

Every obstacle in life has a **design** solution.

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Unintended Uses

When architects design buildings they must always consider the unintended uses of parts of a building or site plan by people and animals. When example is when selecting a vent for a dryer or bathroom, the architect should require some type of baffle to prevent crawling animals from getting into a building. Another example is outdoor seating which can be used by as platforms for acrobatic stunts with skateboards or for sleeping by homeless individuals. We all have to keep unintended uses in mind as we live our lives. We would not purposely park our car where kids and playing as it may be used by them to sit on or as the goal for a pick-up street soccer game. Unintended uses may cause unintended consequences for our car.

Almost every time we purchase something it is wrapped or bottled in some kind of plastic. Plastic's intended use is to easily package goods and to preserve them. We find ourselves now in a situation where the unintended use of the everyday packaging has very dangerous and obvious unintended uses. The unintended uses I speak of is the growing islands of discarded plastic in our oceans. Every ocean on earth now has an island of discarded plastic. Which gathers together by virtues of the ocean currents. It is predicted that by mid-century (around year 2050), the oceans will contain more plastic waste than fish, ton for ton.



Photo credit: telgraph.co.uk

We must commit ourselves individually and as a world to limit the use of plastic, recycle ALL plastics, prevent all garbage from entering the oceans and begin the long process of removing the existing trash and plastics from the earth's oceans. This trash is harming and killing all

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Did You Know ?

We are the leading local provider of tools and resources for people planning on adding on to, renovating or building a home.

We have several consumer guilds to help you.

One of our recent publications is...

"The 10 Advantages of Design Build"



Down load it here and share it with

Archi-fact.

We are now producing over **300 million tons of plastic every year, half of which is for single use.** More than **8 million tons of plastic** is dumped into our oceans every year. Plastic bags are one of the worst, with more than **one million bags used every minute.** Once plastic pollution ends up in the ocean, it becomes entangled on the bodies of marine mammals, or ends up in their stomachs.

Iconic Building Of The Month

PLASTIC ISLANDS In In our Oceans

There is an island of plastic in every ocean on earth. We created this unintended structure, building it bit by bit as we all use plastic in. Our daily lives.

It comes out of ships, from our shores and from almost every river humans are near. In Columbia they have started building collection points to stop more plastic from washing down some of their rivers by wrapping discarded plastic bottles in fishing net and draping them across the rivers. Obviously we need to stop using so much plastic and start re4moving it from the oceans. Plastic will degrade in the ocean, however it will take 400 years and simple gets smaller. They end up as “micro particles” which the fish eat. Of course when we eat the fish we end up eating the “micro particles of plastic.”



*Photo credit:
AweOceans.com*

ACT NOW BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

Photo credits: telegraph.co.uk



Archi-Quote

This is a Non Architect, but all so relevant NOW.
Caroline Power -

“Think about your daily lives. How did you take your food to go last time you ate out? How was your last street food served? Chances are it was Styrofoam and served with a plastic fork and then put in a plastic bag. Do you still use plastic garbage bags? Plastic soda bottles? Ziplock bags? Plastic wrap on your food? Do you buy toilet paper than comes wrapped in plastic instead of paper? Do you put your fruit and veggies in produce bags at the grocery? I challenge every person and every business to keep your trash for one week. Separate your organic and recyclables and keep everything else for one week. You will be disgusted how many single use items you use.”

Unintended Uses

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marine life. The most obvious example is when Sperm Whales was ashore dead. This recently happen again this time in Germany. When they examined the stomachs' of the dead Sperm Whales they found close to a hundred pounds of plastic in each. With the number of whales dying from plastic pollution on the rise (not to mention many other marine animals), we must face our plastic addiction head on.

Plastic pollution is not only impacting our waters and marine life, but also the human food chain, and our overall health. I urged everyone to take this problem personally. To look at their own responsibility in contributing to the problem. Our lives are in danger, as the earth will not be habitable if the oceans die.



Photo credit: Caroline Power



Archi-Speak

Can you find these words of what's in the oceans?

