

The image shows a multi-level residential courtyard. The walls are made of dark wood and brick. There are glass railings on the upper levels. The floor is covered in colorful geometric tiles. A dining table and chairs are visible in the lower level. The sky is visible through the glass roof.

RD

RESIDENTIAL DESIGN

FOR ARCHITECTS AND BUILDERS
OF DISTINCTIVE HOMES

VOL. 2, 2025

City Sights



607 Woodward Apartments

WASHINGTON, D.C.
BONSTRA | HARESIGN

Few firms in Washington, D.C., understand city buildings as well as Bonstra | Haresign. Founded just over 20 years ago by David Haresign, FAIA, and his partner Bill Bonstra, FAIA, the 30-person office has completed countless complex multifamily and commercial renovations, new builds, and adaptive reuses in the city itself and its surrounding towns and suburbs. Meanwhile, David and his wife, Patricia, raised their children in a single-family house in a leafy D.C. neighborhood that was close-in, but not truly urban.





Three bedrooms became one flowing primary suite, with dressing room, bedroom, and office. Custom radiator grilles evoke the building's columns.

with their lengths wrapped in pleasing curves and their connections subtly revealed at the floor and ceiling. New lighting, integrated speakers, and other infrastructure are concealed in dropped ceiling panels David calls “clouds,” while the main focus of the space shifts to walnut veneer cabinetry bookending the living room and kitchen. A similar floating cabinet marks the division between the dining and living areas. A backdrop of white oak floors laid atop the original flooring allows rich cabinetry, furnishings, and the striking blue entry door to pop.

City Sanctuary

With just the empty nest couple to accommodate on the second level, David went about taking down more walls

607 Woodward Apartments Washington, D.C.

ARCHITECT: David Haresign, FAIA, principal in charge, Bonstra | Haresign Architects, Washington, D.C.; Sarah Wingo, AIA, Wyn Design, Washington

BUILDER: AllenBuilt, Bethesda, Maryland

METALSMITH: Rick's Custom Welding

PROJECT SIZE: 2,000 square feet

PHOTOGRAPHY: Anice Hoachlander, Studio HDP

KEY PRODUCTS

BATHROOM VENTILATION: Panasonic

CABINETY: Rift-cut reconstituted European walnut finish, Ferris Custom Cabinetry, Washington

CABINETY HARDWARE: Top Knobs

COOKTOP/OVENS: Wolf

COUNTERTOPS: Honed Virginia Mist granite

DISHWASHER: Miele

FAUCETS: Grohe, Axor Starck

FLOORING: Select rift and quartered white oak

HVAC: Runtal steam radiators

LIGHTING: Artemide, iGuzzini, Juno, MP Lighting, Interlux, Omni, Sonneman, Satulight

LIGHTING CONTROL: Lutron

PAINTS: Sherwin-Williams, Benjamin Moore

REFRIGERATOR: Blomberg

SINKS: Franke (kitchen); Nameeks, Kraus, Signature

TOILETS: Duravit Starck, Kohler

TUB: MTI Baths

WINE REFRIGERATOR: Summit



there, too. What had been three bedrooms, each with its own closet, now became one continuous primary sanctuary. A dressing room occupies one end, the primary bathroom anchors the elbowed space at the other end, and the primary bedroom and Patty's office stretch between. Pocketing doors allow visual privacy or sight line sweep as desired.

The "great processional stair" retains its grandeur on the second level, too, as it terminates in a new gallery hall for David and Patty's collected artwork. The thickened gallery walls offer storage, and the hall ends in a secondary bath that serves guests when entertaining on the building's roof.

In the private rooms, the outer window walls are thickened as well to hide through-wall air conditioning units and new Runtal radiators. Here David, the avowed Modernist, indulges in a small nostalgic flourish—custom radiator grills waterjet cut into patterns suggestive of The Woodward's ornate entry columns. "It's a Spanish Colonial Revival building and there are very Baroque tripartite columns with terra cotta in them. They have great



In the primary bath, the walnut veneer vanity and knife-edge granite surfacing harken to the great room's appointments, while the marbleized elements are a sumptuous large-format tile.

bases and column caps. We wanted to create some tie back to the original that was not too literal," he explains. "The bases are on the first level of the apartment and the capitals on the second, alluding to how they work on the exterior of the building and at about the same scale."

After a lifetime of designing multi-family buildings for others to occupy

and a decade of planning for this one special unit, David and his wife are exactly where they want to be—in a beautiful oasis overlooking the vibrant city they love. "I've never worked so hard on 2,000 square feet," he says. "You really sweat the details when you do modern, because there's no place to hide. But the rigor lends a serenity."—*S. Claire Conroy*