

Every obstacle in life has a design solution.

October 2020, Volume 6, Issue 70

## The New Office?

Ever since office buildings became part of our culture there have been people that have continued to work from home. The number of people that have worked from home exploded during the Covid-19 Pandemic. If you do not have a good internet connection, then your options are limited. Some people have resorted to using public terminal like the one pictured here at a local Federal Express Office. If you have a good internet connection at home then you have more options. If you have a good Wi-Fi service available to you at home then your options increase exponentially.



Photo credit:  
Design M Group

One thing has never changed for those who work from home. That is the balance of the work home relationship. There are two basic issues when it comes to finding that balance. The most important is that of time and attention. Many people who work from home either in a part of their apartment or house or in a separate room or rooms with a separate entrance, have to struggle with the separation of their time or attention they spend at home with their loved ones including pets and the time they spent in work mode.

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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 western portion of the World Trade Center site was originally under the Hudson River. It was on this shoreline, close to the intersection of Greenwich and the former Dey Street, that Dutch explorer Adriaen Block's ship, *Tyger*, burned to the waterline in November 1613, stranding him and his crew and forcing them to overwinter on the island. They built the first European settlement in Manhattan. The remains of the ship were buried under landfill when the shoreline was extended beginning in 1797 and were discovered during excavation work in 1916.

# The New office?

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This is a difficult issue for some people and must be overcome to be successful at working at home. Different approaches work for different people.

The other issue we all face is that of space. The type of space you need depends on many variables. Do you have clients coming to your office? Do you service a special needs group of clients either physical or emotional needs? Are you the primary care giver for young children? Are you the primary care giver for an adult at home who needs daytime care? Are you involved in sensitive conversations during your work which should not be overheard by others in your home? Are there physical or digital images or information which must be kept private or would be inappropriate for others to see in your work area or on your computer? These are some of the questions which must be thought about and worked out. Here at Design M Group these questions are always asked of clients when they decide to alter the physical design of their home or wish to add on to their home to accommodate a home office.

It seems that home offices are here to stay. Most studies have indicated that worker productivity increases when workers work from home. And now with Covid figured into the equation many large corporations are reevaluating the costs of their office space.

## Archi-Quote

In the 1960s, Minoru Yamasaki railed against the glass cubes and boxes that were transforming the skyline of American cities and called instead for romantic, decorative buildings that would both soothe and delight the human spirit.

"Above all, with political turmoil, traffic problems, vast increases in population and the tremendous impact of the machine, we must have serenity," "Man needs a serene architectural background to save his sanity in today's world."

*Minoru. Yamasaki*

## Iconic Building of the Month

### The World Trade Center, New York City -

The original **World Trade Center** was a large complex of seven buildings in the Financial District of Lower Manhattan, New York City, United States. Designed by the architect Minoru Yamasaki

It opened on April 4, 1973 and was destroyed in 2001 during the September 11 attacks. At the time of their completion, the **Twin Towers**—the original 1 World Trade Center (the North Tower), at 1,368 feet and 2 World Trade Center (the South Tower), at 1,362 feet - were the tallest buildings in the world. Other buildings in the complex included the Marriott World Trade Center (3 WTC), 4 WTC, 5 WTC, 6 WTC, and 7 WTC. The complex contained 13,400,000 square feet of office space.

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*Photo credit: Wikipedia*

# Iconic Building of the Month

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*Photo credits: Wikipedia*

The core complex was built between 1966 and 1975, at a cost of \$400 million (equivalent to \$2.27 billion in 2018). During its existence, the World Trade Center experienced several major incidents, including a fire on February 13, 1975, a bombing on February 26, 1993, and a bank robbery on January 14, 1998. In 1998, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey decided to privatize it by leasing the buildings to a private company to manage. It awarded the lease to Silverstein Properties in July 2001.

During its existence, the World Trade Center was an icon of New York City. It had a major role in popular culture and according to one estimate was depicted in 472 films.

## Archi-Speaks

Can you find these words?

HOME                      OFFICE                      QUESTIONS.  
   CENTER                      SETTLEMENT

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

## 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...**

**Does an architect help keep a project on schedule?**

Dan E.

*Dan,*

*The architect will alert the owner when a contractor is going behind schedule if they are hired to perform Contract Administration services. To have the ability to control schedule the architect would have to be hired as the owner's representative and be given the author to make scheduling and financial decisions for the project.*

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.

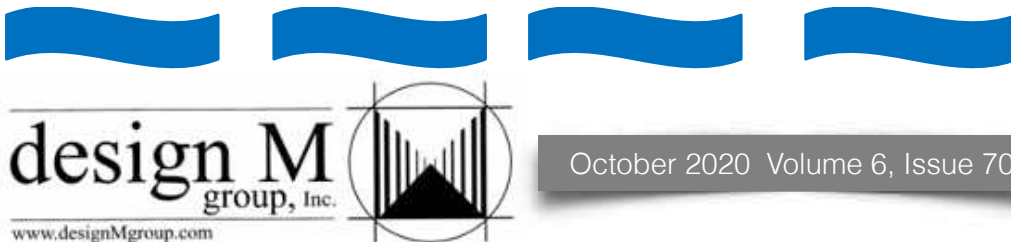
## Our core beliefs are ...

**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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