

MARSHALL DIEL & MYERS LTD

Designing and building new law offices was . . .

A labour of love

By Kyle Hunter

Walk into most law – or for that matter – accountancy offices and it is likely that they are all fairly generic. Before even going through the doors of a law office you can imagine what it will look like – and you would probably be right.

But that is certainly not the case with the new offices of Marshall Diel & Myers Limited located at 31 Reid Street (on the corner of Burnaby and Reid Streets).

These offices, which the law firm moved into in December, are unique. Quite frankly you would be hard put to find a law firm based in such attractive premises. The first word that comes to mind when touring the offices is "elegant".

Managing Director of the company, Tim Marshall, said "It has been a labour of love – no question about it. In terms of passions it is one of the best things I have ever done. I would find it hard to top it."

Everywhere you look there is art – and not just any old art – but art of a deeply personal nature.

Whether it is the intriguing black and white old Bermuda photographs lovingly restored which grace the wall of the stairs going up to the main floor or the bold paintings which are dotted around the offices, it is obvious that they were not picked at random or even for show.

"I love Bermuda and her history," said Mr Marshall who was the driving force behind the restoration of the offices.

The company moved from their offices at Sofia House on Church Street and the change could not be more pronounced.

"Sofia House could be any firm. I believe that not many put a lot of thought about how people should live in a working environment. We put a great deal of effort."

And as Mr Marshall points out, "We spend most of our life in the office and so you want to make it a special place for the staff and also for the clients that come and visit us. I think we have achieved that. This is a pretty special space. We wanted something fresh which no one had ever seen before – a place which would be a fun and interesting place to work. You never get bored coming into work every day."

Mr Marshall has always had a love affair with art as does much of his family.



Managing Director Tim Marshall at the company's new offices at 31 Reid Street.

Photo by Mark Tatem

By his father, the late Dr Joseph (Zacky) Marshall who was headmaster at Warwick Academy; was a very good artist in his own right and Mr Marshall himself

has painted for much of his life – in fact a beautiful painting of an angel fish graces one of the walls in his own office. But it is his oldest son who has provided much of the art work seen throughout the offices.

"One of the things I am particularly proud of is that a lot of the artwork here

has been done by my oldest son, Zach. As you go through the firm you see his work everywhere. He is 19 years old and is at the Rhode Island School of Design and he produces a lot of work. We take what we like and frame it," said Mr Marshall adding with a laugh, "actually it become more like Zach's gallery. A lot of people who have seen the offices have said that we shouldn't practise law but just open an art gallery and charge admission!"

The Rhode Island School of Design is a fine arts and design college located in Providence, Rhode Island. Founded in 1877, the school consistently ranks as the number one fine arts college in the United States.

The offices have in the past housed a number of different companies like Sun Life and the Monetary Authority. "It had low ceilings and was very claustrophobic with small rooms. The whole structure had been concealed by various renovations over the years that had no cohesiveness at all. Then we started peeling the layers back. We put in brick walls and all the floors were either tile or carpet. We ripped that out and found these beautiful wooden floors. It is amazing what you can find when you look hard."

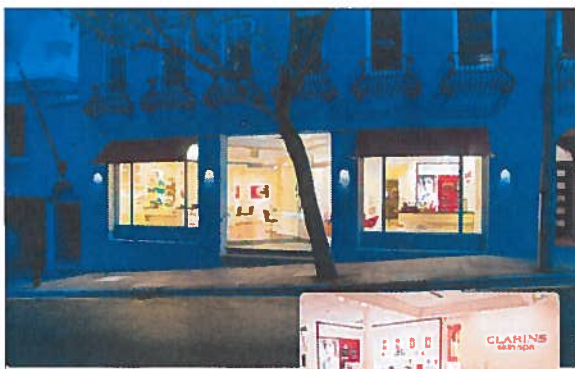
The essence of surprise is integral as clients come into the building and walk up the stairs to the main offices. It has a beautiful staircase lit by a wonderful chandelier. "That staircase and chandelier was an inspiration for the whole section. We wanted to surprise people as they came up to the offices. After walking in the door (off Reid Street) you come into a tradition space and then become more surprised the more you come in. We wanted to push the envelope somewhat. The more you come in the more you get surprised."

