

Buy, Build or Renovate...Now!

By Amy Conner-Murphy, architect and designer

In today's world, we are flooded with news reports and articles describing the housing market as "struggling," "weak," and "dismal". These words often bring about fear in the consumer, but the reality may be that this is one of the best times to buy a home.

When compared to other investments available, the truth is, housing and land are very stable investments, with low risks. The housing market is currently offering great data to support the fact that the time to buy is now.



It's nothing new; we all know mortgage rates are at historic lows. These low rates can save homeowners thousands upon thousands of dollars in the long run. If you are thinking of purchasing a home or land, start now before these rates climb.

Another figure hitting record lows...housing prices. With a large supply on the market and relatively low demand, you, the home-buyer, have economics on your side. Home prices are down an astonishing 29% from their peak in 2006, and there are millions of properties on the market right now to choose from.

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Every market is different when it comes to the housing outlook. Experts suggest looking at community growth and the cost of purchasing a house versus building new. Luckily we live in a beautiful area of the country that has made it through the housing crisis relatively well when compared to other regions. Regardless of whether you're looking to buy land to build a new home or to buy a home in need of renovation, working with local professionals for the architecture, interior design and landscape design will help you to connect all of the pieces that it takes to create the total experience of creating a home.

About the Writer:

After receiving her degree in Architecture from Auburn University, Amy Conner-Murphy spent several years working in the corporate world with well-respected architectural firms in Charlotte, Dallas and South Florida. Then Amy took a different path toward her passion of residential design when she founded *ACM Design*. Here in the Asheville area, Amy feels like she can make a real difference, one family at a time. Whether Amy is designing a new home or just a new room, the client connection is what makes architecture and design interesting and alive for her.

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