



Impact Of Interior Design And Management On Architectural Design In Nigeria's Construction Industry

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Abstract

Collaboration between interior designers and architects is essential in creating harmonious spaces that combine building designs and aesthetic features. Measuring the success of a design project requires incorporating interior quality with architectural design within the construction industry, thereby promoting innovative solutions that meet client expectations. This study examines the influence of interior design and management on architectural design within the Nigerian construction industry.

The research approach combined quantitative and qualitative techniques, utilizing a mix of open-ended and closed-ended questionnaires distributed to architecture and interior design professionals. Professionals in the construction industry were surveyed to evaluate their perceptions of how interior design and management influence architectural design. The findings revealed a strong consensus among respondents regarding the vital role of interior design in improving architectural design. 59.4% of participants consider interior design essential in the construction industry, while 67.3% recommend including interior design from the early stages of architectural design. The study highlights the relationship between interior design and architectural design, particularly in optimizing functionality, efficiency, and the mental well-being of occupants. It also identifies challenges in combining interior design with architectural practices and recommends innovative solutions through collaborative efforts. Thus, it emphasizes the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in creating visually appealing, sustainable, and user-centered environments in Nigeria's evolving construction industry.

Keywords: Interior design, Management, Architectural Design, Construction Industry

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I. Introduction

For many years, architecture and interior design have battled with their intersections as both professions and fields of study. Both architecture and interior design must recognize that their roles, methods, and service expectations continually change in response to a fluctuating social, economic, and political culture (John, 2021). Traditionally, the fields of architecture and interior design consider themselves separate and unique; they are both constrained by professional regulations and perceive themselves as delivering specialized service roles. This notion is further cemented by a defensive "turf mentality" promoted and protected by their respective professional and licensing organizations (Henry, 2004).

Interior design and management play a significant role in shaping architectural design within Nigeria's construction industry. Successful execution of design projects relies heavily on effective collaboration between architects and interior designers, ensuring the harmonious integration of structural and aesthetic elements into well-designed, functional spaces (Smith, 2019). Mahmoud (2017) and Kaup et al. (2013) explained the relationship between architecture and interior design, stating that both should consider human needs in the design process (Mahmoud, 2017). Nigeria's growing interior design sector presents numerous career opportunities for professionals who blend traditional and contemporary design elements. Interior designers draw inspiration from global trends while celebrating a nation's rich cultural heritage (Adeyemi, 2020). However, architects and interior designers work together to celebrate the functionality and efficiency of interior spaces. They develop innovative solutions through the flawless combination of architectural and interior design features. Current trends in Nigerian homes reflect this, including a mixture of traditional styles with modern aesthetics, an emphasis on

sustainability, open-concept spaces, smart home technology, biophilic design, and incorporating cultural heritage through art and distinctive pieces (Ogun, 2023).

The essence of architectural and interior design arises from the close integration and interdependence of engineering, technology, and art. Both disciplines are essential to conventional environmental design. Achieving optimal spatial conditions and enhancing functionality within a building can only be achieved through collaborative design efforts related to these two aspects. Consequently, architectural and interior designs are highly valuable in today's construction industry; their complementary nature is indispensable (Williams & Okoro, 2022). This article examines the influence of interior design and management on architectural design within Nigeria's construction industry. This review addresses various essential aspects, including the evolution of interior design in Nigeria's construction sector, the relationship between architectural and interior design, the management of both disciplines, and the overall impact of interior design and management on architectural outcomes.

