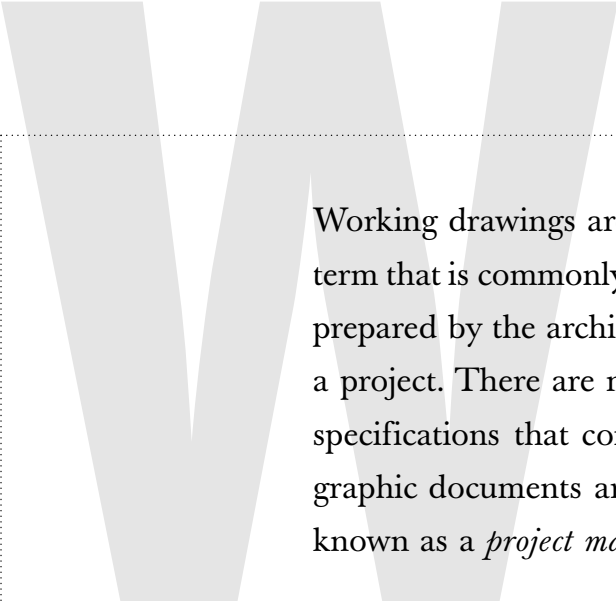


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Contract Documentation: Clarity of the Drawings

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Working drawings are the graphic portion of *construction documents*, a term that is commonly used to describe the overall family of documents prepared by the architect/designer for the bidding and constructing of a project. There are many non-graphic (text-only) documents such as specifications that come into play as well. For convenience, the non-graphic documents are frequently bound together into a book format known as a *project manual*.

Drawings produced for bidding and construction are traditionally referred to as *working drawings* because they communicate design intent in sufficient technical detail to enable the project to be constructed. They must be coordinated with specifications, so that together they depict the materials and systems from which the project is to be built and indicate their quantity and arrangement. Working drawings include architectural design drawings, as well as drawings of all the engineering and specialty consultants. Specifications contain the written descriptions of the construction materials, components, and systems to be used in the project overview.

The production of working drawings should be guided by these fundamental tenets:

- ***Drawings must reflect designs that comply with all applicable codes and regulations promulgated for the protection of public health, safety, and welfare.***
- ***Drawings must reflect the scope of services that the designer/architect has been contracted to provide the client.***
- ***Drawings must reflect the design intent established in the previous documents produced for the project.***
- ***Drawings must be created in accordance with the internal business goal of producing documents that convey the maximum of information with the minimum amount of effort.***