Sonia Brown, PE

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▼ Profile Summary

Sonia Brown, PE established Graphite Engineering in 2005, and began her esteemed career at the Bahamas Ministry of Public Works, developing nationally significant projects before moving to the Facilities division at Atlantis, Paradise Island where she served as Director of Projects, managing the multi-million-dollar capital budget for the entire property.

She is the Chair of the Professional Engineers Board, president of the International Women's Forum, Bahamas, president of the PACE Foundation, and president of the Zonta Club of Nassau. In 2015 she was awarded the University Bahamas, Hall of Fame award and in 2020 was awarded the Lady Sassoon Golden Heart Award. Sonia is pursuing a Master's Degree in Interdisciplinary Design for the Built Environment at the University of Cambridge's Institute for Sustainable Leadership.

▼ Experience

- 2005 Present: Graphite Engineering Ltd, Principal Engineer & Owner
- Responsible for 7 15 staff members, including Technical Assistants and Mechanical/Electrical engineers.
- Responsible for gaining new business and business development.
- Manage a distributed workforce.
- Compiling business proposals and budgets.
- Identifying the correct team for projects.
- Negotiating with clients and assessing their needs.
- Analyzing information packages and presenting alternatives to clients to offer reasonable solutions.
- Liaising with Architects, Structural Engineers, Quantity Surveyors, and Design Teams.
- Ensuring key personnel attend meetings.
- Completing field, quality, progress, and code analysis reports.
- Liaising with local governing bodies to discuss legislation.
- Responsible for invoicing and billing.
- Managing and maintaining relationships with contractors.

▼ Key Projects

2021: Disney Lighthouse Point, Eleuthera, Bahamas. A \$400 million project

- Engineer of record for mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection systems, including solar plants.
- Responsible for reviewing drawings to ensure compliance with the Bahamas Building Code.
- Bringing any issues to attention and providing solutions.
- Approving and reviewing construction documents.
- Liaising with an international team of Engineers.
- Ensuring all work is code compliant.
- Third-party inspection services.

Key Achievements:

- Advising clients on the selection of a suitable design team.
- Managing over 30 design companies associated with the project.

2018: Baha Mar Bay Water Park, Cable Beach, Bahamas

- \$150 million project.
- Responsible for reviewing drawings to ensure compliance with the Bahamas Building Code.
- Bringing any issues to attention and providing solutions.
- Approving and reviewing construction documents.
- Liaising with an international team of Engineers.
- Ensuring all work is code compliant.
- Third-party inspection services.

Key Achievements:

- Advising design team on compliance issues.
- Ensuring all drawings were approved by the local authority.

2017: Pointe Hotel & Condominium, Nassau, Bahamas. A \$250 million project.

- Responsible for reviewing drawings to ensure compliance with the Bahamas Building Code.
- Bringing any issues to attention and providing solutions.
- Approving and reviewing construction documents.
- Liaising with an international team of Engineers.
- Ensuring all work was code compliant.
- Design of air-conditioning, ventilation, electrical, fire alarm, and fire protection for offices, retail spaces, and restaurants- preparation of construction documents.

Key Achievements:

- Playing an instrumental role in the project resulting in exceptional quality of work.
- Ensuring all drawings were approved by the local authority.

2011: Baha Mar Development, Cable Beach, Bahamas. A \$4 Billion project.

- Directly managed a team of 15 engineers and specialist consultants.
- Responsible for reviewing hundreds of drawings to ensure compliance with the Bahamas Building Code.
- Bringing any issues to attention and providing solutions.
- Approving and reviewing construction documents.
- Liaising with an international team of Engineers.
- Ensuring all work was code compliant.
- Design of retail spaces- preparation of construction documents.
- Third-party inspection services.

Key Achievements:

- Maintaining an excellent working relationship with both the client and the contractor.
- Playing an instrumental role in the project resulting in exceptional quality work.
- Ensuring all drawings were approved by the local authority.

2008: Renovation of Lynden Pindling International Airport, Bahamas. A \$400 million project.

- Worked with an international team of engineers and airport consultants.
- Responsible for oversight of Mechanical: air-conditioning, plumbing, and fire protection works.
- Responsible for quality control.
- Overseeing testing and assisting with construction administration.

Key Achievements:

- Participating in a project involving a team of Bahamas engineers.
- All 3 phases were delivered on time and within budget.
- Using local knowledge and technical insight to suggest improvements.

▼ Education

2022- current

University of Cambridge's Institute for Sustainability Leadership, Cambridge, United Kingdom, Masters Studies (Ongoing)

1990 - 1994

University of The West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad

B.Sc. (Hons) Mechanical Engineering

1988 – 1990

University of The West Indies, Mona, Kingston, Jamaica

Pre-qualification for Engineering Programme

1986 - 1988

College of The Bahamas now The University of The Bahamas

▼ Membership in Professional Associations and Publications:

- Registered Professional Engineer- Professional Engineers Board, Bahamas No. 10007.
- Registered Professional Engineer- State of Florida #56179.
- National Fire Protection Association.
- American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-conditioning Engineers, Member, ASHRAE CARICOM.
- President International Women's Forum- Bahamas.
- President- Providing Access to Continued Education Foundation.
- Chair- Professional Engineers Board of The Bahamas
- Green Files Column- Nassau Guardian, 2012 2016.
- Leadership Foundation Fellow, International Women's Forum, 2002-2003.

▼ Skills

- Excellent time management and multitasking abilities.
- Vast experience in Mechanical Engineering, Project Management, and Business Development.
- Exceptional interpersonal skills with the ability to communicate at all levels.
- Coordination, leadership, and development of multidisciplinary, multinational operations teams.
- Experienced leader in the not-for-profit sector, collaborator with the Government of The Bahamas and other NGOs.