

Shaped not only by the grand vision of Washington, Jefferson, and L'Enfant but also by political squabbles, bureaucratic dawdling, costly blunders and the occasional genius that characterize American public life, the architecture of Washington reflects our nation's history with uncommon richness. This third edition of the AIA Guide to the Architecture of Washington, D.C. is a companion for tourists and residents alike - for anyone interested in contemporary Washington and its most important architectural landmarks. Revising and updating the AIA's popular 1974 edition, it offers concise descriptions and photographs of some 450 of the city's most notable structures, including nearly one hundred built since the mid-1970s. New entries by Christopher Weeks blend informed descriptions with lively commentary on each landmark - from the FBI's massive headquarters (brutalism on a grand scale) to the venerable Mayflower Hotel (exactly what a bouncy, big-city, luxury hotel should be). Accompanied by an updated photograph, each entry includes the structure's location, its original architect or design firm, and data of completion. Additional information is included for long-term projects (like the recently completed national cathedral) and for significant renovations of older structures. The distinguished architectural historian Francis D. Lethbridge, FAIA, has revised and updated his introductory essay, to which Weeks has added a postscript covering the past 20 years. Conveniently organized into 17 walking tours (with a map included for each), the guide describes notable structures in well-known areas throughout the city: Capitol Hill; The Mall; Judiciary Square; The Federal Triangle; Pennsylvania Avenue and Downtown; Midtown; The White House/Lafayette Square; Foggy Bottom/West End; Dupont Circle; Massachusetts Avenue/Kalorama; Cleveland Park/Woodley Park/Rock Creek; Foxhall; Georgetown; Arlington National Cemetery; Meridian Hill; Capitol South; other places of interest.

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Table of Contents. This lively and informative guide offers tourists, residents, and architecture aficionados alike insights into more than of Washington, D.C.'s. AIA guide to the architecture of Washington, D.C. Topics Architecture -- Washington (D.C.) -- Guidebooks, Washington (D.C.) -- Buildings.

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