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Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture
Adds Work of Architect Michael Marshall to its Permanent Collection
Washington, DC-based Architect Donates his Design Archives to the Smithsonian Museum

WASHINGTON, DC — Architect Michael Marshall, head of DC-based Michael Marshall Design, has donated a selection of his architectural design archives to the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture. The design archives are comprised of original drawings and models. Mr. Marshall was approached in January of 2017 by museum curator Michelle Joan Wilkinson, who was creating an archive of material focused on African-American architects, as part of the museum's mission to recognize and represent the tremendous breadth of African-American history and culture.

Over the course of many months, Ms. Wilkinson and other museum staff visited with Mr. Marshall and reviewed drawings, sketches and models from his personal and professional collection. The items range from some that he created when he was a child to work recently completed for his firm's clients. Selected items were approved for addition to the Museum's permanent collection in March of 2018.

“The National Museum of African American History and Culture is excited to collect from Michael Marshall, a practicing architect in Washington, D.C., said **Michelle J. Wilkinson**, curator at the National Museum of African American History and Culture. “As an architect, Marshall has designed sports venues, residential communities and buildings for higher education, including designing for his alma mater the University of the District of Columbia. The collected archive includes Marshall's conceptual sketches and more detailed plans for building projects to show the architect's process of developing and refining a design idea over time.”

“It is a profound honor to have my work accepted into the Smithsonian's permanent collection of the National Museum of African American History and Culture,” said **Michael Marshall**. “As a young boy growing up here in Washington, D.C., I loved drawing and design. I could only have dreamed that a career contributing to the renaissance of our city would have led me to this meaningful moment. I am deeply humbled to play a part in the storytelling that shapes a proud and distinct history of contributions from the African-American community.”

The works will be used to complement and augment current and future museum exhibitions and will be available to researchers from all over the world.

Mr. Marshall grew up in Washington, D.C. and attended D.C. public schools before beginning his studies at The University of the District of Columbia. He completed his Bachelor's degree in Architecture with a Minor in Studio Art at The Catholic University of America. He earned his Master's degree in Architecture from Yale University. For his work, he has been honored with design excellence awards from The American Institute of Architects (National and DC Chapters), National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) and IDA (International Design Awards). His work has also been recognized by The National Housing & Rehabilitation Association and the DC Office of Planning (with a Historic Preservation Award). He was named a 2016 “Power 100” Playmaker, and 2014 Minority Business Leader of the Year by Washington Business Journal. He has lectured extensively on topics related to architecture

and design, serving as a guest architectural critic at numerous local universities, and sharing his architectural expertise on local community advisory and city planning boards in the Washington, D.C. area. He is currently serving as the 2018 Kea Distinguished Professor for the University of Maryland School of Architecture. Mr. Marshall is licensed in the District of Columbia, Virginia, Maryland, Massachusetts and Michigan.

About Michael Marshall Design

Michael Marshall Design (MMD) is a DC-based architecture and design firm, serving clients in the public and private sectors. A seasoned collective of architects, brand strategists and creative thinkers, we work across design disciplines, beyond the expected, to inspire greater engagement and impact everywhere we come together.

We are passionate about using architecture and branding to create more relevant public spaces and more dynamic experiences. An architecture firm since 1989, we have always understood the power of the built environment, and now we bring our broad-based design thinking to create greater opportunities and drive positive change in our communities.

www.michaelmarshalldesign.com

About the National Museum of African American History and Culture

The National Museum of African American History and Culture has welcomed more than 3.5 million visitors since opening Sept. 24, 2016, on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Occupying a prominent location next to the Washington Monument, the nearly 400,000-square-foot museum is the nation's largest and most comprehensive cultural destination devoted exclusively to exploring, documenting and showcasing the African American story and its impact on American and world history. In 2018, the museum earned LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) for design and construction. For more information about the museum, visit nmaahc.si.edu, follow @NMAAHC on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat—or call Smithsonian information at (202) 633-1000.

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