

Carver Hall | Washington, DC











211 Elm Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

57,924 Square Feet

Multifamily Renovation Restoration Historic Carver Hall, originally built in 1942 to house single African American men who relocated to Washington to support the war efforts, was later acquired by HBCU Howard University for student dorms. The U-Shaped building - with a 35-foot width compared to a 56-to-62-foot width in a modern apartment building - has centered columns appropriate for old-style single-room dorms, not providing adequate depth for typical kitchens, bathrooms, closets, and internal circulation. This forced an alternate configuration with "box car" wide rooms along the perimeter, and a corridor shift from one side of the column line to the other halfway down the wing. Storage and lounge spaces, partially buried at a cellar level with double-height ceilings and clerestory windows above grade, are converted to 14 new terrace-level loft apartments with bedrooms above grade and expansive 2-story living and dining areas.

The adaptive use of Carver Hall provides 63 market rate apartments which contribute to the evolution of LeDroit as a walkable neighborhood in the nation's capital, while preserving a historically significant piece of the community.



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