

**Dean Robert
Camlin ARCHITECT
& Associates, Inc.**

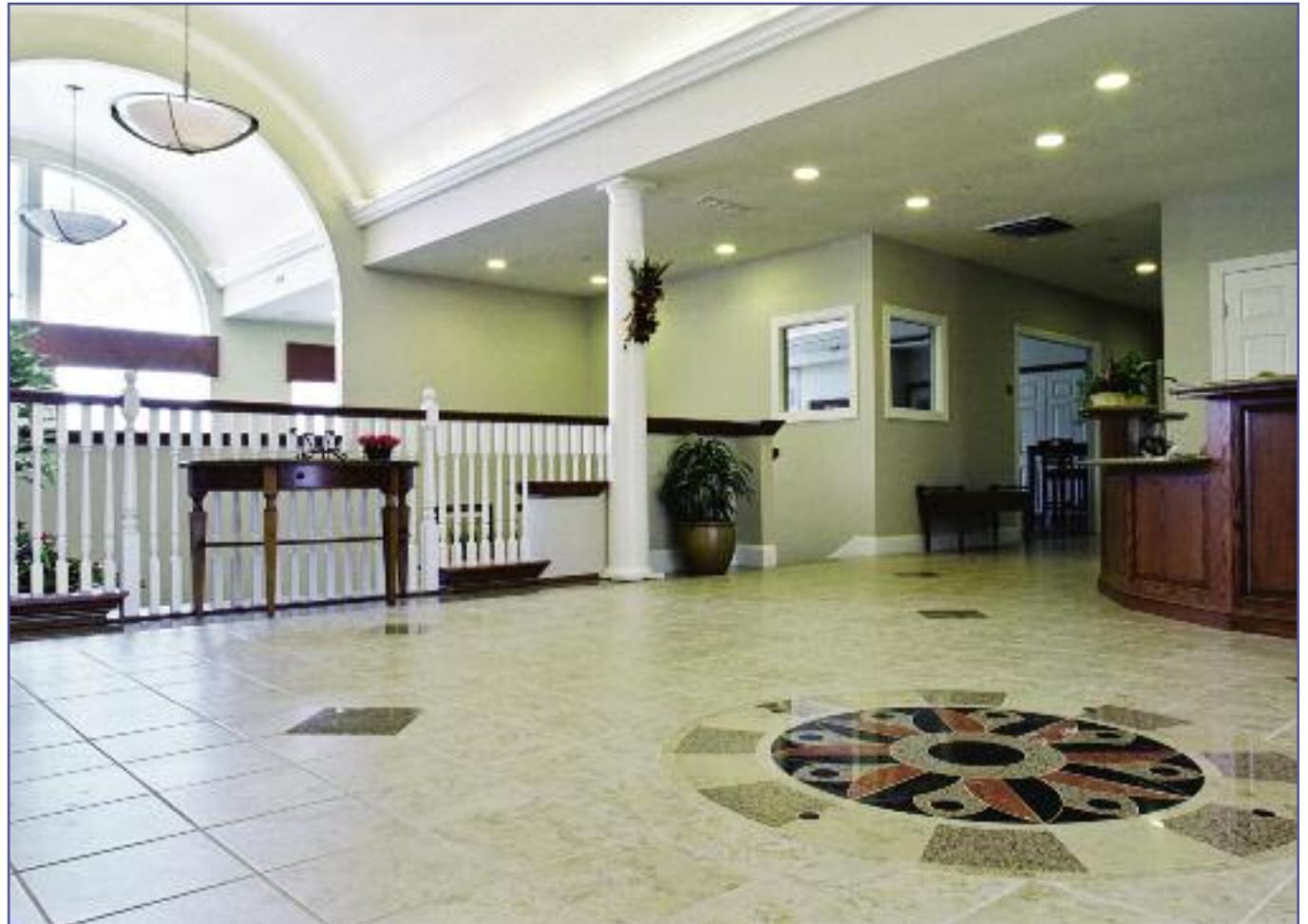
**Local Service Produces
Lasting Relationships**

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It is often forgotten how much a relative can influence a child, even at such a young age. For Dean Robert Camlin, that relative was his grandfather, Robert C. Camlin, a draftsman for the Pennsylvania Railroad. Dean remembers poring over architectural blueprints when he would visit his grandfather, and by the time he was in the sixth grade, he knew he wanted to become an architect. He graduated from Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design in 1977. So began a passion that fueled the successful story of D.R. Camlin & Associates Architects, Inc., serving Westminister and Carroll County for over thirty-seven years.