PLASTIC BOTTLES WHALES
POLLUTION PLATES

P	U	I	M	S	H	S	W	D	T	J	V	W	Y	S
Q	U	Y	C	E	G	W	B	X	T	W	Z	T	E	Q
M	O	C	W	L	C	E	M	L	O	Y	X	L	H	Y
L	W	H	N	T	K	I	E	W	N	J	A	L	Y	U
J	M	A	K	T	G	T	T	I	D	H	C	J	M	W
P	B	D	F	O	F	N	Y	S	W	M	H	Y	C	Z
G	Z	N	J	B	L	R	V	J	A	X	Y	G	U	Q
X	A	R	V	B	R	S	Q	Z	C	L	C	Z	Z	H
F	T	M	T	E	D	X	A	Z	H	V	P	H	K	I
C	S	W	N	O	I	T	U	L	L	O	P	G	Q	H
Q	N	E	S	J	Q	I	Z	Q	Z	Y	I	C	B	Q
F	I	S	H	U	N	V	R	I	I	G	Z	X	I	J
O	J	N	J	B	S	M	X	L	P	R	V	I	F	G
A	C	D	Z	O	P	S	K	C	W	N	I	N	I	E
N	V	B	H	Q	H	I	T	N	U	N	J	O	O	C

Ask M

In the James Bond books and movies the character "M" heads the Secret British Intelligence Service known as MI 6, of which James Bond is Agent 007. When contemplating adding on to your home or building, renovating or building a new home or building you should have someone like "M" on your side. Each month the "Ask M" column will answer a reader's question to place more information at your finger tips. **This month's question is...**

Last month you wrote about a church made out of cardboard. What other odd materials have building b been made of?

Doug W.

Doug,

Some are made of mud and clay, some have been made out of reused items like old tires, plastic bottles or cans. Some are made of recycled plastics which have been made into regular looking materials like wood.

You can build out of almost anything. You must use materials which are proven to be safe from fire spread and smoke pollution and are energy efficient. Of course you also want to keep the rain out.

Email your questions to info@designMgroup.com ,and in the subject line type in "Ask M". We look forward to hearing from you and hope we can answer the questions to everyone's satisfaction.

Want to speak with the Architect

Do you have questions but do not know where to start?

Do you know the legal consequences of starting a project without approvals?

Are you sure you have completed all of the research necessary so as not to waste your money and time during construction?

Are what you think are your NEEDS and OPTIONS truly the best for you and your future?

Does the contractor really have YOUR best interest in mind when suggesting solutions?

Answering these questions and more are the reason for enlisting a Needs and Options Review.

We can help you on your way to a successful project with less hassles and problems.

Visit: www.designMgroup.com

About

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President



photo credit: Jenna Glatzer

Marcus Marino, RA, AIA, NCARB is a leading architect in New York City. He received a Bachelors of Architecture from the prestigious Pratt Institute and a Masters in the Science of Architecture and Urban Design from Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. He received his license to practice architecture in New York State in 1981 and is licensed in a number of other States. Marcus Marino has served on numerous Governmental Panels and serves as an expert consultant to other architectural firms and legal firms. He is the former Vice President of Public Advocacy of the New York State American Institute of Architects.

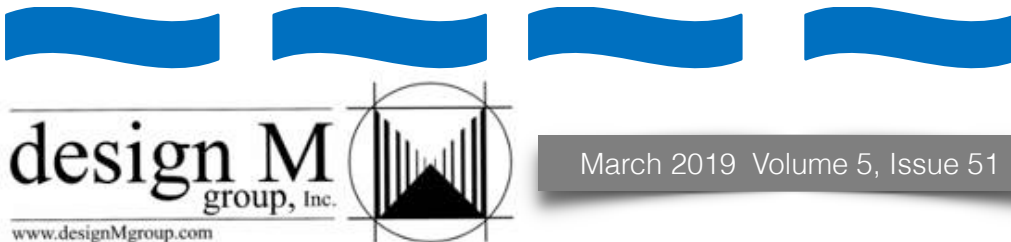
Our core beliefs are ...

Architects have a responsibility to our clients, community and the environment.

Architects should help provide information to our fellow world citizens about their homes, offices and the built environment in general.

Your Home should move you emotionally like your favorite song does.

Let Us Help You Build the Home You Knew Was Always There For You.



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Contact me !

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NCARB