



Gillespie & Steel Designing for the Caribbean

Gillespie & Steel Associates has over the last 45 years left an indelible mark across Barbados, the wider Caribbean and beyond. Its Architecture, Interior Design and Urban Planning design services run the gamut of design styles and project types. Of particular note are five recent award-winning projects in Barbados that received International Property Awards, held in Barbados and London 2015.



BEST
ARCHITECTURE
MULTIPLE RESIDENCE
AMERICAS

Settlers Beach
by Gillespie & Steel

2015-2016



Caribbean design roots lie predominantly in the dominant cultures of the early European settlers. English, French, Dutch and Spanish. Early building design was imported directly into the islands and built 'as is' complete with fireplaces and chimneys. Over the years the settlers learnt to adjust to the tropical conditions and the Caribbean design vernacular developed. As a destination the Caribbean will do well to maintain its character reflected in its architecture firmly rooted in the design influences of the early settlers.

When designing for a tropical climate the basic principles of natural ventilation, and shade are of utmost importance in achieving comfort conditions in support of the Caribbean lifestyle. Building designs originating from offices in temperate climates often include basic blunders such as fireplaces, thermal vestibules, cloak rooms, specifications for snow loads, antifreeze pipe cladding, and others. An intimate appreciation of the tropical condition and lifestyle is mandatory in developing appropriate tropical design. The appointment of local design consultants will ensure local knowledge that should not be undervalued. Not just climate and environment but all aspects of the design and construction process that will bring value to the project.

Gillespie & Steel focuses on creating elegant buildings and spaces that are perfectly adapted to the clients' needs. All projects are seen as showcases for the principles of good design. This applies across the board, from residential to commercial, hospitality to retail. They do not only focus on new buildings but also contribute to maintaining historical sites through many restoration and adaptive/reuse projects.

It is also important to Gillespie & Steel to work towards reducing the impact of human activity on the environment and sustainable design is a major consideration on each project. The company proudly boasts of having several staff members who are qualified LEED Green Associates.

The emphasis which Gillespie & Steel places on remaining current with technology, in combination with the expertise of well-qualified and experienced internal resources allows Gillespie & Steel to remain at the forefront of Architecture and Design in the Caribbean and farther afield.

Gillespie & Steel is making Caribbean design relevant for all. Visit www.gsabb.com.