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Expanding on History

The heart of Citta 50, a condo development near DC's 14th Street corridor, is a three-story coal depot abandoned since the 1968 riots.

Bonstra Haresign Architects replaced the historic building's foundation, restored its brick facade, and replicated original windows and doors. Along with a new adjoining seven-story red-brick building, the development contains 27 light-filled condos. A blue oval penthouse recalls a water tower of the past.

The judges noted that the multifaceted exterior looks built over time: "The strong composition engages with the street and fits well in the urban neighborhood."

The contractor was Bethesda's Camden Builders.

Photograph © Maxwell MacKenzie



Perfect Harmony

"The design reconciles and understands the existing fabric while also creating anew," a judge said of this apartment building (above and at right) by architect **Suzane Reatig**. In DC's Shaw neighborhood, it's made up of two townhouses, one with a portion of salvaged historic brick facade, one new. The jury called the juxtaposition "sensitive and powerful."

A U-shaped design allows light to pour into the units from three sides. A courtyard in the middle gives residents outdoor space in the urban neighborhood.

Rockville's Triad Construction Services was the contractor.

Photographs by Robert Lautman