1.2 Evolution of Interior design in the Nigeria construction industry

Interior design in Nigeria is experiencing rapid growth. This dynamic industry significantly impacts our daily lives, from the comfort of our homes to the functionality of office spaces and the aesthetic appeal of public spaces. Interior design plays a critical role in shaping the spaces we inhabit. As a profession, interior design has gained prominence in the Nigerian construction industry. Although architecture has long been established, interior design has emerged as a relatively recent speciality. As a recognized field, the role of interior design has evolved, and with that evolution comes increased complexity in the knowledge required for practice, leading to more significant overlap with other design disciplines, particularly architecture, which often claims similar responsibilities. The profession needs to defend its area by defining it, which raises the need to explain how unique that area is compared to others. An analysis of several specific interior design characteristics suggests that professionals are well-positioned to use creative thinking to enhance people's lives in a diverse society (Soja, 1996; Silverstein & Lorinda, 1993). From the perspective of architectural education, it has been observed that architecture programs tend to overshadow interior design programs. This situation often results in the disappearance of interior design's essential qualities and values. In establishing its professional borders, the field must specify its body of knowledge and clarify how this knowledge differentiates it from other professions (Guerin & Martin, 2010). Therefore, it must define what the architects and interior designers do uniquely and what they do precisely and correctly.

Plunkett (2013) and Poldma (2008) have found that understanding interior design in architectural design enables the creation of functional and aesthetically pleasing internal spaces. Interior design focuses on creating functional and aesthetically pleasing internal spaces; while architects consider both exterior spaces and interior spaces, interior designers specialize in shaping interior spaces; interestingly, some architects have expertise in both architecture and interior design. The specialities of both architecture design and interior design ensure that the outside design complements the interior layout and aesthetics, which creates a balanced design. The comprehensive approach in the effort of the skills simplifies the design process. Also, it improves communication between the architect and the interior designer since they are the same individual, leading to more efficient project implementation and a more unified outcome. This dual specialization can also lead to innovative solutions that optimize both form and function, meeting the specific needs and preferences of the occupants while honouring the integrity of the architectural design. Pile (2003) highlighted how interior designers address technical and aesthetic aspects and the fundamental organization of spaces. Compared with engineers or architects who do not know about interior design, interior designers are often described as more creative, inquisitive, vivacious, perceptive, and impulsive (Portillo, 2002). Their work spans various domains, including residential spaces, retail, leisure industry venues, bars and restaurants, offices, exhibitions, healthcare facilities, educational institutions, and public buildings (Spanjers, 2013). Overall, interior design is a versatile discipline that intersects with architecture, design, and the humanities.

Colonialism significantly influenced Nigerian interior design by introducing new styles, materials, and construction techniques. The resulting hybrid aesthetic reflects both cultural heritage and external influences. The impact of colonial rule on Nigerian interior design was multifaceted and left a lasting mark on the country's aesthetic sensibilities. Here are some of the effects of colonial rule on Nigerian interior design:

1. **European Architectural Styles and Design Principles:** Colonial powers introduced European architectural styles and design principles to Nigeria. Public buildings and private residences began incorporating symmetry, proportion, and classical ornamentation (Uduku, 2000). These European influences shaped how Nigerians perceived and designed interior spaces. Fusing traditional Nigerian motifs with European aesthetics created a unique hybrid style (Elle, 1997).

2. **Victorian and Neo-Classical Architectural Styles:** The arrival of colonialism brought new architectural styles to Nigeria. Victorian and neo-classical designs gained popularity, especially among the upper classes (Elle, 1997). Victorian architecture emphasized ornate details, large windows, and decorative mouldings. Neo-classical

architecture drew inspiration from ancient Greek and Roman styles and featured columns, pediments, and symmetry (Prussin, 1995).

3. **Modern Construction Methods: Steel and Reinforced Concrete:** Colonial powers introduced modern construction techniques using steel and reinforced concrete. These methods allowed the construction of more elaborate and substantial structures. Buildings could now have larger spans, taller ceilings, and intricate details. This design influenced interior layouts and spatial arrangements (Uduku, 2000)

4. **Imported Materials: Glass, Ceramic Tiles, and Wrought Iron:** Imported materials played a significant role in Nigerian interior design during colonial times. Architects and designers deliberately incorporated glass, ceramic tiles, and wrought iron into architectural elements, furniture, and decorations (Osasona, 2002). Glass allows for larger windows, allowing more natural light. Ceramic tiles decorate floors and walls, adding colour and pattern. Wrought iron was used to fabricate railings, gates, and decorative features.

