Connecticut College
Digital Commons @ Connecticut College

Architectural Studies Integrative Projects
Art History and Architectural Studies

1-1-2011

Michael McKinley & Associates

Noah Geupel
Connecticut College, noah.geupel@conncoll.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.conncoll.edu/archstudintproj

Recommended Citation
http://digitalcommons.conncoll.edu/archstudintproj/36

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Art History and Architectural Studies at Digital Commons @ Connecticut College. It has been accepted for inclusion in Architectural Studies Integrative Projects by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Connecticut College. For more information, please contact bpancier@conncoll.edu.

The views expressed in this paper are solely those of the author.
NOAH G EUPEL

SENIOR INTEGRATIVE PROJECT:
INTERNSHIP

ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES
CONNECTICUT COLLEGE
2012
The Practice

• Small [mostly] residential architecture firm located in Stonington Borough CT

• Specializes in design of coastal homes in nearby CT and RI towns such as:
  • Stonington, Mystic, and Noank (CT)
  • Watch Hill, Charlestown, and Shelter Harbor (RI)

• Additional Residential Architectural Services:
  • Sustainable design
  • Home renovation
  • Coastal property analysis
  • Permitting
  • Interior design

• Commercial Projects include:
  • Restaurants, condominiums, pavilions, and retail buildings
Stonington was a great place to work because the small-town environment made me feel at home. Since the same people would stop in the office every day, and since I often walked around the town and visited the local shops during my lunch break, by the end of the spring, I knew a small portion of the locals by name, strengthening my welcome feeling of belonging.

• Small Office: Only four employees (including me) – Michael, Kathy (wife), and Tom
**My Responsibilities**

- **AutoCAD drawings:**  
  Site plans, demo plans, existing conditions, details, red-lines

- **Creating, checking, and updating door, window and finish schedules**

- **Updated AutoCAD system by adding prototype detail and block libraries, and new hatch patterns**

- **Participate in client meetings to understand design goals and expectations**
Site Visit - Dimensioning
Beaudoin House

Partial North Elevation - Entry

Partial East Elevation - Garage

Partial East Elevation - Indoor/Outdoor Living Room
Knowledge & Skills Acquired

• I developed my AutoCAD skills to a highly proficient level

• I learned how to configure, organize, and format design schedules, bid and permit drawing sets and presentation boards

• I gained a better understanding of the designer-client relationship, especially in relation to the process of coastal residential design

• I learned how to effectively dimension a building and site and translate the measurements to a CAD drawing

• I compiled a catalogue of typical details and blocks to use as a prototype in the future

• I learned a little about the process of permitting for coastal zoning regulations
Reflections

Working at Michael McKinley & Associates was a rewarding and enjoyable experience. Since the firm was so small, I was able to foster a strong friendship with Michael, Kathy and Tom, that will be a valuable resource in the future. Another reason that I am glad to have had the opportunity to experience such a tight-knit and community-oriented work environment is that I am more interested in seeking employment in a larger firm with a more diverse scope of work and more specialized design teams. What I believe was truly valuable about my time with McKinley was the hands on and personal environment in which I was able to develop and hone my skills with AutoCAD and as a designer.
Contact Information

Michael McKinley & Associates, LLC.

146 Water Street
Stonington, CT 06378
Phone no.: (860) 535 - 4532