

LOCATION

350 W. 1st Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

PROJECT SIZE

633,000 SQ FT
10 occupied floors + basement
+ penthouse

CONSTRUCTION COST

\$350 Million

ARCHITECT OF RECORD

Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP

CONSTRUCTION

Clark Construction Group—
California, LP

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Jacobs

COMPLETION

August 2016

TENANTS

- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. Marshals Service
- U.S. General Services Administration
- Federal Public Defender (trial preparation space)
- U.S. Attorney Office (trial preparation space)

POINT OF CONTACT

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The U.S. General Services Administration designed and constructed a new sustainable, secure, and cost-effective United States Courthouse in the heart of downtown Los Angeles, California. The 10-story, 633,000 square-foot facility features 24 courtrooms and 32 judicial chambers and stands out in the downtown skyline with its impressive glass façade. The new courthouse optimizes court operations; addresses previous security concerns; and provides the necessary space for the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles and the public it serves.

The courthouse was designed to make the best use of its sunny downtown location and maximizes the use of natural daylighting throughout. Each floor is organized around a central space where light floods in through a large skylight overhead. Its serrated façade is designed to achieve a north/south orientation that maximizes daylight harvesting and views, while reducing solar heat gain by 47 percent and reducing glare. The facility incorporated numerous sustainable features including high efficiency building systems, water-efficient fixtures, green roofs over the Jury Assembly Room and cafe, drought tolerant landscaping, 105,000 gallon underground rainwater cistern for irrigation, a 507 kW roof mounted solar panel array, and achieved a LEED Platinum certification.

Due to its location, seismic design was a key consideration in the structural engineering of the building. The design also includes an innovative structural engineering concept that allows the cubic courthouse volume to appear to float over its stone base while being one of the Nation’s safest buildings.



Photographs courtesy David Lena & Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP.



GSA awarded a design-build contract to Clark Construction Group-California LP and design partner Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP for the new courthouse in December 2012. An important aspect of this project to acknowledge is the design-build delivery model. Under this method, designer and constructor served as equal partners and were able to actively collaborate throughout the project.

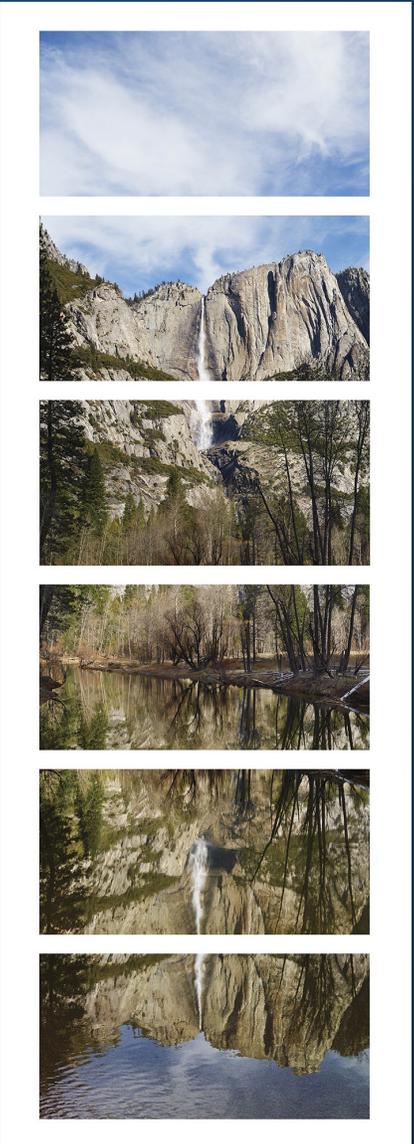
In contrast to traditional construction delivery methods, the design-build model reduced the project duration from a typical 6-7 years, down to 46 months. The new courthouse is GSA's largest design-build project and showcases the benefits of this innovative project delivery method, while still adhering to GSA's Design Excellence standards and the guiding principles of federal architecture.

The construction of this new courthouse is the first major step in GSA's three pronged approach to achieving an enhanced and efficient footprint for the U.S. District Courts in Los Angeles and consolidates many of the functions that were previously divided across multiple buildings.

ART INSTALLATIONS

In addition to Catherine Opie's *Yosemite Falls*, the new U.S. Courthouse features works by minimalist painter Mary Corse and contemporary mixed media artist Gary Simmons. All three artists live and work in the city of Los Angeles. Corse's piece is an expansive 7.75 x 43 foot geometric painting that hangs over the lobby. The contrasting vertical stripes also include glass microspheres that play off the ample light provided by the building's glass façade. "Glass microspheres are incorporated into the color fields, which refract the light and offer constant perceptual change for viewers as they move around the lobby, and as the ambient light changes throughout the day" said Corse about her art.

Simmons' large six panel piece is installed in the lobby of the courthouse. He was inspired by the architecture of the courthouse and wants his art to be accessible to everyone who enters the building. "Given that entering a courthouse can be a stressful experience, I hope that my artwork provides respite, or a moment of peace, in which the viewer can experience a sense of hope and solace," Simmons said.



TITLE
Yosemite Falls, 2016

ARTIST
Catherine Opie

DESCRIPTION
This series of large scale photographs begins on the 10th floor and cascades down to the 5th floor. "These various floors allow for different views of the falls, in the same way that a hiker's vantage points change when approaching the real falls in the natural environment" commented Opie.