

# SHEM TRAPP

**Architect** 

+970-708-0181



shem@trapparchitecture.com



1819 Timberlane Dr., Traverse City MI



www.trapparchitecture.com



## **MISSION**

Shem Trapp is an architect whose mission it is to create inspired, timeless architecture through quality workmanship and design. During his 20-year career in architecture, he has helped develop over 50 restaurant, 25 residential and a variety of other project types across the country. His ability to create 'out of the box' solutions for projects with various programmatic challenges has produced many successful buildings. He provides the utmost attention to client and project goals while maintaining a keen eye on cost savings and efficiency. He is a motivational and inspiring leader who can bring together various team members by using positive and clear communication. Personable, understated and approachable, Shem is also a driven, innovative problem solver. Making great architecture happen is an exhilarating and demanding process, and something that Shem feels passionately about.

#### SKILLS

- Real estate research, site evaluation and selection, feasibility studies
- Creative schematic solutions and refined design development
- Good free hand ideation abilities and sensitivity to manual drafting standards
- Physical project design modelling
- Production and oversight of documents and drawings for architecture and interiors
- Effective 'in house' project design team management
- Project data research, code analysis and permit processing
- Kitchen and bar layout, equipment specification, vendor relations
- Furniture, lighting, graphics and signage design
- FF&A specification, budgeting, purchasing and installation
- MEP and S engineering coordination and supervision
- Construction knowledge, project budget production and value engineering
- Extensive experience working with Government agencies and officials for permitting
- Vendor coordination and general contractor construction administration
- Brand marketing, growth strategizing, staffing and business development

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### **Senior Architect**

DAJ Design | 10/2021 - 09/2024

DAJ Design is a small, boutique architecture & interiors firm that specializes in high end residential projects in Colorado. Shem headed up the design and drawing production for a variety of archetypes including single, multi-family and commercial projects.

#### **Senior Architect**

Paradigm Design Inc. | 09/2018 - 08/2021

Paradigm Design is a well established architectural and engineering firm specializing in theaters and family entertainment centers. Shem was hired to serve as in-house food and beverage design expert to create a restaurant design division within the company. He additionally served as design lead design for other project types such as family entertainment centers, theaters and multi-family residential.

#### Co-Founder, Restauranteur

UTurn BBQ & Brewery | 01/2016 - 09/2018

Shem and partner, opened the first drive-thru BBQ brewpub in a shuttered Burger King building. He developed this original concept from a business plan and followed it through site selection to design, operations and execution. As an entrepreneur, he has gained an understanding and appreciation of the challenges of creating and growing a business first hand. In addition to his 10 years in operations, this first hand restaurateur experience has proven invaluable with hospitality clients by being able to develop successful projects that are both creative and functional.



# SHEM TRAPP

**Architect** 

+970-708-0181



shem@trapparchitecture.com



1819 Timberlane Dr., Traverse City MI



www.trapparchitecture.com



## **EDUCATION**

#### **CA College of the Arts**

SAN FRANCISCO CA | 1991 - 1995 Bachelor of Architecture, BFA in Photography

#### **University of Colorado**

DENVER, CO | 2008 - 2010 Graduate Certificate in Entrepreneurial Studies

# **CERTIFICATIONS**

- Architect: CO# 401480, MI#1301071673
- NCARB w/ 10 additional state licenses

## COMPUTER

- AutoCAD
- MS Suite
- Revit
- SketchUp
- Bluebeam

## **AWARDS**

- AIA Merit: Balter Beerworks, Knoxville TN
- Goldstein Scholar; Dean's Scholar

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### **Owner, Architect**

Trapp Architecture | 08/1997 - PRESENT

As company owner, Shem has maintained a vehicle to keep his passion for developing creative solutions to residential and hospitality design alive. He has provided numerous cost-effective and creative solutions for residential clients as well as restaurant independents and national chains. As a sole-proprietor, he has needed to exceptionally perform the variety of tasks required for each project's development from start to finish.

#### **Senior Designer**

Trapp Associates | 01/1998-08/1999, 08/2010-03/2016

With T.A., Shem has designed and overseen the development of numerous units for national restaurant chains as well as for independent operators. He has had coast-to-coast clients with varying budgets, operating models and programmatic constraints. He has produced required construction documents for the Architecture and interiors for over two-dozen restaurants and breweries. This small, industry leading, boutique firm required a multi-faceted skill set to handle each project's unique challenges to achieve final project success.

#### **Senior Designer**

Tommy Hein Architects | 11/2003 - 07/2006

While at one of the most prestigious firms in Telluride, Shem designed and directed the development of 15 high-end residential and mixed-use projects for high-demand programs and clients. He oversaw a multi-person team of talented individuals charged with creating the architecture and interior design as well as necessary construction documentation. He was further responsible for managing projects that required extra attention to the financial demands of clients as well as the particularly challenging building and historic departments of the town.

#### **Senior Designer**

Rock Bottom Restaurants | 01/1996 - 08/1997

While with the design department of this national restaurant company, Shem helped expand the Old Chicago Pizza brand nationally. He was part of a small, multi-disciplined team that required quick design and development work to maintain an aggressive roll out program. Old Chicago was the 'workhorse' for Rock Bottom and efficient architectural solutions were key to the financials. He was continuously challenged with a variety of real estate situations to convert into efficient, brand identifiable solutions.