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LIVE IT.

SPEKTRA

Africa's No.1 Design Build Monthly Newsletter

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THE CEO'S THOUGHTS

**"We May Encounter Many Defeats but
We Must Not Be Defeated."**

William Evans Halm (A.G.I.A)

Gung Ho!!!

CEO'S Birthday WISHES FROM STAFF

Dear boss, your dedication, determination and vision inspire me to always give best.

Happy birthday to you Sir. May the good Lord continue to lead and guide you. I pray for more grace and strength in Jesus Name.

- Felix Adzakey

It takes strength, passion, drive and vision to lead an organization as a CEO. I believe you are an epitome of these values. On the occasion of your birthday, i pray that God gives you more wisdom and strength in the years ahead to lead us to the promise land.

Happy Earth day WEH.

- Enoch (HR)

On this special day we celebrate a mentor, a leader and a man of character.

Your inspiration is what drives us as a family.

A toast to better days and cheers to more successful years ahead.

Happy Anniversary Sir!

- Bernard

You have given us inspiration and guidance every step of the way.

Enjoy your day

- Kelvin

We your team are so fortunate to have an incredible boss like you, someone who is both an awesome coach and an excellent person!

Happy Birthday!

- Danso

I wish for you all the good things you wish for your self. Good health, long life, more leadership qualities to steer Spektra to its vision and finally, amen to all your secret prayers.

- Christian Aboagye



ICONIC BUILDING OF THE MONTH

Passersby can look up at this lush landscape, a green space that is not meant for public access but does wonders for the community's quality of life. It won the ASLA Merit Award for Design 2002, IL-ASLA Honor Award for Design 2002 and WWF National Earth Hour City Challenge 2014. Its success inspired Chicago's Green Roof Initiative, which established 200 roof gardens (and growing).

CHICAGO CITY HALL GREEN ROOF

Chicago City Hall Green Roof is a beautiful science project. Its garden rustles in the breeze atop an 11-story office building. Completed in 2001, a team of architects, structural engineers, ecologists and contractors came together to create it. Architectural firm William McDonough & Partners contributed and Conservation Design Forum designed the garden. The 1,885-square-meter roof garden is covered with 20,000 herbaceous plants of 150 varieties. In response to the urban heat island effect, this project is part of an EPA study to improve air quality.

During Chicago's 1995 heat wave, a number of lives were lost. The City realized one solution was to establish green roofs around their concrete jungle. Studies completed in the first summer showed that the roof surface temperature reduced by 70°F and the air reduced by 15°F. The space retains 75% of a one-inch rainfall before stormwater runs off into the sewers.





PROJECT OF THE MONTH

CENTRAL STORES & PRINTING PRESS

This is an industrial building located in Tema. Our client's need was a properly designed production space for their commercial printing business and ample storage for their imports and housing of vital data and documents. In order to help solve this problem for our client, our initial preoccupation in addition to the site studies were the production plan, equipment sequences, plant layout and the goods to be stored. Without an understanding of these considerations and careful designing to suit, decision making for maximum efficiency would have been a mere wish.

The process flow (of both materials and human resource), plant protection, accessibility and service facilities were all top of mind. Aesthetic considerations were however not ignored.

We ensured that the building is a pleasant place to work for the staff and all who interact with the company. This was realized as we successfully conceived an excellent approach to avoid the monotony of the typical "huge boxes" that proliferate most of the industrial areas we have in the city.

Beauty + Functional Efficiency = WINNING





Garden Shed, a cozy workspace

Turns out the ideal "home office" may be in your backyard. Remove the lawnmower, weed wacker and tool collection from your garden shed ... and escape to a new world just a few steps outside your back door. The British have honored the shed for thousands of years. While the resurgence of cottage gardens continues to sweep the nation, now they embrace a new trend -- shed-scapism.

Artists and writers seek refuge here, a separate building that still feels like home. Tools are replaced with laptops, and creative flow permeates this cozy habitat. In Oxford, Ted Dewan writes and illustrates Bing children's cartoons in his shed, tucked away in a garden. He tells BBC, 'In a nation where the headquarters of its highest office are in a nondescript terraced house called Number 10, it seems Brits may work best in an approachable, non-intimidating environment.'

World-famous authors Roald Dahl and Dylan Thomas discovered this escape in the 1950s. They wrote renowned pieces in their sheds - with Dahl known for his children's stories and Thomas for his poetry

Surrounded by his young children, Dahl could not find a peaceful place to write in his own home. He visited Thomas's 'word-splashed hut' on the edge of a cliff in Carmarthenshire where Dahl found the answer to his frustrations. He created nearly an exact replica of this writing shed, deeming it his 'little nest.'

Of course, each artist is inspired in different ways. Dahl huddled in dim light, whereas Thomas looked out off a cliff through large windows. In Dahl's nest, he surrounded himself with inspirational quotes and photos. His desk was covered with boiled sweets and mementos such as the hip bone he kept after a hip replacement. Thomas preferred a simpler décor.

Nowadays, fellow creatives are catching on in the U.K. There's even a vote for the Shed of the Year on ShedBlog.Co.Uk. The competition showcases many handmade labors of love. So, if you're seeking an oasis, consider creating your own. Your ideal workspace doesn't have to be big. Sometimes all you need is some privacy.

