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## CORPORATE AFFILIATES

### BOWA Builders

DC's Oldest Home Transformed into Urban Estate

Ranked the "Largest Whole-House Remodeler" in the United States, BOWA Builders is nearing completion on a renovation of Rosedale farmhouse, the oldest structure in the District of Columbia.

Built around 1740, Rosedale was originally a two-room, dirt-floor cottage and the home of Revolutionary War hero General Uriah Forrest, who was later mayor of Georgetown and a member of Congress. "Washington, L'Enfant, and John Adams were visitors, and there's even a legend that Lincoln slept on the dirt floor," says Rich Cassagnol, Division Manager for BOWA. "To say we were working on a national treasure is no exaggeration."



BOWA worked closely with Stephen Muse, FAIA, and Nancy McCarren, AIA, of Muse Architects to transform this piece of history into a well-appointed urban estate with four bedrooms, four baths, a library, an office, a study, and a state-of-the-art kitchen. Outside the kitchen, a brick walk and patio lead to a swimming pool and an adjoining pavilion.

"Our instructions from the owner were to make the 'new' seem 'old,'" says Cassagnol. "Muse's thoughtful design was critical in helping to maintain the home's historic value and achieving this goal."

In the end, both the client and the District's Historic Preservation Review Board applauded the results. The team's strategic approach produced tasteful, discreet alterations and improvements that seem to have been there for centuries.

Although the house is a private residence, three acres on the property's south side were deeded to the Rosedale Conservancy, a nonprofit neighborhood organization.