



Hartley Burr Alexander
Thematic Consultant



Bertram Goodhue
Architect



Hildreth Meiere
Artist*



Lee Lawrie
Sculptor



CREATE, PRESERVE, & RESTORE

Nebraska’s capitol was created by a gifted collaborative team, led by an architect of exceptional vision, Bertram Goodhue. Goodhue developed a new style, integrating a building’s sculptural program with architectural forms to express complex designs and ideas in the creation of a great civic monument.

Together, the team created...“A building that reads like a book...the Nebraska State Capitol tells the story of Nebraska’s history through mosaics, paintings, sculpture, and inscriptions. Each art element contributes to the story.”

Learn more about each collaborator by visiting nebraskavirtualcapitol.org.



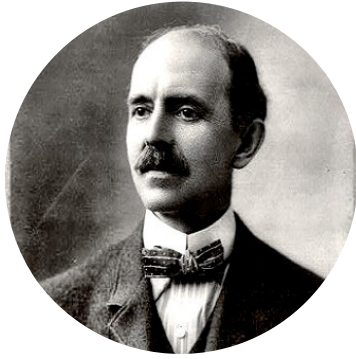
Eduardo “Eddie” Ardolini
Master Stone Carver



Amos Badheart Bull
Lakota Sketch Artist



Elizabeth H. Dolan
Muralist



Daniel Chester French
Sculptor



Ervin Goeller
Master Stone Carver



Rafael Guastavino, Jr.
Architect, Tile Artist



Ernst H. Herminghaus
Landscape Architect



Keats Lorenz
Wood Carver



E.H. Barbour
Paleontologist, Artist

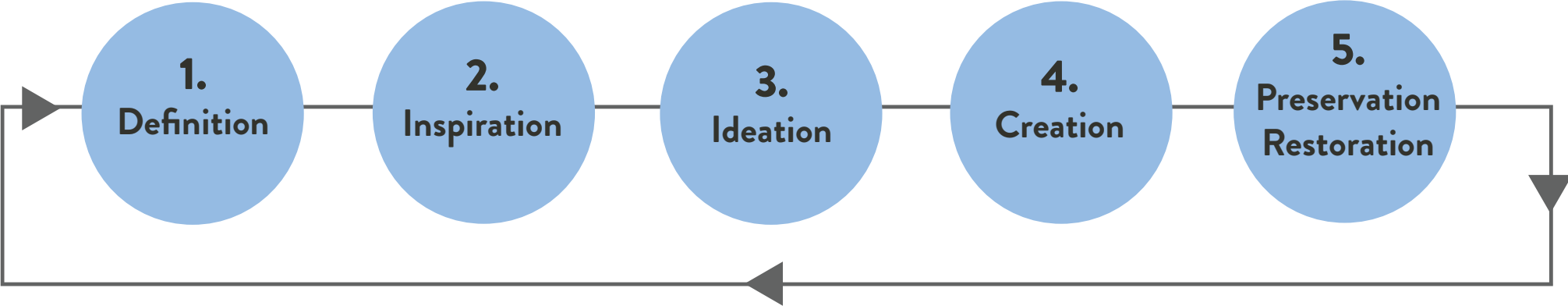


James Penney
Muralist



Jeanne Reynal
Mosaicist

The Collaborative Process



Nebraska State Capitol
Dome



Ravenna, Italy
San Vitale Basilica



Meiere Sketch
Winged Figure



Foscato Studio*



Tony Schiavo

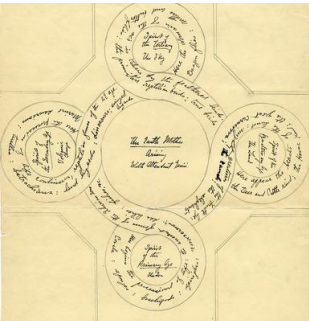
Hildreth Meiere, Artist

Hildreth Meiere (1892 - 1961) collaborated with skilled European-trained craftsmen, especially the Guastavino Company of New York, to create elaborate structural and decorative installations. Once she received direction from the architect (Alexander), she incorporated drawings inspired by Barbour. Meiere created her mosaics as cartoon drawings showing the color and size of each tile. Guastavino, responsible for the installation of each mosaic, manufactured the tile, matching color and size exactly. With bits of marble, tile and luminous-glass, they transformed ceilings, walls and floors into stories of Nebraska. Meiere saw the Nebraska State Capitol as her crowning achievement.

Example: Rotunda, Mosaic Floors

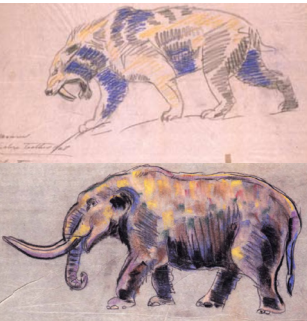
Definition

Alexander blueprint



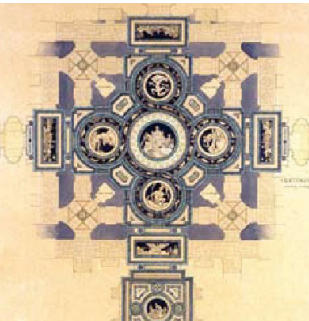
Inspiration

Barbour drawings



Ideation

Meiere plan



Creation

Guastavina Installation



“Architecture is an art in which the collaboration of many hands is necessary. The tradition of collaboration between the arts played an important part in the design of the Nebraska State Capitol.”
- Hildreth Meiere

* Photos courtesy of the Hildreth Meiere Family Collection

Discussion Questions

The individuals who worked together to design and build the Capitol created a work for the good of Nebraska. What they created together was more important than any individual work of the capitol. Do you agree?

Meier traveled to Italy and was inspired by the Ravenna Basilica. Can you see how this work of art influenced her prototype of the Winged Figure? And do you see the influence in the final work of art, the Dome at the Nebraska State Capitol?

1. If any one of the people had not been on a particular project, how might the Capitol have been different?
2. How was one person dependent upon the other?
3. Was the Capitol improved by their contribution? In what way?
4. What was each artist’s most important