

JOHN DRISKEL

SUMMARY OF SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

1.PRIMARY SKILLS

Design

Extensive architectural design experience on a wide range of project types in local and international locations. This skill is supported by strong 3D and software skills.(See Item 6.)

Architectural Illustration & Graphic Design

Strong architectural presentations skills supported by experience in a range of software.

Practice Administration and Design Management

More than 10 years experience running an architectural practice and managing design and production teams through all work stages.

Project Management

Experience in developing and implementing detailed project management schedules using Microsoft Project. Completed a short course in project management through the University of Pretoria.

IT Development and Implementation

Experience in developing IT and design production strategies for practices in South Africa and the United Kingdom.

Design Automation

Software development experience related to automated design and 4D construction simulation systems.

2.EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

B.ARCH University of the Free State (5 Year Course)
Registered as Professional Architect with SACAP (1991 to 2010)

3.SOUTH AFRICAN EXPERIENCE (11 YEARS)

3.1 Driskel Pienaar & Associates (Bloemfontein 1990 to 1999)

During the final year at university I became involved in providing services for a local low cost housing developer in Bloemfontein. This activity developed to such an extent that it provided a foundation for starting a formal practice after completing my degree.

A branch practice was established in Rustenburg in 1993 under management of a colleague, Kobus Pienaar.

Projects completed under my control by the Bloemfontein practice include the following:

Group housing, sectional title housing and multi-storey apartment projects ranging between 10 and 99 units. (More than 30 projects)

Large office refurbishment and new-build projects for the Provincial Services Commission and the Department of Health. (8000 to 11000 square metres floor area.)

Private residences & low cost housing

Vehicle testing centres for the Department of Works and Roads.

Hotel & hospitality projects.

Industrial

During this period I managed a staff complement varying between 1 and 8 persons.

3.2 UrbanGeometric (Western Cape, 2005 to 2007)

After a number of years abroad I returned to South Africa at the end of 2005 at the request of a local developer to work on a number of residential projects in the Cape Town area.

Projects for which I was commissioned during this period include the following:

Group Housing development, Royal Ascot

Lifestyle Centre, Royal Ascot

Residential Sectional Title development, Burgundy Estate

Residential projects, Simonstown

During this period I also provided design development services to a number of Cape Town practices which included the following:

Building appearance development for new winery : MWP Architects.

Various building appearance and use analysis models for retail developments: VIVID Architects.

Models for the successful entry into competition for redevelopment of Cape Town Waterfront: GAPP Architects & Atkins.

4.INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE (16 YEARS) (2000 to 2005, 2007 to 2018)

I have worked on a diverse range of projects for a number of UK and Australian practices over a period of 16 years, initially as an employee but later as an external contractor providing primarily design development services in the pre-construction phases.

DESIGN

In recent years I have developed an extremely effective 2D/3D design & illustration workflow in providing contract design services to a number of international practices.

Project design experience gained during this period include the following:

Hospitality (UK, Isle of Man)
Apartments, Housing (UK, Isle of Man, Australia)
Offices (UK, Isle of Man)
Retail & Mixed Use(UK, Isle of Man)
Energy from waste plants (UK, Cayman Islands)
Sport stadia (West Indies)
Campus development (UK)
Master planning (UK, Isle of Man)

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT & DESIGN AUTOMATION

During this period I also developed expertise in software development and design automation systems which I developed for companies in the United Kingdom. These include:

Stadium bowl geometry design system for Arup Associates. This system linked complex parametric input from Microsoft Excel with AutoCAD to generate detailed sport stadia geometry in 2D and 3D.

A complex interactive phasing scenario visualisation system for redevelopment of the Kingston Oval, Barbados. (Arup Associates.)
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A parametric system for generating generic architectural geometries useful in design scenarios.

A CAD production management & resource system for Hamilton Associates. London.
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Collaboration in the development of a 4D construction simulation system. (A3D, London) This system links Microsoft Project scheduling with AutoCAD to generate 3D animations and analysis of complex and detailed construction processes.
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5.COMPETITIONS

I have been involved in a number of architectural design competitions:

Bloemspruit Redevelopment Competition, Bloemfontein : (Winning Entry)
Mandela Freedom Statue, Port Elizabeth (Shortlisted)

6.SOFTWARE SKILLS

2D	AutoCAD, AutoCAD LT
3D	Sketchup, Rhino 3D
Illustration & Graphics	Corel Painter, Photoshop, Corel Draw
Project Management	Microsoft Project
Administration	Microsoft Office, OpenOffice
Software Development & Design Automation	Microsoft Visual Studio, Visual Studio for Applications (AutoCAD, Microsoft Office/Project), Rhinoscript, Javascript
BIM	Revit (Currently in training)

7.OTHER ACTIVITIES

SPORT

I represented South Africa on two occasions in small-bore rifle shooting against an American visiting team and Taiwan. (3 Positional Olympic Match)

ART

I have an active interest in art and have successfully marketed my work through a number of local outlets. (www.johndriskel.com)

EVENT MANAGEMENT

I have organised a number of outdoor art markets in the United Kingdom at the prestigious Holker Hall & Gardens in Cumbria.

COMMITTEE WORK

I have been involved over a number of years with committee work for a local Cumbrian organisation, Prom Art, which hosts the largest outdoor art event in the North West of England during the summer months.

I was personally responsible for developing extensive tender documents for securing the services of an international events operator, Geraud UK Ltd. to take over the management of these events on behalf of a local steering committee.

8.PERSONAL INFO

Married

Dual South African and UK citizenship