



PRESERVATION

Ronald N. Davies Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse

102 N 4th Street
Grand Forks, ND

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The Ronald N. Davies Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse was completed in 1906. The building was originally the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse designed in the Beaux Arts style by James Knox Taylor as Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury. These features are seen in the balustrades, classical pilasters, lavish decorations and a symmetrical facade.



The main facade has a projecting pavilion at the center bay with limestone elements including an audience balcony at the second floor, decorative festoon over the entry, and a large cartouche integral to the roof's balustrade parapet.

The building underwent significant modification when the Post Office was relocated in 1964. It still retains a few significant interior spaces that retain original materials and design, including corridors, a cast iron and marble staircase, courtroom and judge's chambers. The building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1976.

The Davies Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse is a local landmark, and helped inform the resulting style of nearby Central High School and City Hall. It was renamed the Ronald N. Davies Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in 2002. Davies was nominated by President Eisenhower as the U.S. District Court Judge of North Dakota in 1955, and was a supporter of the NAACP and desegregation.