

Paul L. James (American Designer)

Education and early employment

Paul was born on May 18, 1952 in Wichita, Kansas. He attended the same school for 12 years in the nearby farming town of Andover and two years at Wichita State University majoring in Psychology and Music. Later, prompted by his father he developed an interest in Naval Architecture, and devoted several years in serious study, and consideration to working in that field.



Career Directions

The specialized nature of Naval Architecture prompted a two year sojourn to Maui, Hawaii. However it was Building Architecture that Paul found most in demand. He never lost interest in boats and sailed competitively and for enjoyment.

Apprenticing and Work

During the 1970s Paul became a skilled draftsman and detailer, with practical knowledge he gained on the job, he was able to create and detail technical construction and shop drawings more completely than most certified drafting technicians and registered architects. Although he also developed an intimate understand of commercial construction, he did not register as an architect working on these in collaboration when required.

James Design & Development

James Design and Development was established in the early 1980s in St. Augustine, Florida, and was a busy design shop employing up to 8 employees at a time. Projects consisted of primarily housing, industrial and some retail merchandising.

Bermuda and Design Source International

There were no single determining factors that led to working abroad, but like Mark Twain Paul has spent a great deal of time in Bermuda, where his wife is from. Many references and assignments were conceived and completed there, with numerous awards and publications on record. Projects grew in scope and complexity during that time.

Eco Tourism

Although a small part of his project background, Paul has a keen interest and understanding of Eco Tourism, having worked in the design and development of the first Eco Resort in Bermuda, located on an abandon Canadian Air Force Base in Somerset Bermuda. Daniel's Head Eco Tourist Resort, which later became 9 Beaches Resort. The project was conceived by the godfather of eco tourism Stanley Selengut, from whom Paul learned a great deal, as he was a well known eco tourism developer with popular and well liked camps in the Virigin Islands, Maho Bay and Concordia.

Industrial Design/ Patents

In the industrial design Paul holds 2 U.S. patents for a locking device; #5287710 (Feb. 22,1994) and #5444998 (Aug. 29,1995).

Modular Housing

Paul designed some of the first commercial marketed structural steel framed modular housing in the late 1990s and from his design offices in Bermuda, opened a plant in 2005 to produce these for commissions there.

Residential Appraising/ Consulting

Currently providing residential appraising services, Paul welcomes the occasional commission for design or contract administration work.

Interests and Hobbies

Paul has a keen interest in industrial design as art that functions. This extends into everything from cabinetry, to furniture and both building and mechanical prototypes. His sailing background left the ground in recent years into gliding and private piloting.