The old large black and white photographs of Bermuda which came from Mark Emerson did hang in the firm's previous offices but interior designer Janice Burke re-framed them to show the photos in the best possible light.

Although they moved into the offices in December, Mr Marshall said he first started thinking about what he wanted over 18 months ago.

"About two years ago we knew we would be moving here and I started thinking about what kind of space do I and the other staff want to work in. . . we involved all the members (of the firm). I read through a zillion Architectural Digests and interior design magazines. I would clip out things that I

Continued on Page 15



CONGRATULATIONS!

Strands is proud to be part of the recent restoration and beautiful changes to one of Bermuda's landmark buildings, 31 Reid Street. Congratulations to our partners, Marshall, Diel & Myers! We are excited to be a part of the beautiful new look!



www.strands.bm | Skin Spa: 285-0353 | Salon: 295-0935 | 31 Reid Street

KAISSA ROOFING • PLASTERING • SCAFFOLDING

P.O. Box HM 2707 Hamilton HMKX • 495-4242 • info@kaissa.bm

Congratulations

Marshall Diel & Myers Limited

GUARDIAN

Thank you for choosing Guardian to assist with your office move.

We bring you innovative solutions to reduce your downtime and moving cost!

Guardian Data Solutions, Ltd.
Phone: 238-0847
Email: info@guardian.bm

Suite 364, 48 Par La Ville Road
Hamilton, HM 11
Bermuda

- 1st choice for companies on the move
- Efficient and effective move management
- Secure, weather-proof plastic crate and dolly system
- Huge savings vs moving with cardboard boxes
- Save time! Records arrive in the right order for re-filing
- 100% reusable and environmentally friendly

To learn about other services visit www.guardian.bm

'We wanted to push the envelope'

Continued from Page 14

liked. And then of course we had great people who took the vision and turned it into reality. People like David (Benevides and Richard Oldman from Benevides & Associates) and Janice (Burke) and her team from eye design. They were amazing. All the people who worked on it were great – and I think they really enjoyed the experience as well. This will probably be the last place that I will practise law – in fact it will probably be the last place many of my colleagues will practise and we wanted a place that was unique, functional and a place we could all enjoy and be proud of.

Before the work started there were about six months of solid planning and working with the concept of what Mr Marshall and his colleagues wanted. "We worked on what style and feel we wanted."

In fact walking into the offices there is the thick book compiled by Mr Marshall which was the original inspiration of the offices. "Those were the beginning concepts. We kept trying to push the envelope in terms of design in Bermuda wherever possible. We had a pretty clear idea of the vision and passed the inspiration book to the architects and the designers. And this is what emerged."

In fact Mr Marshall was in most of the planning meetings. "David (Benevides) and Janice (Burke) were involved right from the get-go. And that is ideally how it should be done. We had everybody sitting around the same table and we would shoot the breeze and figure out what would work and what wouldn't work. It was a lot of work, but also a lot of fun."

To emphasize how he went about things, Mr Marshall relates the story of how Janice Burke came to be hired as the interior designer.

"We hired Janice on the basis that she had never ever done an office building before. The first question I asked her was 'Have you ever done an office building?' And her face went a bit sad because she thought she was losing the job and replied 'No'. Then I said 'You're hired! We wanted someone with fresh ideas. I believe that her business was primarily residential and this has given her entry into office space. Now I understand she is busy which is great.'

A recurring theme about the offices is the "old bones" – what was hidden by the numerous changes by various companies which had their offices in the building over the years.

