



MATTHIAS J. PEARSON, ARCHITECT

ARCHITECTURE

FURNITURE
ART

WHY HIRE AN ARCHITECT FOR RESIDENTIAL DESIGN

BIG PICTURE

Architects are trained to see the "big picture". The first task of any project is to gather information and determine which pieces are relevant and will contribute effectively to the project. An architect can draw upon his past experience, his knowledge of residential history, the interpretation of the code, his understanding of the site, and his technical expertise of construction, to arrive at a coherent solution that both inspires and works.

IDEAS - CLARITY AND DEFINITION

The most important aspect of any design project is to develop a set of "ideas". This means figuring out what three or four things will give the project direction. It could be the desire to have the fireplace the center of the home, a specific aesthetic, paying attention to a feature of the site such as trees or a view, or a particular arrangement of rooms. Having clearly identified ideas, both practical and theoretical, will guide the process and be a resource when questions arise.

DOCUMENTATION

Good documentation is essential. It helps identify problems as well as opportunities. It is a vehicle to make informed choices such as materials or room layout, it gives the builder clear guidance in estimating and construction, and it is where constraints such as the code or ordinance can be studied. Documentation is more than plans and elevations too. It can include specific construction details, three dimensional imagery, or digital movie files to enhance the understanding of the project, both for the owner and the builder.

SUSTAINABILITY

Green design is good design, green construction is good construction. Today, most architects have a solid understanding of the opportunities of building green including saving energy, saving resources, or enhancing livability. There are many levels of greenness. An architect can guide you through the verdant fog to solutions that are appropriate to your project.

CONSTRUCTION

Good architects are not only trained in design but also in construction. They have a humble understating that the best design includes constructibility as a major component. An architect is present during the construction stage to work with the contractor and ensure design intent is satisfied while listening to those that are actually building the project. He is also present to answer questions and give guidance to the owner during the trying process of constructing a home.

Consider hiring an architect for your residential project. There is world of possibility waiting to be discovered!

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