The firm was founded in 1977 by Melvin Arbaugh, with the goal of providing high-quality cost-effective architectural services in and around Carroll County. Dean came to work for Melvin in 1982 as an intern and project manager, just as Melvin had landed a major commission from Random House to expand their book distribution warehouse in Westminister. While Melvin concen-



Carroll Vista — Photo: Howard E. Doughty

trated on Random House, Dean worked on other projects, including Calvary Lutheran Church, the Eldersburg branch library, the Mount Airy Elementary School, and others. "In 1986 I became eligible to take the Architect Registration Exam, which was only given once per year,"

explains Dean. "Thankfully, I passed it the first time. I started taking on more responsibilities, and let Mel know that I was interested in becoming a junior partner in the business." By 1991, Melvin revealed he wanted to sell the business to Dean, so after nine years of working there, Dean

became the sole owner. "Unfortunately my timing wasn't very good, as I would have preferred a more gradual transition to ownership: later that summer the first Gulf War concluded, and immediately the US went into a recession," continues

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Carroll Vista — Photo: Howard E. Doughty



Random House Headquarters — Photo: Staff



Random House Headquarters — Photo: Staff



Random House Headquarters — Photo: Staff

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Dean. “One of my first tasks as the owner was to lay off good employees. By the time the dust settled we went from six to three. Over the years we have had our ups and downs, and are just climbing out of the most difficult time, following the country’s 2008 financial crisis.” Yet the talent and experience of LEED Accredited Professional Dean Camlin has guided the firm to multiple successful projects recently and has D.R. Camlin & Associates Architects positioned to be a leader in architecture in Carroll County and beyond for many years to come.

A small, full-service architectural firm licensed to practice in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Virginia, D.R. Camlin & Associates, provides general architectural services from pre-design through schematics and construction documents, bidding, and completion of construction. “The types of projects we have done cover a broad range including schools, churches, libraries, restaurants, retail, office, single- and multi-family residential, banks, warehouses and factories, hospital and health care,” says Dean. “We utilize trusted consultants, with whom we have previously enjoyed success, for civil, structural, mechanical, electrical, interiors, food service, and other specialties.”

What has been at the very foundation of D.R. Camlin & Associates from its inception is the local service they provide. “I have always convinced clients and potential clients that they don’t have to bring in outside experts to help them achieve their goals: the professional services they need are available right here in Carroll County,” insists Dean. “We will simplify the bewildering process of coordinating all aspects of building design, and by letting us design their buildings, they will be assured that we will do all we can to deliver a high-quality result, backed by the fact that we are part of their community

too. We will be here long after the out-of-town experts have packed up and left.”

Certainly D.R. Camlin & Associates have numerous strengths that have contributed to their success through the years, not the least of which is the firm’s size. “As a small firm, we are able to provide the personal attention of our principal on every project, large and small, in the office and in the field. We provide knowledgeable experience of local conditions and requirements where others are unfamiliar,” explains Dean. “Our size allows us to remain nimble and competitive when measured against larger firms.”

Yet even though D.R. Camlin is a small firm, their quality of work can stand against any firm of any size. “We have designed additions and alterations to countless buildings, and often the original construction drawings—when they can be found—are minimal and incomplete,” continues Dean. “D.R. Camlin takes care in attending to the details, while still leaving some aspects for the craftsmen. Having built small projects ourselves, we understand the building process and thus can avoid producing details which are impractical or unbuildable. We understand how the engineered building systems fit into the context of our buildings, so they can be properly integrated into the whole.”

Of course, with such long history and experience in project size and type, it comes as no surprise that building relationships in the local community is something that Dean takes pride in and strives tirelessly to maintain. To give a few examples, Dean teaches AutoCAD drafting and Revit Architecture at Carroll Community College and is also active in the regional business network, with membership in the Rotary Club of Bonds Meadow, the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, serving on the County’s Design and Architecture Review Committee and the Code Enforcement Steering Committee. He is a founding member of the Westminster Historic District Commission, and is an Area Representative to the Board of

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Piney Ridge Elementary School, Sykesville, MD — Photo: Staff

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Trustees of the Maryland Historical Trust.

When asked what the firm's philosophy is, Dean was quick to answer. "Philosophically and literally, architecture should be accessible to everyone. Goethe called architecture 'frozen music', but the best architecture succeeds on many different levels--both on Vitruvius' 'Commoditie, Firmness, and Delight' as well as the more modern criteria of comfort, economy, safety, and sustainability. We should strive toward those ideals on every project."

