

Presidential Citation for Urban Catalyst

Slover Library

Norfolk, Virginia

Newman Architects

Associate Architects: Tymoff + Moss Architects

Landscape Architects: Michael Vergason Landscape Architects

Lighting Designers: Patrick Quigley Associates
Ornament Consultant: Bloomer Studios
Urban Designers: Urban Design Associates
Structural Engineers: Stroud Pence and Associates

MEP Engineers: PACE Collaborative, PC

Civil Engineers: Timmons Group

Geotechnical Engineers: Schnabel Engineering **Library Programmers:** Providence Associates **Technology Programmers:** The Sextant Group

Preservation Consultants: Commonwealth Preservation Group

Elevator Consultants: Lerch Bates
Envelope Consultants: Leavitt Associates
Food Service Consultants: McFarland Kistler
Signage Designers: Strong Cohen Graphic Designers
Preconstruction Services: Turner Construction

General Contractors: Archer Western

The Slover Library, designed by **Newman Architects**, was conceived as the centerpiece of Norfolk, Virginia's, downtown revitalization plan. Located near a new light rail station, the library incorporates the historic, neoclassical Seaboard Building, which once served as Norfolk's City Hall, along with a new, crisply modern structure that houses the majority of the library's functions. Connecting the two is a glassy, three-story atrium called the Forum. At ground level, the Forum allows visitors to flow freely between the new and old portions of the complex. On the upper levels, sleek bridges span between the two.

The new elements of the library are artfully composed to address several urban design goals. The glassy atrium is set back from the street line so as not to diminish the grandeur of the historic Seaboard Building. On the other side of the atrium, a three-story "loggia" pops out from the main mass of the tall new building, thus establishing a visual connection to the similarly scaled historic buildings on either side of the site. The loggia is also slightly canted in plan toward the east—a gesture that helps to draw the attention of visitors approaching from the light rail station in that direction. A slender, campanile-like tower—an extension of the elevator shaft—provides a gentle exclamation mark to the complex.





11141 Georgia Avenue.
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Davis Photography

Presidential Citation for Urban Catalyst

11141 Georgia Avenue

Silver Spring, Maryland

Bonstra | Haresign Architects

Interior Architects: SR/A Interior Architecture & Design

Lighting Designers: Gilmore Lighting Design **Structural Engineers:** Rathgeber/Goss Associates

Land Surveryors/Civil Engineers: Johnson Bernat Associates

MEP Consultants: JennERIK Engineering **Plumbing Engineers:** KNI Engineering

Building Enclosure Consultants: Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates

Acoustical Consultants: Polysonics Acoustics

& Technology Consultants

LEED Consultants: GreenShape

Specifications Consultants: Bethel Specifications Consulting **General Contractor:** The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company

The existing five-story office building at 11141 Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring was a bland box, but its location near the Wheaton Metro station was promising. To bring the site up to its full potential, Bonstra | Haresign Architects designed a conversion of the building into a 12-story, 194-unit apartment house. The renovation and addition constituted the first project permitted under Montgomery County's Wheaton Central Business District Sector Plan, which aims to direct development of the area as a bustling, sustainable hub.

The client required that as much of the existing building as possible by retained in the new project. The architects responded by adding a series of elements that overlap portions of the original structure, thus mitigating its aesthetic deficiencies while introducing a sense of depth and variety to the overall composition. A bright red portal defines the main entrance and punctuates the streetscape, while a large, yellow bay on the north façade serves as a kind of billboard, helping to turn the building into a local landmark.

For a fuller description of the project, see the Summer 2015 issue of *ARCHITECTUREDC*.

Slover Library.

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