

September

2017



THE NAUTILUS

The Nautilus - the name for our newsletter, is the focal design element in The Clark Enersen Partners' logo. It represents a mathematical ratio that can be found in nature, as seen in the shell's structure. This ratio is closely related to the Fibonacci Sequence and is known as the Golden Ratio, which describes an intuitive, natural balance between two proportions. The external circular shape of the nautilus shell represents wholeness, but its continuous motion—an infinite spiral—empowers and inspires future growth and change. Internally, the cross-section depicts how all pieces seamlessly fit together in meaningful partnership. Collectively, as one, that's The Clark Enersen Partners. In everything we do, we strive to empower and inspire through partnership in thoughtful design.



September 2017

CENTENNIAL MALL

Lincoln, Nebraska



story by

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Landscape Architect, Principal

CELEBRATING NEBRASKA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

Honor our heritage, celebrate our growth, and plan for our future.

These inspiring words belong to the mission and goals of the Celebrating Nebraska Statehood Foundation. During 2017, this foundation has helped Nebraskans commemorate the State's 150th birthday through a yearlong celebration involving a wide variety of programs and projects across the state. Approaching soon, on September 22-23, is a special celebration titled Salute to the Good Life. This event will be a large-scale tribute to Nebraska's history and culture featuring a parade, light show, fireworks, music, art, and more. The location of the celebration—Centennial Mall in Lincoln, Nebraska—holds special meaning for us and is an important part of our history.

In 1967, the City of Lincoln commemorated the State of Nebraska's 100th birthday with the design and construction of Centennial Mall. The Mall was a realization of the Nebraska State Capitol architect, Bertram Goodhue's vision of a seven block "wide avenue" to create a formal approach to the Capitol's north entrance. Larry Enersen, co-founder of The Clark Enersen Partners, was the Landscape Architect who helped bring Bertram Goodhue's vision to life. This was an innovative approach to urban planning during the 1960s and included closing four city blocks to traffic, allowing it to become Lincoln's first major urban plaza. Consisting of seven downtown blocks, running north of the State Capitol to the University of Nebraska, the Mall provided vistas of the Nebraska State Capitol through downtown Lincoln while visually connecting the Capitol with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. With its plazas, green spaces, walkways, and fountains it was a landscape architectural marvel of its time and was the pride and joy of Nebraskans.



Forty years after construction the Mall was in disrepair. Numerous areas of the Mall were closed to access and public use while a number of important original design features, such as ornamental fountains, landscape plantings, furniture, and other amenities were dismantled and removed from the site. In 2009, a planning process to revitalize and re-design Centennial Mall was commenced by the City of Lincoln's Parks and Recreation Department and our firm was most fortunate to be a part of the process. Now, as Nebraska celebrates its sesquicentennial, the Mall is once again a vibrant and active place in the community.

Centennial Mall is the symbolic and physical extension of the north entrance of the iconic Nebraska State Capitol. The design reflects the timeless qualities of the Capitol through the extension of the building axis and related building lines, similar use of materials, and thematic content that was developed by Hartley Burr Alexander.

Pathways line the east and west edge of the Mall aligning with engravings on the Capitol, "Honour to Pioneers" and "Honour to Citizens," greeting visitors who have made the walk south or ushering forth patrons leaving the Capitol. The Mall recognizes and celebrates the legacy of stewardship in Nebraska by representing three seals found in the Capitol's Foyer: "Traditions of the Past," "Life of the Present," and "Ideas of the Future." The southern two blocks celebrate the foundations of the past including the beginning of Statehood, and the existing natural resources of the State. The block closest to the Capitol titled, "We the People," celebrates the democratic process that began with Statehood and continues as an organized society. "Watchful citizens" and state leaders are recognized for

their contributions. The central feature of this block is a formal, ceremonial plaza that visually aligns to the engraved limestone walls and granite steps of the Capitol and is punctuated by a fountain with the State Seal.

The next block is titled, "Our Home Nebraska," celebrating the natural resources of Nebraska and the critical importance of their stewardship. This block features a large central plaza designed to represent the Eco-regions of the Great Plains centered on Nebraska. A fountain on the east side represents the Missouri River with limestone walls to the north and south engraved with Native American tribe names as the foundation.

The three middle blocks of the Mall recognize the ongoing social and commerce-related activities in the State. These blocks are titled the "Mosaic of Nebraskan's," and focus on the social and business components of Nebraska. The Mosaic is a tribute to Nebraskans who contribute to the success of the State in everyday life. The two northernmost blocks of the Mall, lined by University of Nebraska–Lincoln buildings, recall the progression of ideas incubated by education, research, and the arts. Called "Sparking the Good Life," these blocks celebrate the creativity sparked through imagination and innovation and the gift of learning and art through the past, present, and future of all Nebraska-based cultures.

We hope you join us as we celebrate Nebraska's Sesquicentennial on the Mall. Festivities are planned for September 22-23, 2017. Please visit <https://ne150.org/> for more information about events taking place throughout the State.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



BRETT SHALD EI

Civil Engineer

Q: HOW HAS THE FIRM IMPACTED YOU IN YOUR LIFE?

A: This firm has given me the opportunity to gain knowledge to grow as an engineer, and the ability to deliver high quality designs that have lasting impact on many communities.

Q: LAST BOOK YOU READ? HOW WAS IT?

A: Words of Radiance by Brandon Sanderson (Amazing fantasy author from Lincoln). This is book #2 in a series of his called "The Stormlight Archive." It is a great book and series, definitely in my top 2 or 3 favorites. I would highly recommend it.



JARED PALAN P.E.

Mechanical Engineer

Q: WHO IS SOMEONE IMPORTANT THAT IMPACTS YOU IN YOUR LIFE?

A: Lucy, my daughter. She is a 1 1/2-year-old that impacts every day of my life. She has given me a good perspective on time, so I try to manage it as well as possible. Also, she is so weird and hilarious and makes me laugh every day.

Q: FAVORITE PLACE TO VISIT?

A: Napa, because it is a beautiful place with great wine and food, two of my favorite things. Also, there are some great hikes to offset all the food and wine.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE IS PART OF WHO WE ARE

Our work is based on a deep respect for the relationship between the built and natural environment. The ground where that relationship "between" building and nature resides is the place where creativity and innovation can be unleashed.



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