5. **Transitioning Traditional Nigerian Furniture to Western Style:** Over the past few decades, globalization has significantly impacted the interior design trajectory in Nigeria. Designers now blend international design elements into their projects. However, despite these changes, traditional Nigerian design remains vital to the country's interior aesthetic. Whether the detailed wooden doors and furniture in traditional homes or the vibrant textiles and hand-woven baskets, these conventional design elements continue to influence modern interiors across Nigeria (Osasona, 2007). The colonists replaced traditional Nigerian furniture with Western counterparts by introducing tables, chairs, cabinets, and other furniture that became part of interior spaces. The infusion of Western furniture added functionality and modernity to Nigerian homes and public buildings (Nwafor, 2008).

Interior design should actively collaborate to tap into new markets and reach a broader audience. This collaborative approach promotes the interior design industry and contributes to a sense of balance and cohesion in building design and execution, making projects more efficient and cost-effective.

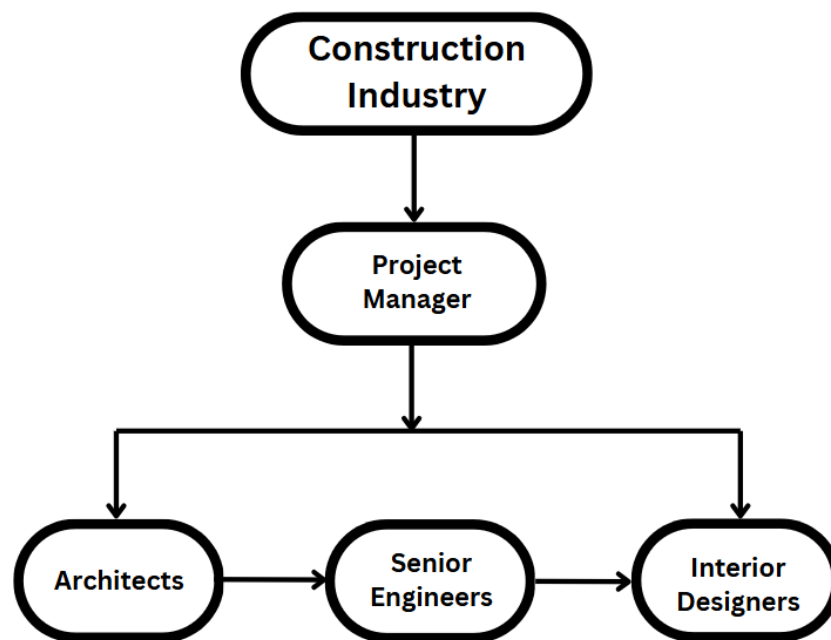


Figure 1: Interior design (ID) position in the Construction Industry

1.3 Relationship between Architectural and Interior Design

Contrary to popular belief, combining interior design with architecture is simple. These two roles are entwined, and by merging them, an extensive blend of beauty and functionality can be employed to create a client's dream space. With the aid of technology, architects can take on the role of designers by leveraging CAD automation to create beautifully designed spaces. Similarly, designers can use the same technology to craft aesthetically pleasing and architecturally sound designs. The result is a fully cohesive project, ideally created from start to finish. Once the designs are complete, the architect and interior designer collaborate to bring this automation to life through construction and design, providing luxury and contemporary elegance that aligns with the client's vision.

Building design primarily fulfils the overall functional requirements of a structure. Most design decisions are geared toward creating specific building system functions to optimize autonomous spaces' use in

meeting owners' diverse construction needs, so interior designers must redesign and reconstruct interior spaces locally based on unique requirements.(Ye Fanyi, 2015).The road map for successful collaboration between architecture designers and interior designers is to ensure a design that is as stunning inside as it is outside, and this depends on the following criteria:

1. United Vision from the Start: The key to a harmonious space is fostering a collaborative spirit from day one. Bringing together the architect and interior design team at the very beginning of the project is essential; this allows for open communication throughout the initial planning stages and beyond. Both parties can share ideas, concerns, and updates in design meetings, ensuring that even the finest details receive attention.