"This (the building) has so many old bones to it. We could have done your traditional office but we didn't want that. We wanted to expose some of the old

bones and history of the building."

And that they certainly did. For instance whereas before there were the low drop ceilings, now they are high right up to the steel beams with beautiful drop hanging lights.

"We wanted to emphasize those beams. We were surprised that no one knew they existed

legal research books.

But there is a library – admittedly a small one – and that is in a bright and cheerful room which is used as a lunch room and also serves as a place for the staff's children to come after school.

"They have their own little place where they can do their homework before going home," said Mr Marshall who takes a great deal of interest in his staff.

In fact in the bathroom is a shower. Mr Marshall said the firm encouraged staff to stay healthy and if they want to go out for a run or walk they can then shower afterwards.

As for himself, karate is his physical passion. "I do it three times a week with Skipper Ingham. I have done it for the past eight years," he said. And now he has his black belt.

The offices are also very practical. "We wanted it to make it an easy place to get around – make it as convenient as possible for staff and clients. The design is simplicity but we also didn't want any preconceived notions."

"My office has a mixture of the modern and old fashioned look. We wanted something fresh which no one had ever seen – a place which would be a fun and interesting place to work. A place where you would never get bored coming into work every day."

One of the fellow directors, Rachael Barrett, put it best when she said "I feel inspired coming into work. You feel you have to dress a little better, a bit hipper! It makes a big difference coming into work in a place like this. To come in and see the changes that have been made has been great."

And then we added skylights which gives a lot of lighting into the space. We kept it very raw up top (ceilings)."

There are three sculptures done by the artist Graham Foster in the main open office space. "They sit there and look down on everyone – keep an eye out," said Mr Marshall adding that the sculptures were given to him as a 50th birthday present.

"It is also a floating ceiling suspended from the roof. It sits on nothing at all," said Mr Marshall who admitted that one seems to spot something different every time walking through the area.

For instance there is a work of art done by eyesdesign's Carla Marquardt which is made up of old Bermuda licence plates.

There is also the filing room, the area used to prepare documents and files that will used in court but like many law offices in today's world, the library space has been cut back drastically.

This is not the dusty and dark law offices of Rumpole of the Bailey.

"The vast majority of information is online today. The amount of space that is physically devoted to a library now is very small. In the olden days it was three or four times the space. Some firms had a whole floor devoted to the library. Not now."

The online library replaces shelves of books that might include the All England Law Reports, other report series, specialist legal texts and other



Photo by Mark Letem
The library which also serves as a place staff can eat lunch and where children of the staff can come and do their homework after school.

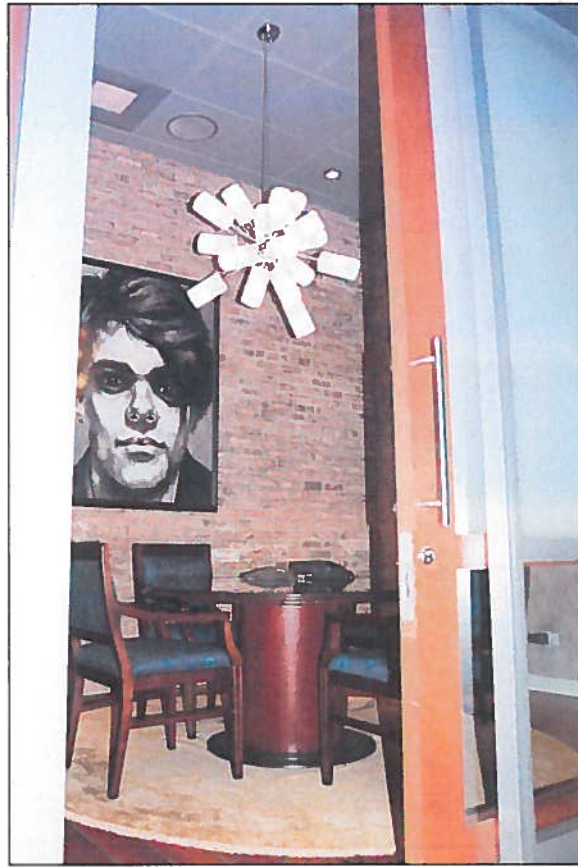



Photo by Benevides & Associates
A self portrait by Zach Marshall is one of a number of art works in the new offices done by the artist.



