



Exterior of Carver Hall.

Photos for this project © Anice Hoachlander

## Washingtonian Award in Distinctive Residential Design

### Carver Hall

Washington, DC

#### Bonstra | Haresign ARCHITECTS

**Landscape Architect:** STUDIO39

**Structural Engineer:** FMC & Associates, LLC

**MEP Engineer:** SAH Design Group, INC

**Civil Engineer:** CAS Engineering DC, LLC

**General Contractor:** UIP General Contracting (UIPGC)

Along with the Slowe Hall project (covered on the previous page), **Bonstra | Haresign** designed the renovation of Carver Hall, another former Howard University dormitory building located around the corner. Named for the prominent Black scientist George Washington Carver, the building was designed by Hilyard Robinson and built in 1942, like Slowe Hall, and housed single Black men supporting the war effort.

Bonstra | Haresign's design converted a building filled with dorm-style single-room units into a structure with 63 one-, two-, and three-bedroom affordable apartments. Design challenges included the building's slender footprint and a continuous line of structural columns running down the center of the floors, a complication that the architects addressed by alternating corridors on either side of the column line. The existing building additionally featured storage and amenity lounge spaces that were partly below grade but had 16-foot-tall ceilings and large clerestory windows. The renovation converted these spaces into loft-style units with bedrooms above grade and double-height living/dining areas.

"The redesign modernized the amenities, made them more accessible, connected the building to its surrounding



Lounge/bar.

environment, and significantly increased the rentable square footage," the firm said. Like Slowe Hall, Carver Hall incorporates multiple sustainable-design features.

The project was previously covered in the Spring 2022 issue of **ARCHITECTUREDC**.