

# Michael Obrecht

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## Summary of Qualifications

- Over a year working with Revit Architecture in a professional environment, in addition to 1500+ practice hours during education and post educational practice.
- 2½ years utilizing Inventor in a creative non-mechanical environment, designing, modeling, and specifying decorative architectural stone elements for manufacture.
- Two years participation in a full time professional steel detailing office, predominantly using Tekla.
- Trained and practiced in the fundamentals of a variety of CAD software environments, including Revit, Inventor, AutoCAD, Tekla, ProSteel 3D, and SolidWorks.
- Experienced design professional with a lifelong background in the design and fabrication of furniture, cabinetry, millwork, and architectural details.
- Thorough understanding of historical architectural styles, and the ability to adapt period aesthetics to satisfy modern functional requirements.
- Knowledgeable in restoration strategies and ethics related to achieving a balance between preservation and utility in the built environment.

## Experience

### **Excel**

September 2018 through January 2018

*Designer, modeler, draftsman (contract position)*

- Working closely with architects and structural engineers to create Revit models and construction documents for educational and ecclesiastical projects.
- Created models of existing buildings from historical architectural documents combined with field observations, in preparation for plans for renovation and additions.

### **Gries Architectural Group**

May 2018 through September 2018

*Designer, modeler, draftsman (contract position)*

- Working independently to create Revit models and construction documents for a wide variety of projects, including educational, automotive, and retail.
- Adept at creating models of existing buildings from historical architectural documents combined with field observations, in preparation for plans for renovation and additions.

### **Community Living Solutions**

*Designer, modeler, draftsman (contract position)*

September 2017 through May 2018

- Working as part of a design-build firm to develop senior and assisted living facilities.
- Involved in all architectural aspects of the process, from modeling initial architects' concept for presentation through final construction details and specifications. Primary software: Revit

### **Carved Stone Creations, Inc.**

*Designer, modeler, draftsman*

March 2015 through September 2017

- Designing and modeling custom architectural stone elements, from concept through approval/client feedback cycles, production design, and production drawings. Primary software: Inventor

### **Compusteel Detailing Inc.**

*Structural Steel Detailer I*

March 2013 through March 2015

- Create, edit, correct, detailed shop drawings for structural steel fabrication using Tekla, AutoCAD, and ProSteel 3D.
- Assist in the process of organizing and issuing complete sets of drawings for approval and fabrication.

## **Burger Boat Company**

*Production Planner*

January 2009 - September 2010

- Analyzed blueprints; evaluated, procured, and organized materials and information for an average of 25 benchworkers.
- Provided information, problem solving, and ongoing support throughout the build process
- Acted as liaison between production and design to ensure clear communication
- Selected and sequenced veneer for all decorative architectural panels for a 140 foot yacht; coordinated project with panel manufacturer to ensure that finished product conformed to standards.

## **Burger Boat Company**

*Cabinetmaker*

April 2006 - December 2008

- Performed benchwork in the joinery department and onboard installation
- Established a solid reputation within the department as an accomplished and dependable cabinetmaker, especially adept at solving special technical problems
- Served on the Safety Committee from fall 2006; trained and certified as a First Responder

## **Hayes Cabinet and Trim**

*Cabinetmaker*

March 2005 - April 2006

- Small custom production cabinet and millwork shop (about 20 employees); custom cabinetry, passage and entry doors, and special projects

## **Obrecht Decorative Arts Studio**

*Designer, Woodwright, Consultant*

November 1988 - March 2005

- Design & production of architectural millwork
- Design & production of fine furniture, usually interpretations of period styles.
- Historical reproduction & restoration of both interior and exterior detail elements.
- Custom cabinetry, furniture, stair & handrail work, lathe work, entry and passage doors.

## **Education**

### **Northeast Wisconsin Technical College**

*Certificate in Parametric Modeling*

August 2012 through May 2013

- Part of an ongoing continuous improvement program.
- Tutoring new students in AutoCAD and Revit.

### **Northeast Wisconsin Technical College**

*Associate Degree in Architectural Technology*

January 2011 through August 2012

- 2 years of intensive training in the principles and methods of commercial and residential architecture, with a strong emphasis on the development of schematic and working drawings using Revit.
- Additional training in sustainable design principles in both residential and commercial construction.

### **University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana**

*Anthropology and Sculpture (degree not achieved)*

Attended 1980-1984

## **Related Skills and Achievements**

- Chicago Furniture Designers Association: Member from 2002 - 2004, and President in 2004.
- Timber joinery: Involved in the preservation, restoration, or salvage of numerous historical barns, as well as some other occasional new timber framing work using traditional methods and tools.
- Extensive research and practice in the use of traditional and historical woodworking tools and methods
- 20 years' experience processing a significant portion of my own lumber supplies from log selection through milling and drying.
- Sculptural woodcarving: carved vessels, freeform organic work both functional and decorative.