2. Floor Plan Harmony: Architects typically lay the groundwork with the initial floor plan during construction projects. Interior designers build upon this foundation to craft a space plan incorporating furniture placement. Collaboration sometimes extends to kitchen and bathroom layouts, ensuring optimal functionality in these key areas. The final product, a detailed space plan, can then be exported into a final 3D rendering, which brings the vision to life. At the same time, architects often take the lead on the 3D model, and some interior design teams also offer this service.

3. Power of Precise Planning: For remodelling projects involving built-ins, like kitchens, bathrooms, and offices, detailed cabinet elevation drawings are essential to achieve a successful outcome. Although the architect's involvement in creating drawings may vary by architectural experience level, interior designers often take the lead. The interior design team will draft precise elevation drawings for the cabinets and bathroom layouts using the completed architectural plan as a blueprint. These detailed plans ensure that builders execute the design elements and dimensions accurately, preventing costly construction mistakes.

1.4 Interior Design and Architectural Design Management

Baridam(2002) emphasizes that management encompasses planning, directing, controlling, and coordinating individual, group, or organizational goals and objectives, all to achieve maximum benefit. Accomplishing these goals involves collaborating with people and resources and focusing efforts, which results in a shared purpose. At a smaller scale, design management involves activities necessary to complete specific projects with many tasks in the project's life cycle. These encompass writing proposals, contracting, budgeting, staffing, scheduling, designing, prototyping, daily workflow management, production supervision, quality control, documentation, and archiving. At the same time, on a larger scale, it strategically purposed to gain a competitive edge and achieve organizational goals.According to Staples (2008), design management can be business- or project-focused, with design managers playing varying roles.In summary, design management has two primary functions: managing design practices and overseeing design projects. The interplay between these functions is depicted in the figure below.

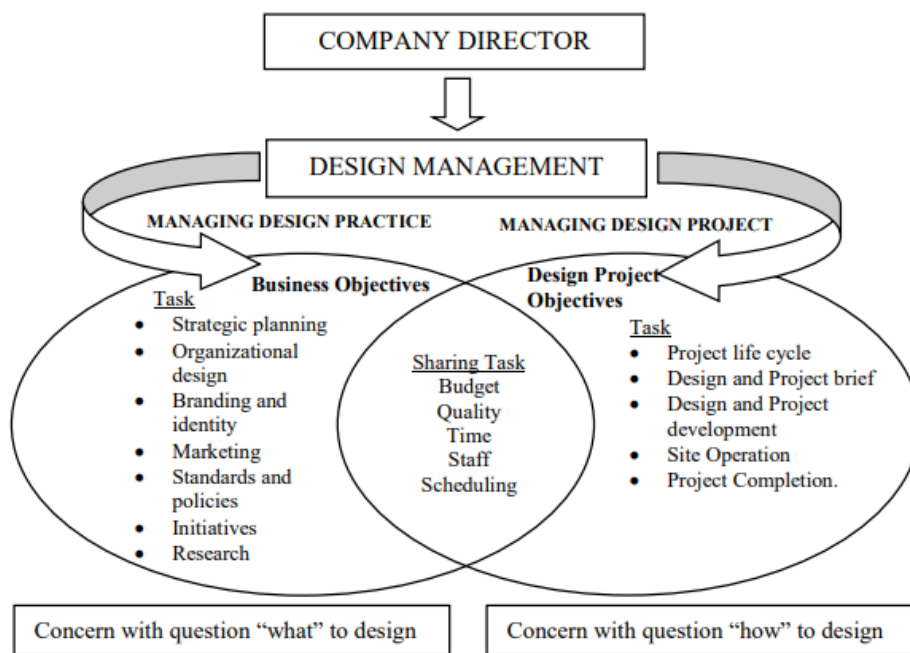


Figure 2:Adapted Design practice and project in the context of design management.
 Source: Harpum (2007)

