Monroe Street, and in the northeast quadrant of the intersection of Riverside Avenue and Monroe Street. It is centered on the east terminus of Riverside Avenue before it turns south to continue again in an easterly direction. As a result, it provides closure to the ensemble of buildings along Riverside that encompasses the historic Spokane Club, the Spokane Civic Building (later the Chamber of Commerce; The Philanthropy Center today) the Masonic Temple, the Elks Temple (North Coast Life Insurance Company building today), and the Smith Funeral Home and Apartment Building (the North Coast Plaza office building today) (WISAARD). The curving street here, with its planted median and small plaza fronting the U.S. Courthouse on the west makes the siting of this building all the more dramatic. The U.S. Courthouse is across from the iconic Spokesman-Review building with its tower that marks the corner of Riverside and Monroe. It is one of two buildings in the block bounded by Main Avenue, Lincoln Street, Riverside Avenue, and Monroe Street, the other being the 1909/1941 Federal Building and U.S. Post Office (listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1983).

The immediate setting of the U.S. Courthouse is as follows. To the northwest is the restored Monroe Street Bridge, with its dramatic view of the Spokane River Falls. To the direct north is the new downtown branch of the Spokane Public Library, constructed on the site of the older Spokane Public Library. To the northeast is River Park Square, a newer shopping center, and to the direct east is the Federal Building/U.S. Post Office. To the direct south is the iconic Spokesman-Review building with its tower, and the historic Empire State Building, which was listed in the National Register in 1977. To the southwest is the new Spokesman-Review building and beyond, the Western Union Life Insurance Building (the Roman Catholic Chancery Building today). To the direct west is a commemorative statue, the 1906 Monaghan Monument, which honors Ensign John Robert Monaghan, who died during the partition of Samoa in 1899. It is located in a small remnant triangle created by the street pattern here (Garrett, Riverside Avenue Historic District, 1976). And to the northwest is The Spokane Club, which marks the beginning of one of Spokane's most significant downtown streets, representing the City Beautiful movement and Spokane's social history. This corridor was recognized by being listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a lineal district in 1976.

Materials. The Thomas S. Foley United States Courthouse is a concrete structure clad in blond brick in a running bond pattern. The tall, battered base of the building is concrete aggregate. The plaza on the south side is finished in brick and concrete and the pool here is finished in ceramic tile. Windows and doors are anodized aluminum. On the north side of the building is a concrete stair, accessing the elevated entry level from the street. The foundation of the building is concrete and the roof is built-up.

Massing and design. The U.S. Courthouse in Spokane, the Thomas S. Foley U.S. Courthouse today, is nine stories in height, including a generous first level, which in turn sits on a raised plinth that rises above the street on three sides. The building has a flat roof with a heavy, curved cornice. The first floor of the building is covered by an arcade with arched openings that encircles the building on all four sides; there are five openings on each building side. The building is completely symmetrical; each side is identical above the first floor. The windows are identical throughout, and consist of vertically oriented fixed sash within a deep anodized aluminum frame, which is in turn set within a recessed panel. The bottom of this resulting opening is marked with bricks set in a soldier

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course, with the center brick having a recessed detail. The vertical ribs of the building are visually prominent, giving the building a vertical emphasis, much like a continuous pilaster. At the top of the building are arched openings, allowing for a glimpse of the sky before the building terminates in a flared cornice. At the bottom, on the north side, are two entrances to an underground parking level and a concrete stair to the entry level plaza. The New Formalist building was designed by a consortium of local architects including Culler, Gale, Martell & Ericson; McClure & Adkison; and Walker & McGough and constructed in 1967. The building was dedicated to U.S. representative Thomas S. Foley in 2001.

Changes over time. The concrete stair on the north side of the U.S. Courthouse was added circa 1995. The building underwent a general upgrade in 2010-12, primarily to the building systems and security. The goal was to decrease the building's energy consumption by 30 percent; it is now considered a "green building." This modernization was completed by Lydig Construction Inc. of Spokane and McKinstry of Seattle.

Landscape and site design. The site and landscape design for the U.S. Courthouse is important both for its representation of modern concepts of site design and as a civic plaza. The building rises from a raised plinth, the forecourt plaza increasing the drama of the building as viewed from Riverside Avenue to the south. On the north, east, and west sides, this plinth abuts the street. At the first-floor level on these same sides, the building is encircled by a walkway, which is above the street due to the slope of the lot. The south side entry plaza is located at grade on the east side and accessed via seven concrete steps on the west. At the center of the plaza is a large, round pool with a fountain. Water from the pool continues south, underneath the paving stones of the plaza, terminating in a waterfall-like feature at the perimeter of the plaza on the Riverside Avenue frontage. Additional features include large planters with trees, surrounded by built-in benches, and numerous plaques. Planters with low hedges are located around the perimeter of the building at the entry level.



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