



Mark Nickita, AIA

President

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Mark Nickita, co-founded the multi-disciplinary design firm Archive Design Studio [D.S] in 1991. As an architect and urbanist, Mr. Nickita has enabled Archive D.S. to incorporate the multiple disciplines of architecture, urban design and graphic design. The award-winning firm has distinct expertise in the development, enhancement and the regeneration of existing, pedestrian-oriented urban environments including downtowns, neighborhoods, developed corridors, mixed-use areas and underutilized districts of post-industrial cities.

Archive D.S. has particular experience with urban areas challenged by decay and abandonment, and uncovering their potential to be redeveloped into viable participants within the greater built environment. Examples of this planning include the 1200 acre urban design plan for Detroit's far east side that included a vision for nine neighborhoods and over 8,000 properties. Archive D.S. was invited to join an international team of urban designers to establish a design vision for the abandoned Port Lands waterfront in Toronto and was also invited to provide design direction for the hurricane Katrina devastated coastline of Mississippi as part of the Governors Commission for Renewal.

Architecturally, the firm has designed many institutional and mixed-use buildings within the urban context. These include adaptive-reuse, historic rehabilitation and new infill buildings in a variety of cities as well as educational facilities, loft housing, office and retail projects. These are typically on challenging urban sites that require unique design solutions.

Mr. Nickita has resided and traveled to over 350 major cities throughout the world, in order to better understand architecture, design and urban issues. Walking the streets, interviewing people, taking extensive photographs, sketching and note taking, all of which create the basis for a genuine understanding of what works and does not work in diverse urban conditions. Archive D.S. brings this experience and understanding to each of its projects.

Archive D.S. has been published in many national and regional newspapers, periodicals and books including the AIA/Detroit Buildings of Detroit Guide. The firm was selected as one of the Next Generation of New Urbanist architects in Architectural Record Magazine and is the recipient of numerous Architectural Design and Urban Design awards. Mr. Nickita was selected as a member of the Crain's Detroit Business Magazine's 40 under 40 business leaders in Detroit and has won the American Institute of Architect/Detroit Chapter Young Architect Award and the American Institute of Architect/Michigan Young Architect Award. He was also the recipient of the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Award from Lawrence Technological University.

Mr. Nickita participates in a variety of civic activities and public and professional service. In 2009, he was elected to the Birmingham, Michigan City Commission, one of the most walkable small cities in the USA (Wall Street Journal, 2010 - 5th most walkable suburb). He is the 2012 Birmingham Mayor, was a member of the Planning Board for over ten years including time as Chairman. Mr. Nickita's other involvement includes: 2008 President of the American Institute of Architects/Detroit and member of the Michigan AIA Board of Directors, member of the Board of Directors for the Michigan Congress for the New Urbanism, Michigan Suburbs Alliance Board Member, Oakland County Mainstreet Selection Committee, Lawrence Technological University Alumni Association and Woodward Avenue Transit Task Force.

Additionally, Mr. Nickita is a co-owner of other ventures including development, graphic design as well as multiple urban retail establishments and European-style cafes.

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