

## Addison Schierbeek architects

### Three C's

It's time for a change. It's time for you to live life on your own terms.

If the desire to have a home that helps you live life on your own terms has been weighing on you, you may be wondering:

- Where do I start?
- How do I select an architect that will help me lift that weight, change my life, and help me create a home that addresses life on my terms?

We get these questions all the time and we believe that selecting the right firm for you is vitally important. After all, you're looking for someone to help you make life-altering changes. Why go through that process with someone who isn't just the right fit for you?

That's why we created this guide: "Connection. Collaboration. Curiosity. - The 3 C's of California Living"

Here's our encouragement to you:

- Read through this short guide.
- Think about what this information means to you.
- Use it as you search for an architect.
- Steal from it as you interview architects.
- Come back to us if you think we may be the right fit for you.

### CONNECTION:

You deserve to be connected to what matters most to you. The entire process of designing and building your home will be a series of decisions about connecting life, light, and what's most important to you.

What is most meaningful and important in your life?

Reflect on those things before interviewing architects. Make a list or a journal entry. You want to be able to evaluate each architect with the understanding that this is a long-term relationship. Make sure you are prepared to communicate and stand up for your needs and desires.

The design process should integrate the specifics of your lifestyle, so ask yourself:

- Who are the most important beings in my immediate circle? They could be family, pets, extended family and friends, or work associates.
- What is most important to me in my personal surroundings? It could be a place to work from home, a special view, a quiet place to meditate, or a place where you and the band can get together to rock.
- How do I relate to my community? Do you want to be close and connected to your neighbors, or secluded? Do you want to be part of a neighborhood, or apart?
- Are there specific moments of the day, week, and year that define who I am and what I need? How you relate to time is just as important as how you relate to your surroundings.

## COLLABORATION:

Your life has a story made up of many characters and plots. Designing a home for life on your terms is just as complex. Bringing the design team, engineers, and contractors into the story with you adds richness, to the process.

Who will you trust and who will you want to go along with you on this journey?

Dig deep with a team of experts that will help you prioritize decisions and realize your aspirations. It takes a strong and connected team to achieve the optimum outcome and make a complicated journey seem worth it.

Talk to architects about:

- Who are the team players that will get you through this process, including consultants and contractors?
- What are your responsibilities as a client?
- How does your team help you narrow down what is essential to you?
- How does your team stay connected?
- How does your team help you balance the practicalities of budget and schedule?
- How do you leverage the team's expertise to identify and address potential pitfalls and limitations?

## CURIOSITY:

Your home deserves a fresh perspective. It's the place to live out the story of the life only you can live. Inquiry and exploration can help you transcend the ordinary and realize the unexpected.

If you're truly trying to change your life, approach the project process with an open mind and a spirit of inquiry.

It is your architect's job to process and transform what you bring to the table. It's your job to process and provide feedback.

- Treat the process as a fluid and iterative journey through a series of explorations and decisions. There are no straight lines to the best solutions.
- Explore individual design decisions as interdependent pieces of a whole. Getting to a beautifully cohesive, holistic solution, requires zooming in and zooming out.
- Continuously examine and adjust the interrelationship of parts as a project develops. Nothing exists in a vacuum.
- Question the impossible as possible. Living life on your own terms requires you to ask questions. Enjoy the exploration.

We hope you find this short guide helpful and we feel confident that if you embrace the advice we've included here that you'll find the architect that is just the right fit for you, you'll enjoy the journey of discovering a space that's truly yours, and you'll be able to live life on your own terms.

If you've gotten to this point and you want more, get in touch with us. Let's set up a time to chat. Imagine what it would be like if we helped you make the life you want, the life you live.

Be well,

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