

PRODUCTIVITY TREASURES IN ARCHICAD 8.1

THE "ARCHICAD TEMPLATES" FOLDER

(This folder can be found in you "ArchiCAD 8.1" folder on you hard drive).

MaxATS Templates

In the "Additional Templates 8" folder you will find the "MaxATS" folder. The contents in this folder, created by our friend and colleague ArchiCAD reseller in Hawaii, Rex Maximilian, is one of the most valuable additions to ArchiCAD 8.1. You will find there a series of ArchiCAD start-up templates and PlotMaker Layout Books that can form the basis of your office standards. Check them out and modify them for your needs and you will have a "leg up" on optimum office automation. Also not that there is a folder called "New Project Folder". This is designed to be duplicated and used as a directory structure for **all** of your future projects.

Before using and modifying the MaxATS templates, print out and read the "MaxATS Templates QuickGuide".

MSA Detailer

In the "Active Templates" folder, you will find MSA Detailer, a very productive and efficient system that automatically sets up ArchiCAD for producing 2D details.

From the "Help" menu, launch the mini-manual called "MSA User's Guide." In the "ArchiCAD Templates" folder, under "Active Templates" are the "MSA Templates," which is a pre-defined ArchiCAD file/environment for producing fast and consistent details.

Customize your own templates and place them in the "Active Templates 8" folder for quick project and detailing start-up.

US Start-up template

Also in the "Active Templates" folder is the "US Start-up" template. Explore this template and consider using it as the basis for your office standards start-up template.

THE "GOODIES" FOLDER

(This folder can be found in your "ArchiCAD 8.1" folder on you hard drive)

Profiler

This tool, when properly installed, will appear under your Tools menu and allow you to extrude or resolve 2D profiles that you define with the line, arc or spline tools. It is great for custom moldings, cornices, balusters and columns.

Open the "Profiler" folder and then the "Add-On" folder and drag the mini-program called "Profiler" into your "Add-Ons" folder in the main ArchiCAD 8 folder. The next time you launch ArchiCAD, you will find it under the Tools menu.

Don't forget to print out and read the mini-manual called "About Profiler" in the "Profiler" folder.

NCS for ArchiCAD

This folder contains start up templates and a 2D library based on the National CAD Standards.

Check Duplicates

If you are a new user or supervise new users, this is a great tool to determine if there are walls within walls, slabs within slabs or library parts on top of library parts. Objects that double up can confuse ArchiCAD and are often inadvertently created when you click several times in the same place, thinking nothing has happened. "Check doubles" looks for the same elements at the same elevation and automatically selects them for deletion when the tool is activated.

Open the "Check Duplicates Tool" folder and then the "Add-On" and drag the mini-program called "Check Duplicates" into your "Add-Ons" folder in the main ArchiCAD 8 folder. The next time you launch ArchiCAD, you will find it under the Tools menu.

Don't forget to print out and read the mini-manual called "About Check Duplicates" in the "Check Duplicates Tool" folder.

Mesh to Roof Tool

This tool converts mesh objects into individual roof pitches that can be edited independently.

Its installation and use are similar to the tools revealed above.

OTHER GOODIES

Amyuni PDF Converter

In the PDF Converter folder is a licensed PDF writer that you can install as an alternative printer driver for creating PDF versions of your ArchiCAD files. You can also use this converter to create PDF files from any application on your computer. Mac OSX users do not need this converter because the Macintosh operating system can automatically save files in PDF format.