**PART
TWO**

THE LEGAL SEGMENT

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT **WILLS**?

Part one of this article briefly shed light on the provisions of the law regarding Wills in Ghana; more specifically, on the law relating to capacity, execution, executor or witness, incorporation of other documents into a Will, alteration of a Will and revocation of a Will. This part of the article seeks to bring to the fore the provisions of the law on lapsed dispositions, revival of revoked Wills, armed forces Wills, custody of Wills, deposit of Will found, provision for dependent's, and disposal of life insurance money.

LAPSED DISPOSITION

The general rule is that a disposition lapses when the beneficiary predeceases the testator. However, where the beneficiary was a descendant of the testator and the said beneficiary was survived by child, the disposition shall take effect as a disposition to the child and therefore would not lapse unless a contrary intention arises from the Will.

REVIVAL OF REVOKED WILLS

The law provides that when a Will is revoked either in part or in whole, it can only be revived by either re-execution or by a written declaration of intention to revive which is executed in the same manner as a Will.

ARMED FORCES WILLS

According to the Wills Act, 1971, Act 360, a member of the Armed Forces in active service irrespective of age has the capacity to make a Will.

An Armed Forces Will may be made in three (3) ways. Firstly, it can be made in a written and unattested form if the material provisions and signature are in the handwriting of the testator. Secondly, it can be made in a written form, whether or not in the handwriting of the testator, and attested by one witness. And finally, it can be made orally before two witnesses.

It must be noted that a Will made in this form remains valid even after the testator ceases to be a member of the Armed Forces.

CUSTODY OF WILLS

After a Will is made, it may be deposited at the High Court for safe keeping. The Will must be sealed by both the testator and the Court. In order to prevent fraudulent activities, when depositing a Will at the Registry of the Court, a passport picture of the testator must be attached to same. Where a Will is being withdrawn from the custody of the Court, it must be accompanied by a passport picture of the testator and of the person making the withdrawal.

DEPOSIT OF WILL FOUND

The law provides that following the death of the testator, anyone who either has possession or control of a document which is or purports to be testamentary shall immediately deposit same with the High Court or any other Court. It is an offence to attempt to destroy or conceal any such document.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

PROVISION FOR DEPENDANTS

The law provides that following the grant of probate, and not later than three (3) years from the date of the grant of probate, if the High Court, after an application, is of the opinion that a testator has not made reasonable provision whether in life or by his/her Will for the maintenance of a father, mother, spouse or child under eighteen (18) years of age of the testator, and that hardship will be caused, despite the provisions of the Will, may make reasonable provision for the needs of the dependant out of the estate of the testator.

DISPOSAL OF LIFE INSURANCE MONEY

Per **Act 360**, when a person takes out a personal life insurance policy for the benefit of a member of that person's family, unless the nomination is expressly revoked by a valid Will or in any other manner approved by the contract of insurance, on the death of the person insured, the sum assured shall not form part of the estate but shall be paid to the person nominated. However, in a situation where the nominee predeceases the person insured, the nomination would become void.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it is of utmost importance to make sure your affairs are organised even after you die. Making a Will ensures that your estate is administered in a manner that you would be happy about and will also prevent unnecessary conflict after the testator's demise.



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PLACES TO VISIT IN *Ghana*

ELMINA CASTLE

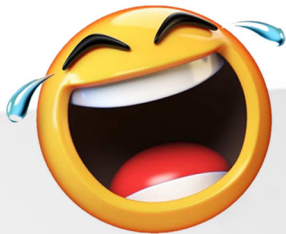
First established as a trade settlement, the castle later became one of the most important stops on the route of the Atlantic slave trade. The Dutch seized the fort from the Portuguese in 1637, after an unsuccessful attempt to the same extent in 1596, and took over all of the Portuguese Gold Coast in 1642. The slave trade continued under the Dutch until 1814. In 1872, the Dutch Gold Coast, including the fort, became a possession of Great Britain.

The Gold Coast, which is now Ghana, gained its independence in 1957 from Britain, and had control of the castle. Elmina Castle is a historical site, and was a major filming location for Werner Herzog's 1987 drama film *Cobra Verde*. The castle is recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.





**We are not above nature; we
are a part of nature**
- Jennifer Nini



A man, who loved money more than just anything, said just before he died to his wife, "Now listen. When I die, I want you to take all my money and put it in the casket with me. I want to take my money to the afterlife with me."

When he died she did what she had promised, came over with the money box and put it in the casket. The the undertakers locked the casket down, and rolled it away. So her friend said "Girl, I know you weren't foolish enough to put all that money in there with your husband!" She replied, "Listen, I'm a Christian. I can't go back on my word." "You mean to tell me you really put the money in the casket with him!!!? her friend asked, to which she replied "I sure did. I wrote him a check."



ABOUT THE EDITOR

Karen Evans Halm is an architect and an associate of the Ghana Institute of Architects with over a decade's experience in the field, specializing in Interior Design and Landscape Architecture. She is also ther co-founder of Spektra Global Ltd.



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