

111 Mass Ave NW Georgetown University,
Washington DC



"GGI organized a team meeting early into the project, allowing us to align expectations for production, material release, and shipping across the various glass types—which ultimately proved very effective. This level of coordination gave us a clear understanding of GGI's capabilities and allowed us to plan material releases strategically to support timely project delivery. In total, the project included seven different glass types and systems fabricated by GGI, and a total of 814 lites of glass installed throughout all floors of this building renovation."

Allen Keane, S. Albert Glass Company

FEATURED PRODUCTS	Glass Entrance Systems, Custom Back-painted Glass, MAX™ GlassBoards
OWNER/DEVELOPER	Georgetown University
ARCHITECT	SmithGroup Architects
GENERAL CONTRACTOR	Whiting-Turner Contracting
GLAZING CONTRACTOR	S. Albert Glass Company
YEAR COMPLETED	2025

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CASE STUDY

111 Mass Ave NW Georgetown University,
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The Challenge

Georgetown University's renovation of 111 Massachusetts Avenue NW required transforming a dark, inward-facing structure into a transparent academic environment that supports interdisciplinary learning and public engagement. Deep floor plates limited daylight, and the adaptive reuse of the existing building demanded materials that could meet current safety codes while aligning with a modern, flexible design vision.

The architect's intent emphasized openness, visual continuity, and long-term durability across multiple floors and program types. Achieving that consistency required coordinated architectural glass solutions capable of unifying entrances, interior partitions, wall cladding, and collaborative surfaces while supporting construction sequencing and installation efficiency.

The Solution

S. Albert Glass partnered with GGI to deliver a coordinated package of custom architectural glass and architectural decorative glass solutions used throughout the building.

GGI fabricated and supplied:

- Custom all-glass entrance systems using low-iron tempered glass with code-compliant hardware
- Interior glass office fronts and partitions to support daylight and transparency
- Back-painted glass wall cladding for structural columns and interior surfaces
- Approximately 372 custom MAX™ GlassBoards for classrooms and collaboration areas

These systems were produced using low-iron tempered glass and durable finishes that meet ANSI and CPSC safety glazing standards. Close coordination between the fabricator and glazing contractor supported installation across multiple floors and construction phases, helping maintain schedule alignment and consistent execution.

The Outcome

No longer viewed as the "Darth Vader" building, 111 Massachusetts Avenue NW on Georgetown University's Capitol Campus has been transformed into a vibrant, light-filled academic hub. Open interiors and collaborative spaces support its role as a modern, multi-use educational environment.

Custom architectural glass applications—including entrance systems, back-painted cladding, MAX™ GlassBoards, and interior glass panels—reinforce the design vision by enhancing daylight, visual connectivity, and long-term performance across all levels.

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