With one big group hug, we broke some old traditions to create a great new workplace.

Thanks for letting us help!

A.F SMITH
Life's short. Love your work.

afsmith.bb

WOW!

THANK YOU FOR THIS INCREDIBLE PLACE TO PRACTICE LAW!

All of us at Marshall Diel & Myers Limited greatly appreciate the creativity and commitment of everyone who contributed their extraordinary talents and services to the unique design and construction of our law offices at 31 Reid Street.

The offices are beautiful and inspiring. The space makes our clients and staff feel good the moment they walk through our doors. Thank you!

Marshall Diel & Myers Limited
MEMBER OF THE BERNARDINI GROUP

Thinking outside the box

'Tim didn't want it to be your normal office'

By Kyle Hunter

For the firms that worked on the new offices of Marshall Diel & Myers Limited, dealing with Managing Director Tim Marshall was a pleasure because the deep interest he took in the project.

"Tim was at most, if not all, site meetings," said architect David Benevides from Benevides & Associates. "Tim was looking for something outside the box. He came with a clear idea of what he wanted but it still had to be affordable and it had to be brought in on a tight time schedule. He was looking for something that was a lot of fun," added Mr Benevides.

Interior decorator Janice Burke from eyedesign said "Tim was very specific of what he wanted. He was the visionary - he took such an interest. He wanted to create a space that was homely and inviting. In fact one of the moving guys who helped us said 'This is not a law office, this is an art gallery' That was perfect! This is what Tim wanted. When you go through the rooms you always see something different. We

tried to marry the modern look to that aged industrial look. It has a very lofty feel.

"Who knew a lawyer could be so creative? But Tim also paints and has a really good eye and knows what he wants. It was a fun project - all of us enjoyed it. Obviously there are ups and downs as with any project but I think we all achieved what we were after. This is a 'wow' space. But it is also comfortable and practical as well. But it is different - you don't get offices like this in Bermuda and Tim didn't want it to be your normal office. Everyone who goes in there are impressed. I am so delighted for them and I was so happy he asked me to help."

Mr Benevides, who worked on the project with fellow architect Richard Oldman, said "It is something different. They were looking for something that was a little bit warmer and less sterile - sort of an American loft look. And all the staff in the law firm took a great deal of interest in it - for the first week a lot of the staff hung around and wouldn't leave."

Mr Benevides said that the design started in January of 2011 and construction began in June with the staff moving into the offices mid December. "It

was a pretty aggressive time line. And I have to say that Araujo Construction did a great job. In fact the whole team worked well."

When they first went in to look at the building Mr Benevides said the offices were "standard generic office space that was done back in the 1960s". He explained, "There were low ceilings all the way through - that was the way office space used to be done. Fairly mundane."

"Tim wanted it to be very attractive and practical as well. We exposed the ceilings and the work with the electrician took a fair amount of time but was enjoyable."

And he loved the staircase as well. "It is such a nice generous staircase and we used the same brass chandelier which we sprayed black and dropped four feet. It works so well."

Mr Marshall's son Zach's paintings also fitted in well. "They added a lot to those big walls and the curvature of the roof also added a lot. You come out of each office or corridor and it is a different perspective each time."

Mr Benevides said working with Mrs Burke and Carla Marquardt from eyedesign was a

pleasure. "Carla was great - she would just pick up stuff and start working on art right there. We went from pretty mundane office space to what it looks like now."

