

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Harry G. Robinson, III

PERSON

Robinson, Harry G.

Alternative Names: Harry G. Robinson, III;

Life Dates: January 18, 1942-

Place of Birth: Washington, District of Columbia, USA

Residence: Washington, District of Columbia

Occupations: Urban Designer;

Biographical Note

Educator and city planner Harry G. Robinson III was born in Washington, D.C., on January 18, 1942. Robinson attended Howard University, where he earned his bachelor's degree in architecture in 1966 and his master's degree in city planning in 1970. He went on to receive his master's degree in city planning and urban design from Harvard University in 1972.

After earning his bachelor's degree, Robinson served in the Army, achieving the rank of First Lieutenant. He earned a Bronze Star and Purple Heart during his tour of duty in Vietnam. Robinson began his architectural career with the District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency as an architect and planner in 1968, where he remained until 1972. During that same time, he was a professor at the University of Washington, D.C., until 1974. Robinson also taught at Morgan State University from 1971 until 1979. In 1976, he founded and became the principal of the Robinson Group, an urban design consulting firm. In 1979, Robinson was named the dean of architecture and planning at Howard University, a position he held until 1995 when he was named vice president of the university. He remains there today as James E. Silcott Professor of Architecture and Dean Emeritus

Robinson is active in a wide variety of professional organizations. He is the founder of the African American Architect Initiative, vice chairman of the United States Commission on Fine Arts and a professional advisor to the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. Robinson also serves on the board of directors of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. Robinson presided over an international competition in Dakar, Senegal, for urban planners and architects to design a cultural complex, the Goree Memorial, in 1995. Robinson and his wife, Dianne, have three children.

Related Entries

Howard University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.A.

Howard University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.A.

Harvard University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.A.

Theodore Roosevelt Senior High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

High School Diploma

United States Army [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1969 to 1971]

First Lieutenant

University of the District of Columbia [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 198608 to 1999]

Professor

Howard University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from ? to ?]

James E. Silcott Professor of Architecture and Dean Emeritus

District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1960 to 1975]

Architect and Planner

Morgan State University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1993 to 1994]

Robinson Group [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1976 to ?]

Founder and Principal

Howard University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1979 to 1995]

Dean of Architecture and Planning

