INTRODUCTION

The Architecture Profession is at a Critical Turning Point

Walk into any architecture office today, and you'll see two parallel worlds.

One thing is clear: designers sketch on trace paper, Revit models appear on screens, renderings are pinned to walls, some are on Zoom calls, and still others may be updating redlines.

The other world is entirely new: You'll see designers reviewing AI-generated massing studies that include feasibility analyses completed in minutes, automated code checks, and renderings created without an artist at a workstation.

Both worlds are happening at once.

Some companies have staff experimenting with AI every week, while others avoid it altogether. Most fall somewhere in between—curious, cautious, and unsure of the next step. That uncertainty is understandable because, unlike the shift from drafting to CAD, which was a change in tools, AI represents a change in process.
For the first time, architects have access to digital intelligence that enables them to think—not just draw.

Why This Matters Now

Clients expect faster schedules. Contractors are taking on more design work. Owners' reps oversee processes that architects once managed. And every project—large or

small—entails a mountain of administrative tasks unrelated to creativity.

Architecture has hit a bottleneck. AI overcomes that bottleneck.
It enables architects to focus on the aspects of their work that are difficult to teach, impossible to automate, and essential to creating quality buildings.
When AI handles the heavy lifting of analysis and documentation, architects can focus more on design and spend less time formatting.

A Positive Future — If We Choose It

People outside the industry believe they understand the story of AI. They warn that AI will take jobs, replace designers, eliminate fees, and automate architecture.

Hopefully, architects know better.
The architect's role is not disappearing. It is changing — as it did when hand drafting moved to CAD, and then CAD evolved into BIM. The profession that adapts becomes more resilient. Those who resist fall behind.

This book shows how to adapt—wisely, ethically, creatively, and with confidence.

What This Book Will Cover

- How AI is currently being utilized in architecture today
- Which parts of practice will change first?
- How can all types of firms gain benefits?
- What students need to learn in school
- How AI impacts fees, liability, contracting, and risk
- What are clients and contractors currently doing with AI?

- How architects can stand out—not diminish—in an AI world

The AIA is trying to help firms compete by offering programs like the following, but I feel much more needs to happen – quickly.

1. Artificial intelligence: position statement and guidance https://www.aia.org/resource-center/ai-task-force
2. New research explores perceptions and opportunities of artificial intelligence in architecture https://www.aia.org/aia-architect/article/architects-are-excited-about-potential-ai-concerns-abound
3. Who's afraid of artificial intelligence? https://www.aia.org/aia-architect/article/whos-afraid-artificial-intelligence
4. Amplification, not automation: What AI really means for architects https://www.aia.org/article/amplification-not-automation-what-ai-really-means-architects
5. How AI is changing site evaluation for architects https://www.aia.org/aia-architect/article/how-ai-changing-site-evaluation-architects

In short, AI provides architects with leverage. That leverage is what the profession has needed for decades.
It's finally here.

Debunking Myths about Architecture and AI

I started my first book, “Your Architecture Career,” by addressing the three most common myths about “Your Architecture Career.” It was one of the most popular sections, so I decided to do it again, this time focusing on myths about Architecture and AI. There are many—here are the three I chose to highlight.