1.5 Impact of Interior Design and Management on Architectural Design

The relationship between architectural and interior design elements is essential in creating a coherent and harmonious space. Designers and homeowners can leverage this relationship to ensure that interior spaces align with a building's architectural character and enhance aesthetics. However, the spatial division within the building can directly influence the impact of interior design. When a building's layout is well-organized, interior design efforts yield better results with less effort. Conversely, poor spatial division can lead to inefficiencies and delays in the design process. For instance, during interior design, it is essential to avoid random modifications to load-bearing structures or arbitrary changes to kitchen and bathroom locations; these decisions significantly impact the overall functionality and flow of the space. Addressing architectural design shortcomings promptly allows for practical improvements over time as it addresses the overall spatial layout to ensure a coordinated and unified interior space aesthetically and functionally. The goals of interior design and architecture share similarities but have distinct focuses. They need to work in tandem during the design process, and this approach ensures opulent and comfortable interior spaces while achieving outstanding design outcomes.

1.6 The Role of Interdisciplinary Collaboration Between Architects and Interior Designers

Interdisciplinary collaboration between architects and interior designers promotes a holistic design approach, ensuring that the interior and exterior of buildings are conceived as cohesive wholes. This alliance enhances the overall user experience by creating environments where architectural form and interior elements seamlessly complement each other. By combining the creative talents and perspectives of both disciplines, this collaborative process leads to innovative design solutions that address complex challenges in ways that neither profession could achieve independently. Collaboration significantly improves the functionality and aesthetic quality of buildings. Interior designers' deep understanding of human behaviour and spatial planning enhances the usability of environments, while architects ensure that these functional requirements are met within structural and technical constraints. Together, they create spaces that are comfortable, efficient, visually appealing, and harmonious. This partnership also streamlines project execution, with early and continuous communication helping to identify potential issues and coordinate solutions, reducing delays and cost overruns.

Furthermore, collaboration promotes sustainability and environmental responsibility by integrating sustainable practices throughout the design process. Clients benefit from the comprehensive expertise of both professions, leading to higher satisfaction and more accurate reflections of their vision. The combined knowledge also effectively addresses complex design challenges, ensuring regulatory and compliance standards are met. This interdisciplinary approach encourages knowledge sharing and professional growth, resulting in innovative, efficient, and user-centred design outcomes.

II. Methodology

The research methodology employed in this study combined a quantitative and qualitative approach to evaluate the impact of interior design and management on the architectural design of the Nigerian construction industry. Data collection involved open- and closed-ended questionnaires, with respondents providing feedback on a Likert scale ranging from 'strongly agree' to 'strongly disagree.' The study population consisted of professionals in architecture and interior design. In total, 20 questions were distributed to 120 selected professionals via a web-based survey. To ensure data quality, the study focused on respondents who held managerial positions, resulting in an overall response rate of 90%. The research design outlines the strategies employed to address the research questions, including the secondary and primary research approach, followed by subsequent analysis.

2.1 Survey Result

Area of specialization among the Respondents

Among the participants, 76 individuals (75.2%) stated that their expertise is architecture, while 14 respondents (13.9%) mentioned that they focus on architecture and interior design, as illustrated in Figure 3.0. Additionally, 9 participants (8.0%) specialized exclusively in interior design, and one respondent (1%) was classified as a manufacturer or surveyor. This suggests that most respondents are architects, followed by those who practice architecture and interior design.

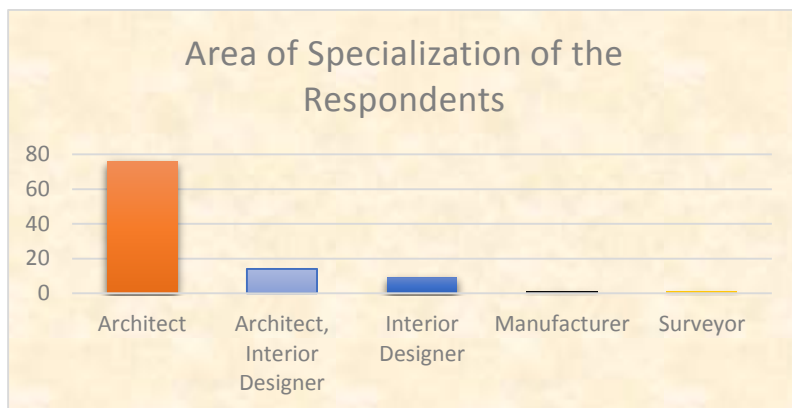


Figure 3.0:Area of specialization among the Respondents

Source: Author's Field Survey (2024)

Level of the Respondents

The findings shows that 1% of the participants identified themselves as Enthusiasts, with 45.6% confirming their professional licensure and 44.6% indicated that they were not licensed. Furthermore, 2% of the respondents did not fall into the categories of being licensed or students, and 6.9% specified that they were at the students as shown in Table 1.0.

