

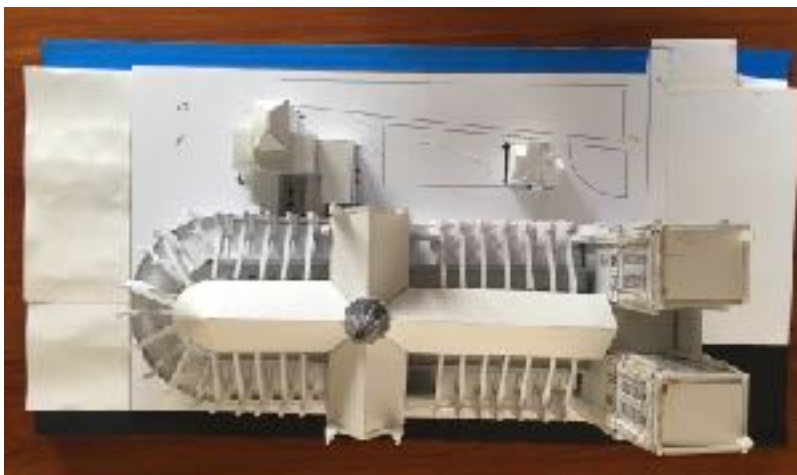
Every obstacle in life has a design solution.

December 2019, Volume 5, Issue 60

# Preparation

It is commonly believed that Abraham Lincoln once said, "Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the ax." Well, under stricter scrutiny we have discovered that Abraham Lincoln never said such a thing. The invaluable website Quote Investigator delved into that Abraham Lincoln quote, of which there are several versions. (One only has him using half his time — two of four hours — to sharpen the axe, rather than two-thirds of it.) The site delves into the provenance of famous quotes and decides whether they were actually said by the oft-referenced speaker. Its verdict on Abraham Lincoln's quote is that it cannot be attributed to him. However, it is an old logging aphorism which predates Abraham Lincoln. Regardless of its providence the notion behind it is a good one. Like the United States Coast Guard's motto "semper paratus" (always prepared) it is prudent to prepare prior to any task.

If you have been reading this newsletter for more than a year you would know that every Christmas season my daughter and I bake, decorate and build an iconic building in gingerbread. You can see all of them on our website. When there has been a major event during the year associated with an iconic building, we use that one for our adventure. This year the event related to an iconic building that most stood out to us was the fire at Notre Dame.



View of model from above - Photo Credit: Design M Group

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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"



Download it  
here and  
share it with

## Archi-fact.

The Capitol building was partially burned by the British on August 24, 1814, during the War of 1812. George Bomford and Joseph Gardner Swift, both military engineers, were called upon to help rebuild the Capitol. Reconstruction began in 1815 and included redesigned chambers for both Senate and House wings (now sides), which were completed by 1819. .

# Preparation

*continued from page one*

In preparation of this endeavor each year we collect photographs, maps and other information on our subject building. We also determine how we will construct it as everything must be eatable according to the international Gingerbread Building Completion rules. With the more complex buildings we build a model to confirm our proposed construction methods. We will start the baking in a few weeks, however since there is a limitation in space in our monthly newsletter we thought we would share the photographs of the model with you this month so that next month our newsletter can commit more space to photographs of the finished gingerbread Notre Dame.



*Left shows entire model on table for size comparison.*

*Above is the North side of Notre Dame.*

*Below is a detail of the large and small flying buttresses.*

*Below to the left is the South side of Notre Dame with the two (2) small outbuildings, the bridge and part of the*



*Photo Credits: Design M Group*

## Archi-Quote

“A doctor can bury his mistakes, but an architect can only advise his clients to plant vines.”

**Frank Lloyd Wright**



# Iconic Building of the Month

The original building was completed in 1800 and was subsequently expanded, particularly with the addition of the massive dome, and expanded chambers for the bicameral legislature, the House of Representatives in the south wing and the Senate in the north wing. The Capitol is built in a distinctive neoclassical style and has a white exterior. Both its east and west elevations are formally referred to as *fronts*, though only the east front was intended for the reception of visitors and dignitaries.

Thomas Jefferson insisted the legislative building be called the "Capitol" rather than "Congress House".<sup>[1]</sup> The word "Capitol" comes from Latin and is associated with the Temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus on Capitoline Hill, one of the seven hills of Rome. The connection between the two is not, however, crystal clear. This, in turn, has led to frequent misspellings of "capitol" and "capital". The former refers to a building which houses government institutions; the latter refers to the entire city.

## The United States Capitol Building



Photo Credit: Wikipedia

## Archi-Speaks

Can you find these words?

**CAPITOL    PREPARED    LINCOLN  
GINGERBREAD    DAUGHTER**

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

## 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...**

**Why are the circle, triangle and square called the basic shapes?**

Jane G.

*Jane,*

*The circle is made by drawing one line, use two lines and all you get is a one dimensional line. However use three lines and you have a triangle, and four lines give you a square. All other shapes can be derived from these three shapes. Rectangles, pentagons, octagons etcetera, etcetera. That is why these three shapes are called the basic shapes.*

Email your questions to [info@designMgroup.com](mailto: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](http://www.designMgroup.com)

## About

Marcus Marino, RA, AIA, NCARB  
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.

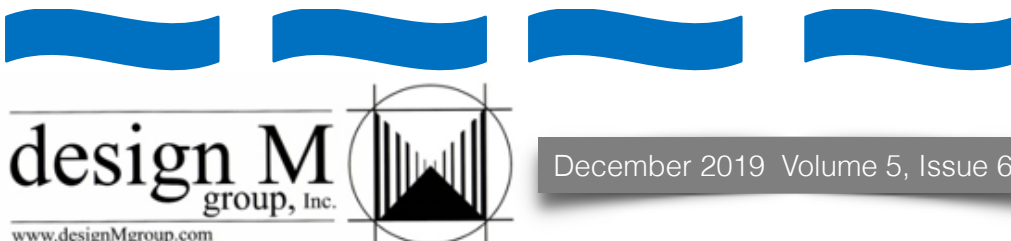
## Our core beliefs are ...

**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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TOLL FREE

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NCARB