RALPH CUNNINGHAM FAIA

FOUNDING PRINCIPAL

PRINCIPAL-IN-CHARGE

Ralph Cunningham, FAIA weaves modern architecture into historic fabric that honors the old and illuminates the new with elegant simplicity. His work reflects the unique qualities of place, with distinctive attention to proportion, scale, and craftsmanship.

In his practice in our Nation's Capital, he has designed projects where sustainable solutions have been honed by careful research into the history of the site and the buildings upon them. One theme of his work is the transformation of the modest buildings of the past, whether it be a nineteenth century bank barn, an early twentieth century car dealership, or the midcentury suburban house into twenty-first century architecture. Another is his belief in the equal opportunity for craftsmanship in his work from new construction to preservation. This is shown in the steel fabrication to clearly delineate the new from the old at Caton's Walk, research into terra cotta fabrication for the restoration of the Mather Building, and the way that Park Hill joins the architectural conversation with its distinguished neighbors. His consistent approach has created a body of work that is remarkable for its diversity and consistent attention to detail. His buildings are seamless additions to the urban, suburban or rural landscapes that surround them.

Ralph Cunningham has often been honored for his work. He has extended his influence nationally and locally. He has received 104 AIA awards, twenty-four in the past five years. In addition, he has received over fifteen other national awards. In 2010, he was elevated to the American Institute of Architects' College of Fellows, in the category of Design. His work has also appeared in over twenty national publications. Ralph Cunningham is the 2009 Recipient of the Creative Achievement Award, a national award given by his alma mater Washington University. Carmen Colangelo, Dean of the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts, commented, "It is our honor to recognize [Ralph] as one of our very best and accomplished alumni. [His] outstanding work is inspiring to our students and faculty alike." He has also received three DC Mayor's Awards for Excellence in Historic Preservation, including the Chairman's Award.

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL WORKS

Dumbarton Oaks Fellowship House | Washington, DC - 2016 | Principal

 A 31,300 sf historic preservation, adaptive reuse, comprehensive renovation and addition project of a 1950s commercial office building located in the historic neighborhood of Georgetown into post-doctorate fellows' housing and academic building for Harvard University's Dumbarton Oaks. Certified LEED Gold.

Dumbarton Oaks La Quercia House | Washington, DC - 2018 | Principal

 A comprehensive renovation and adaptive reuse of a 13,800sf 1920s historic apartment building in Georgetown into a post-doctorate student housing and academic building for Harvard University's Dumbarton Oaks. Certified LEED Gold.

The Residences at St. Elizabeths East | St. Elizabeths East Campus, Washington DC - 2021 | Principal

 The project scope was to transform and modernize seven historic Continuous Treatment buildings into an affordable and market-rate residential community, now named The Residences at St. Elizabeths East. Enterprise Green Communities Certified

Stanford University - Hoover Institution Office | Washington, DC - Ongoing | Principal

 A comprehensive renovation and adaptive-reuse project of an historic downtown Washington DC townhome. The project transforms the building into the insitution's Washington office headquarters, with large new formal meeting and event spaces, penthouse addition and rooftop terrace, and complete life safety and accessibility updates.



CUNNINGHAM | QUILL ARCHITECTS

1054 31ST ST NW #315, WASHINGTON, DC 20007

TOTAL EXPERIENCE

39 years

LICENSES

Licensed Architect DC, DE, MD, NC, VA, WV, VT, PA, NJ

PRACTICE AREAS

Institutional/ Cultural
Adaptive Reuse
Historic Preservation
Commercial / Mixed-Use
Single-Family Residential
Multi-Family Residential

AFFILIATIONS

American Institute of Architects, Fellow

Washington DC AIA (Former Director)

Washington Architectural Foundation (Former Board President)

Georgetown Day School (Former Board President)

CERTIFICATIONS

NCARB Certification AIA Member

EDUCATION

Master of Architecture, Columbia University, School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, 1986

B.A., Architecture, Washington University in St. Louis, 1983

Board of Zoning Adjustment District of Columbia CASE NO. 21380

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RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL WORKS