Because D.R. Camlin & Associates strives to give their clients complete satisfaction on every project, it is no surprise that so many positive statements were given on their behalf. A following are only a few of the quotes we obtained in support of Dean and his firm.

"In this town, Dean is everyone's 'go to' architect. He's a caring professional who listens to his clients and offers options, ideas and solutions. He has a great respect for historic

preservation and authentic architectural details too. He's involved in many non-profit organizations in our community as well, so he's a great neighbor!"

— **Sandy Oxx, Executive Director, Carroll County Arts Council**

"Dean Camlin is a Carroll County architect with a heart for the local community for small and large projects. Beyond individual projects, Dean sees the big picture and provides expert services for creative, beautiful, and enduring architectural designs. He is friendly, open to new ideas, and is very quick to respond to any needs. It has been a pleasure working with him and look forward to more projects in the future."

— **Tammy Black, BSN, RN, Executive Director, Access Carroll, Inc.**

"We have had the great pleasure of working with Dean Camlin as part of Union Crossing community. He has been an integral part of our team and has worked tirelessly to support our Mission. With his help, we are looking forward to serving 5 deserving families with beautiful, well designed homes."

— **Bryan Lyburn, Executive Director, Habitat for Humanity of Carroll County**

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Westminster Square, Westminster, MD — Photo: Staff



PNC Bank, Hampstead, MD — Photo: Staff

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"I found it very easy to work with Dean. Dean was able to put our ideas onto paper which was very helpful to us. He was very professional in his presentations and completed the work in a timely manner."

— Jodi Lupco, Head of School,
Montessori School of Westminster

"We are certainly enjoying our 'new' office space. It's hard to believe we have been moved in since October, 2012. . . . Thanks again for all of your very hard work to get us into our space and looking forward to discussing options as we continue to grow."

— Nancy E. Hart, Au.D., FAAA,
CCC-A, Healthy Hearing and
Balance, Ltd.

"My wife Mary and I first met Dean Camlin some 20 years ago when we were searching for an architect that



Goddard School — Photo: Wayne Camlin

could make Mary's lifelong dream a reality by creating the perfect environment for preschool children to thrive and flourish. He listened carefully to her concepts and then applied his considerable skills to create Little Peoples Place into a facility that has proven to meet all of her expectations. Literally, thousands of children have been introduced to the concept of

learning while having fun in the building Dean designed.

"We have done a number of smaller projects since then and have always found Dean very easy to communicate with. He explains architectural issues in ways that can be understood by those not in the field. His integrity is beyond reproach and his many years of experience are invaluable

when you need to get a problem solved or a job done. I highly recommend him to anyone in need of an architect."

-- William Burke, Owner, Little Peoples Place

My 84-year old mother has lived in the addition you designed for us for

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Montessori School — Photo: Staff

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4 1/2 years now, and she loves it. She is proud to show visitors around her area (especially the porch which is now filled with flowers). Thanks to your design, we did not have to sacrifice windows or light to add on to

the existing structure. The layout for her living quarters, including the accessible bath, could not be better. We are very happy with the design, and we appreciate the time you took sharing ideas and suggestions with us. Working with you was a pleasure.
-Chris & Gary Lienesch

Looking to the future, Dean has every reason to be excited about the direction of D.R. Camlin & Associates Architects. By establishing a firm dedicated to building relation-

ships through architectural excellence and client satisfaction, D.R. Camlin & Associates has poised itself to be the architecture firm of choice in Carroll County for decades to come. "Our approach to projects is that of a team player, with the goal of attaining a finished product everyone can be proud of, which works on the many levels required of good architecture," states Dean. "Our clients like dealing with a local professional who can respond quickly when situations inevitably come up. They

appreciate our pragmatic approach to the design and construction process. Every project is an opportunity to create a unique response to a client's needs. Just around the corner we may be asked to design something timeless. There are many different kinds of buildings I haven't yet had the opportunity to design: stadium, planetarium, skyscraper, courthouse. . . I think it's a matter of being visible, of being in the right place at the right time, of recognizing opportunity when it appears and seizing it firmly."



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 and Associates, Inc.

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Private Residence In-Law Suite — Photo: Wayne Camlin

Dean Robert Camlin ARCHITECT & Associates, Inc.

We would like to thank everyone who have helped us achieve our success!

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