Mrs Burke said it was important for the offices to feel comfortable as well as attractive. "After all, they spend so much time at work. They are in there for hours and hours and want to be comfortable. It was really nice to make use of all that space. We stripped the whole place and got those beautiful ceilings. Tim said he wanted those steel girders (below the ceiling) to be exposed and so we would all get together and talk about how to do it but still create a sound barrier. We decided to make it really tall and make the eye look upwards. And (fellow director) Georgia (Marshall) had the great idea for putting in the skylight."

"Stripping everything out really unveiled the beauty of the building. We - and by that I mean everyone (involved with the project) - took it all back to the brick work and it exposed a lot of history of the building. We saved everything that we could."

Of the art work throughout the building, Mrs Burke said **Continued on Page 17**



The beautiful staircase and chandelier with old photographs of Bermuda on the walls leading up to the offices. Photo by Mark Tarem

MacLellan & Associates congratulates Marshall, Diel & Myers on their new offices.

We look forward to continuing to work with you.



MACLELLAN & ASSOCIATES
Barristers & Attorneys, Notary Public

Proud to be on the Design Team



Extraordinary Designs

www.eyedesign.bm • (441) 534-2495

Sustainable energy and eco-friendly products for Bermuda's present and future life styles
thegreenhousebermuda



LED Lighting

www.thegreenhousebermuda.com • (441) 505-1762

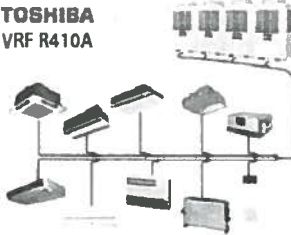


AIR CONDITIONING, REFRIGERATION, FIRE PROTECTION, SHEET METAL, SALES, SERVICE & INSTALLATIONS

TOSHIBA

Leading Innovation >> Authorized Dealer of
Toshiba DC Hybrid Inverter Multi System & Toshiba VRF Systems

TOSHIBA
VRF R410A



Toshiba offers a solution for all applications: residential, light commercial and larger commercial buildings. Residential indoor units are designed to blend perfectly with all interiors and incorporate advanced filtration systems to deliver optimum indoor air quality. For small commercial premises, products are designed to deliver top performance combined with energy efficiency. For larger applications, VRF systems combine flexibility, energy efficiency and respect for the environment, with a wide choice of stylish indoor units.

TOSHIBA AIRCONDITIONING
Advancing the A/C evolution

FREE ESTIMATES, WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS OF
AIR CONDITIONING AND 24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
441-295-0336 (T) 441-295-0347 (F) INFO@AIRPRO.BM
www.airpro.bm

thank you

Benevides & Associates wishes you all the best.

We are proud to have been the Architects for this award winning project.

BENEVIDES & ASSOCIATES

Architects, Interior Designers, Planners, Project Managers

Bamboo Gate,
11 Harbour Road, Paget,
PG 01
ph (441) 292-0971
fax (441) 296-2091
email benassoc@ibm.bm
www.benevidesarchitects



Congratulations

Marshall Diel & Myers Limited

on your newly renovated offices

from Management and Staff

A.C.E. Electrical Services

We would like to say "Thank You"
for allowing us to be
involved in doing your electrical work

Artistic . . . but practical as well

Continued from Page 16

"Tim and wife Georgia) have liked and saved a lot of art work over the years. And Carla's parents had these old licence plates which she put together. We had fun putting everything together for the space."

Mrs Burke enjoyed reframing the old black and white Bermuda photographs which lead the visitor up the staircase. "The staircase is very sophisticated and leads you up to this lovely classical lounge and then when you walk in the doors you say 'wow!'"

One of her favourite rooms in the building is the library where "Carla did the beautiful stained glass window (of fish)"

Mrs Burke added, "It gives the room a very nice light feel where the staff can eat their lunch and the kids can come back and chill or do their homework. Carla is multi talented. This was a big team effort and is definitely one of the most interesting projects I have done."

