Brien McMahon Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse

915 Lafayette Boulevard
Bridgeport, CT 06604

The Brien McMahon Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse is a steel-frame structure clad with limestone panels and a curtain wall system. The building is situated on a 3.35-acre site and contains four above-grade stories and a basement.

**Hours:** Monday - Friday, 7:30 am - 5:30 pm

**Public Transportation:** GBT bus stop within 1 block; Amtrak Railroad Station four blocks away; and taxis are available.

**Parking:** There are parking lots, garages, and metered parking in the surrounding area.

**Concession:** In the building

**ATM:** There is an ATM in the building and there are banks nearby
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Tenants

McMahon Building Directory

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Internal Revenue Service
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Attorneys Office
U.S. Bankruptcy Court
U.S. Department of Labor
  Office of Labor-Management Standards
  Wage & Hour Division

U.S. Diplomatic Security Services
U.S. District Court
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
U.S. General Services Administration
U.S. Marshals Service
U.S. Probation Office
U.S. Trustees
Brien McMahon Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse

History

The Brien McMahon Courthouse and Federal Building was built in 1967. It is a steel-frame structure clad with limestone panels and a curtain wall system. The building is situated on a 3.35-acre site and contains four above-grade stories and a basement. A courtroom annex with 2 courtrooms was added in 1991. The building has 34 indoor and 97 outdoor parking spaces. The building is not on the National Register of Historic Places. The building was renamed in 1994 after Brien McMahon, a former Connecticut Senator.

Brien McMahon (1903 - 1952) a Senator from Connecticut; born James O’Brien McMahon in Norwalk, Fairfield County, Conn., October 6, 1903; attended the public schools; graduated from Fordham University, New York City, in 1924 and from the law school of Yale University, New Haven, Conn., in 1927; admitted to the bar the same year, changed his name to Brien McMahon, and commenced practice in Norwalk, Conn.; city judge of Norwalk, Conn., in 1933, but resigned to become special assistant to the Attorney General of the United States 1933-1935; Assistant Attorney General of the United States in charge of the Department of Justice Criminal Division 1935-1939; resumed the practice of his profession in Washington, D.C., and Norwalk, Conn.; elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate 1944; reelected in 1950 and served from January 3, 1945, until his death in Washington, D.C., July 28, 1952; co-chairman, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy (Eighty-first and Eighty-second Congresses); interment in St. Mary’s Cemetery, Norwalk, Conn.

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Green Initiatives

Energy Star labeled in 2010.

Recent environmentally-friendly upgrades include:

- Light sensors that turn off when a room is vacated
- Low-flow flush toilets
- Single-stream recycling
- Use of green cleaning and maintenance products
- Hybrid government-owned vehicle
- Improved use of natural daylight instead of electricity
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Art in Architecture

The GSA Art in Architecture Program commissions the nation’s leading artists to create large-scale works of art for new federal buildings.

"Untitled", architectural metal, by Kent Bloomer, 1992

Kent Bloomer is the principal and founder of the Bloomer Studio, and has served as its chief designer since 1965. He is also a Professor of Architecture at Yale University. Bloomer has taught at Yale since 1966. He was an instructor at the Carnegie Mellon Institute of Technology from 1961 to 1966. In addition to his permanent teaching positions, Mr. Bloomer has lectured and served as a visiting critic at many universities, including UT-Austin, Harvard, McGill, and Columbia. He has also spoken to audiences at the British Psychoanalytic Society, the Portland Museum of Art, the Graham Foundation in Chicago, the London Architectural Association, and the American Craft Museum in New York City. Mr. Bloomer's sculpture has been exhibited by numerous museums and galleries, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in California, the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford, CT, and the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh. His work is included in the permanent collections of the Hirshhorn Gallery, Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., the Yale University Art Gallery in New Haven, and the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh. His large-scale projects have won statewide and national awards from the American Institute of Architects. Mr. Bloomer's most recent projects include a foliated trellis for the Ronald Reagan National Airport, Washington D.C. (architect: Cesar Pelli & Associates), large roof sculptures on the Harold Washington Library, Chicago (architect: Hammond, Beeby and Babka), an aluminum horse, wings, and trellis for The Great Platte River Road Archway Monument, Kearney, Nebraska (architect: Peter Dominick, Urban Design Group), and exterior metal panels for the new Nashville Public Library (architect: Robert A.M. Stern).

"Untitled", metal sculpture, by Patsy Norvell, 1985

Patsy Norvell is a sculptor and public art installation artist living in NYC. Norvell has been active in the women’s movement since 1969, participating in an artist conscious raising group and helping to start others. In 1972, Norvell was invited to exhibit in 13 Women, a pioneering women’s show in NYC. Later that year, she helped found AIR Gallery, the first women’s cooperative gallery in the country. Norvell’s art has been exhibited widely in galleries and museums. She has been the recipient of numerous grants, awards, and artist residencies. She has lectured and taught, introducing Women in the Arts courses at Montclair State College and Hunter College in the 1970s. Permanent public art projects include installations at the Beverley and the Courtelyou BMT subway stations in Brooklyn, Newsstands in Manhattan, and plaza and lobby installations in Los Angeles, CA; New Brunswick, NJ; Bridgeport, CT; and Bethesda, MD, among others. In 2001, the University of California Press published Recording Conceptual Art, the book form of taped interviews Norvell recorded in 1969. She received her BA in art and mathematics from Bennington College and her MA in sculpture from Hunter College.