	Frequency	Percent
Enthusiast,	1	1.0
Licensed to practice	46	45.6
Not yet licensed	45	44.6
Not yet licensed, Student	2	2.0
Student	7	6.9
Total	101	100.0

Table 1.0:Level of the Respondents

Source: Author's Field Survey (2024)

The Duration of Experience of Respondents

Based on the data presented, 10.9% of the respondents indicated that their years of experience are less than 5 years. Additionally, 29.7% have worked within 5 to 10 years, while 59.4% have over 10 years of experience. From Table 2.0 and Figure 4.0, it can be inferred that most participants have been in the field for over 10 years.

	Frequency	Percent
How long have you been in this field? (Years) [Less than 5 years]	11	10.9
How long have you been in this field? (Years) [5 to 10 years]	30	29.7
How long have you been in this field? (Years) [over 10 years]	60	59.4
Total	101	100.

Table 2.0: Duration of Experience of Respondents

Source: Author's Field Survey (2024)

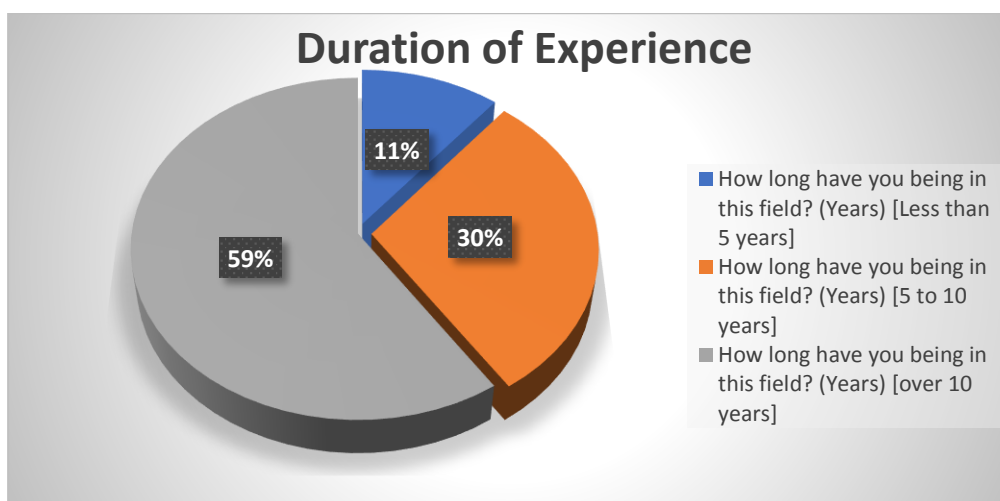


Figure 4.0: Duration of Experience of Respondents

Source: Author's Field Survey (2024)

Influence of Interior design and management on Architectural Design in the Nigerian Construction Industry

According to the survey, 59.4% of participants identified interior design as a critical component of the Nigerian construction industry. With a 4.42 mean score, indicating a strong agreement among respondents. Additionally, 67.3% of the respondents believed that interior design should be considered from the earliest stages of architectural planning as this will enhance the design, which has a mean of 4.54. Furthermore, 59.4% of the respondents strongly agreed that the integration of interior design and architectural design is essential for the success of a construction project, reflecting a mean of 4.49. Considering the sustainability of construction projects, 48.5% of the respondents agreed that interior design significantly contributes to the sustainability of construction projects, with a mean score of 4.11. As indicated in Table 3.0.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Interior design is a critical component in the construction industry	60 (59.4%)	32 (31.7%)	4 (4.0%)	1 (1.0%)	4 (4.0%)
Interior design should be considered from the earliest stages of architectural planning	68 (67.3%)	26 (25.7%)	3 (3.0%)	2 (2.0%)	2 (2.0%)
The integration of interior design and architectural design is essential for the success of a construction project	60 (59.4%)	36 (35.6%)	1 (1.0%)	2 (2.0%)	2 (2.0%)
Interior design significantly contributes to the sustainability of construction project	34 (33.7%)	49 (48.5%)	15 (14.9%)	1 (1.0%)	2 (2.0%)