Mrs Burke's husband, Michael from the greenhousebermuda, did the lighting and said, "We did not want a white, bright, sterile looking environment, thus the lighting is more subdued than in many other existing offices."

Mr Burke explained that he used super efficient LED lighting and fixtures with a retro style design - modern and the historical - for the space which was enhanced by the use of subtle, warm white coloured lamping.

The Dome pendants used were high powered par 38 (36 WATT) LED bulbs and very high powered BR par 40 lamps.

Track lights were used in the Penthouse area and all scenes, bathroom lights, table lamps were outfitted with specific styles of LED to suit the purpose of the light fixture. All rooms, table lamps, track, spots, sign lights were all fitted with LED and the undercounter lighting used LED strip. The outdoor lighting will all be LED scenes and water resistant and even the existing light fixtures were retro fitted to LED, including the chandelier.

Mr Burke's company won, for the second year running, the 9th annual 2011 Bermudian Business Products & Service Award (Green Company)

He said "I have been bringing in sustainable products for some time now and I went into LED lighting about two years ago. I think we are opening people's eyes to the quality and precision of the product."

And by using LED lights it reduces the maintenance. "The longevity of the product means you do not have the number of bulb changes. Some of these large companies have someone to change bulbs full time. By the



Photo by Mark Tatem

The use of skylights with soft lighting give the rooms a warm feel.

time they get to the end they start again."

Mr Burke was very keen to get away from fluorescents. The LED lights have "a lot more versatility than the regular fluorescent which are not pleasant"

He said, "We had to put in more lights because we chose a warm light. They do not give you as much light so we had to augment it a little bit. But I love the ambience of having little lights. There were a few issues in that the people coming across from the previous environment thought it wasn't bright enough but after a while they got comfortable with it. The light is very soothing especially with the skylight. And I believe Tim wanted to be green as possible - low energy and using reused items. Tim was there every step of the way."

The LED lights will reduce energy use and thus electrical costs by as much as 90 percent in many cases. They can last 50,000 hours and more and are cool to the touch and thus don't raise the ambient temperature as they only lose 10 percent of their electrical energy to heat. Fluorescents meanwhile lose 70 percent of their energy to heat and halogens and incandescent lose 90 percent to heat.

"Thus the air in the room, when fluorescents or incandescent are being used is heated up to the point where the AC units need to use up almost a third of their energy to cool air heated simply by lighting," said Mr Burke.

Melhor Maintenance
 Proud to have been chosen as the plumbing and mechanical contractor for Marshall, Diel & Myers Limited's spectacular renovation at 31 Reid Street.
 All the best! Tudo De Melhor!

congratulations
 marshall diel & myers

for winning the commercial building design award.
 We are proud to be your Structural Engineer.

PEREIRA
 ENGINEERING LTD.

441-295-7414

success is suite

Suite Solutions would like to congratulate Marshall, Diel & Myers on the completion and opening of the firm's new office space.

suite solutions
 THE SMART WAY TO OFFICE
 NEW VENTURE HOUSE, 3RD FLOOR
 3 MILL CREEK ROAD, PEMBROKE HM 05, BERMAUDA

WWW.SUITESOLUTIONS.BM
 INFO@SUITESOLUTIONS.BM
 (441) 298-0199



Sculptures done by Graham Foster, which Mr Marshall received for his 50th birthday, look down over the staff.

Congratulations
MARSHALL, DIEL & MYERS
 On your new location & innovative office space!
 Thank you for continued great service!

Hambour Realty Ltd.

Tel: 296-1588 • Call: 133-5374 • Email: jmyelle@hambourrealty.com
 Commerce Building # 304, 54 Reid Street, Hamilton HM 12

FACT:

Since Digicel introduced long distance services in October 2011, international calling rates are up to

66%

lower

SCAN ME FOR INFO

Real competition means cheaper rates.

Digicel
 Bermude's Digger, Better Network

www.digicelbermuda.com | f t