Archeon

[ARCHEON GUIDE]

# Who owns your drawings and project records

In most cases, your firm does. Contracts vary, so the answer for any one project sits in its own agreement.

## What the AIA documents say

The AIA owner-architect agreements, including B101, treat drawings, specifications and models as instruments of service. The architect and its consultants are the authors and owners of their own instruments of service and keep the copyright. The client receives a license to use them to build, use and maintain the project. Paying for the design does not transfer the copyright.

## CAD and Revit files

The same terms apply. A CAD or Revit file is the same work in another format. Handing a client a copy for the project does not hand over the copyright.

## When the client owns them

When the contract says so. Some client agreements assign the work product to the client or limit reuse, and public agencies often write their own terms. Archeon checks your client contracts and sets aside anything they restrict.

## What a license includes

Most of what AI companies ask for is the written record around the drawings: RFI responses your firm wrote, submittal reviews, meeting minutes, office standards and estimates. Project drawings and models go into a license only with the building owner’s written consent. Standard details and templates your firm wrote for itself can go in.

## Your firm keeps it

A license covers AI training on a de-identified copy. Your firm keeps ownership and copyright of everything.

General information, not legal advice.