Table 3.0: Influence of Interior design and management on Architectural Design in Nigerian Construction Industry

Source: Author's Field Survey (2024)

The interplay between Interior design and Architectural outcome

The survey revealed that 39.6% of the participants believe that interior design often influences a project's architectural outcome, corresponding to a mean score of 3.78. A significant 56.4% of respondents emphasized the importance of collaboration between interior designers and architects for successful project completion, resulting in a mean of 3.84. Furthermore, 49.5% of participants expressed the view that interior design contributes to the functionality and efficiency of a building, reflected in a mean of 4.30. Lastly, 74.3% of respondents strongly agreed that interior design significantly impacts the psychological well-being of building occupants, with a mean score of 4.64, shown in Table 4.0.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1 The architectural outcome of a project is often influenced by the interior designs	28 (27.7%)	40 (39.6%)	19 (18.8%)	11 (10.9%)	3 (3.0%)
2 Effective collaboration between interior designers and architects is easy to achieve	20 (19.8%)	57 (56.4%)	15 (14.9%)	6 (5.9%)	3 (3.0%)
3 Interior design enhances the functionality and efficiency of a building	50 (49.5%)	38 (37.6%)	8 (7.9%)	3 (3.0%)	2 (2.0%)
4 The psychological well-being of the occupants is greatly affected by interior design	75 (74.3%)	20 (19.8%)	4 (4.0%)	-	2 (2.0%)

Table 4.0: Interplay between Interior design and Architectural outcome

Source: Author's Field Survey (2024)

Challenges experienced by the Architect and Interior Designer

The challenges experienced by the respondents regarding the influence of interior design on architectural design are presented in the table above. Remarkably, 33.7% of the respondents did not agree that integrating interior design with architectural practices presents significant challenges, with a mean of 2.98. In contrast, 36.6% agreed that interior designers should have a say in selecting construction materials, resulting in a mean of 3.42. On the same note, 54.5% of the respondents viewed the choice of materials in interior design as crucial for the longevity and maintenance of a building, reflected in a mean of 4.14. Considering energy efficiency, 49.5% of the respondents agreed that interior design has a significant impact, with a mean score of 4.11, as indicated in Table 5.0.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	Integrating interior design with architectural practices presents significant challenges.	10 (9.9%)	26 (25.7%)	24 (23.8%)	34 (33.7%)	7 (6.9%)
2	Interior designers should have a say in the selection of construction materials.	15 (14.9%)	37 (36.6%)	30 (29.7%)	13 (12.9%)	6 (5.9%)
3	The choice of materials in interior design is crucial for the longevity and maintenance of building.	34 (33.7%)	55 (54.5%)	6 (5.9%)	4 (4.0%)	2 (2.0%)
4	Interior design has a significant impact on the energy efficiency of a building.	36 (35.6%)	50 (49.5%)	8 (7.9%)	4 (4.0%)	3 (3.0%)

Table 5.0: Interplay between Interior design and Architectural outcome
Source: Author's Field Survey(2024)

Collaboration between Interior Designers and Architects

The survey revealed that 57.4% of the respondents strongly agreed that collaboration between interior designers and architects leads to more innovative construction solutions, which aligns with a mean score of 4.44. Similarly, 49.5% of the respondents agreed that interior design trends significantly influence architectural styles and building designs, reflected in a mean of 4.00, as seen in Table 6.0.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	The collaboration between interior designers and architects leads to more innovative construction solutions.	58 (57.4%)	35 (34.7%)	4 (4.0%)	2 (2.0%)	2 (2.0%)
2	Interior design trends significantly influence architectural styles and building designs	37 (36.6%)	50 (49.5%)	8 (7.9%)	10 (9.9%)	3 (3.0%)