- Dumbarton Oaks Fellowship House, Washington, DC ~ Institutional, Multi-Family Residential
- Dumbarton Oaks La Quercia House, Washington, DC ~ Institutional, Multi-Family Residential
- Dumbarton Oaks Library Reading Room, Washington, DC ~ Institutional, Interior Design
- The Residences at St. Elizabeths, Washington, DC ~ Historic Preservation, Affordable Housing, Multi-Family Residential
- Sayre House, Washington National Cathedral, Washington, DC ~ Institutional
- Takoma Theater, Washington, DC ~ Historic Preservation, Adaptive Reuse, Mixed-Use
- Clifton Street Residences, DC~ Adaptive Reuse, Multi-Family Residential
- Caton's Walk, Washington DC ~ Historic Preservation, Adaptive Reuse, Mixed-Use
- The Mather Building, Washington, DC ~ Mixed-Use, Multi-Family Residential
- The Maples, Washington, DC ~ Sustainable Design, Historic Preservation, Multi-Family Residential
- Wormley Row, Washington, DC ~ Multi-Family Residential
- Mother and Child Residence, Washington, DC ~ Historic Preservation, Single Family Home
- Georgetown Residence, Washington, DC ~ Historic Preservation, Single Family Home
- The Wooster and the Mercer Loft Condominiums, Arlington, VA ~ Multi-Family Residential
- Dumbarton Oaks Condo Renovation, Washington, DC ~ Residential
- Urban Alliance Foundation Headquarters, Washington, DC ~ Institutional, Restoration, Addition
- American Historical Association Headquarters, Washington, DC ~ Historic Preservation, Commercial
- Macomb Revival, Washington, DC ~ Single-Family Residential
- Chesterbrook Revisited, McLean, VA ~ Single-Family Residential
- Holman Hall, Upperville, VA ~ Single Family Home, Site Master Plan
- Catch & Release, Bluemont, VA ~ Single Family Home
- Kemble Residence, Washington, DC ~ Single Family Home
- Cathedral Heights Residence, Washington, DC ~ Single Family Home
- Garden Addition & Entry Canopy, Bethesda, MD ~ Single Family Home
- Waterfront House, Hague, VA ~ Single Family Home
- Redwood Pavilion, Chevy Chase, MD ~ Single Family Home
- Beale Square Townhouses, Washington, DC ~ Multi-Family Residential
- The Hyde, Arlington, VA ~ Sustainable Design, Multi-Family Residential
- Ward 1 Short-term Family Housing, Washington, DC ~ Institutional, Multi-Family
- 3rd Street Townhomes, Washington DC~ Multi-Family
- Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard, Dickerson, MD ~ Commercial, Historic Preservation
- Ward 7 Short-term Family Housing, Washington, DC ~ Institutional, Multi-Family
- Beale House, Washington, DC ~ Multi-Family Residential
- R.I.S.E. Demonstration Center, Washington, DC ~ Adaptive Reuse, Institutional
- Gateway Path, St. Elizabeths East Campus, Washington, DC ~ Urban Landscape Design
- 22 M Street Condominiums, Washington, DC ~ Mixed-Use, Multi-Family Residential
- 10th & G Street Offices and the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Washington DC ~ Mixed-Use, Commercial
- The Alta, Washington, DC ~ Sustainable Design, Mixed-Use, Multi-Family Residential
- Tenley Hill Condominium, Washington, DC ~ Mixed-Use, Multi-Family Residential
- 4600 Wisconsin Avenue, Washington, DC ~ Mixed-Use, Multi-Family Residential
- Park Hill Condominium, Washington, DC ~ Multi-Family Residential
- 2525 California Street Condos, Washington, DC ~ Multi-Family Residential
- Mount Joy Condominiums, Washington, DC ~ Multi-Family Residential
- Hastings Housing, Washington, DC ~ Multi-Family Residential
- Cibo Restaurant, New York, NY ~ Commercial