Table 6.0: Collaboration between Interior Designers and Architects
Source: Author's Field Survey (2024)

Advantages of Infusing Interior Design and Architectural Design

Based on the survey, 50.5% of the respondents indicated that advancements in interior design technology have improved the quality of architectural design, with a mean score of 4.13. Additionally, 54.5% believe that effective interior design can significantly enhance the functionality of a building, reflected in a mean of 4.38. Furthermore, 36.6% of respondents consider the aesthetic appeal of a building's interior as important as its structural integrity, with a mean score of 3.79. Lastly, 34.7% strongly agree that significant changes will occur in the relationship between interior design and architectural design in the future, as indicated in Table 7.0, with a mean of 3.80.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	Technology advancements in interior design tools have improved the quality of architectural design.	36 (35.6%)	51 (50.5%)	8 (7.9%)	3 (3.0%)	3 (3.0%)
2	Effective interior design can significantly enhance the functionality of a building	55 (54.5%)	36 (35.7%)	5 (5.0%)	3 (3.0%)	2 (2.0%)
3	The aesthetic appeal of a building's interior is as important as its structural integrity	33 (32.7%)	37 (36.6%)	12 (11.9%)	15 (14.9%)	4 (4.0%)
4	There will be significant changes in the relationship between interior design and architectural design in the future.	35 (34.7%)	31 (30.7%)	18 (17.8%)	14 (13.9%)	3 (3.0%)

Table 7.0: Advantages of Infusing Interior Design and Architectural Design
Source: Author's Field Survey (2024)

III. Conclusion and Recommendations

Conclusion

The relationship between interior design and architecture plays an essential role in shaping the built environment in Nigeria, driving the evolution of aesthetic and functional buildings. This research illustrates that successful collaboration between architects and interior designers is vital for creating harmonious and innovative design solutions. The findings reveal a strong agreement among professionals regarding integrating interior design into the architectural planning process. As the Nigerian construction industry continues to grow, the importance of interior design as an essential component of architectural outcomes is increasingly recognized.

This research shows that interior design enhances the aesthetic quality of spaces and contributes to sustainability, functionality, and the mental health of occupants. Despite the challenges in merging the two disciplines, the findings indicate that promoting collaboration leads to innovative solutions that enhance both form and function.

Recommendations

It is important to adopt strategies that encourage teamwork and simplify design processes to enhance the collaborative relationship between architects and interior designers. Therecommendations below aim to strengthen the incorporation of interior design into architectural practices within Nigeria's construction industry.

1. Encouraging Collaboration: Architectural firms must promote a collaborative culture that brings in interior designers from the project's inception. Regular interdisciplinary meetings should be held to collectively ensure ongoing communication and perfect design concepts.
2. Educational Initiatives: Academic institutions should highlight the importance of interdisciplinary design in their curriculum, encouraging architecture and interior design students to work together on projects. Workshops and joint studios should be introduced to provide practical experience and promote mutual respect between the two fields.
3. Establishing Standard Procedures: Uniform processes and frameworks should be created for teamwork to improve efficiency. This might involve setting guidelines for communication, utilizing shared project management tools, and defining roles and responsibilities clearly to simplify workflows.
4. Encouraging Sustainability: Interior designers should be involved in selecting materials and technologies that enhance sustainability. Architects and interior designers can contribute to a more sustainable construction industry by focusing on eco-friendly practices.
5. Professional Development: Professional development programs focusing on collaboration and emerging trends in design should be encouraged. Such programs can help professionals stay ahead of the latest technologies and methods that enhance the collaboration of architects and interior designers.
6. Research and Innovation: Continued research on the impact of interior design on architectural management should be prioritized. This research can provide more insights into the benefits of interdisciplinary collaboration and offer guidance on the best practices for merging these fields in the Nigerian construction industry.

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