



McNEIL ENGINEERING™

Economic and Sustainable Designs, Professionals You Know and Trust

EPICENTER

SUMMER 2025



SUMMER ENERGY

As summer unfolds, I'm proud to reflect on the progress we've made and the momentum carrying us into the second half of 2025. The past season brought its share of challenges, but thanks to the dedication and expertise of our incredible team, McNeil Engineering has continued to thrive—delivering trusted services in Surveying, Civil and Structural Engineering, Landscape Architecture, and Roofing and Paving Consulting. I'm grateful for the hard work of our staff and the ongoing support of our clients. Together, we're not only building successful projects—we're building strong relationships and a bright future. Here's to a productive and promising year ahead!

Warm regards,

Michael D. Hoffman
President, McNeil Engineering

MCNEIL ENGINEERING
SUMMER 2025
NEWSLETTER

EPICENTER

President's Message

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TRAEGER GRILLS HQ



MCNEIL SURVEYING

McNeil Engineering Surveying is proud to have contributed to the new Traeger Grills headquarters in Salt Lake City's Post District, a \$34 million adaptive reuse of the former Newspaper Agency Corporation printing facility. This ambitious transformation blends the building's industrial heritage with a modern, collaborative workplace for over 500 employees, complete with test kitchens, training areas, and a rooftop deck perfect for showcasing Traeger's craft.

Our survey team provided critical services throughout the project, including establishing a precise site control network, performing existing condition verification, and delivering detailed construction staking for structural steel, utilities, elevator cores, and façade elements. By reconciling historic building grids with the project's new design, we ensured trades had clear, accurate layout information, minimizing conflicts and delays.

Working within an existing structure presented unique challenges, from irregular slab elevations to legacy utility alignments. Our adaptive approach—combining field verification with shop-drawing translation—allowed contractors to build with confidence and precision. Coordinated staking sequences kept pace with a tight urban construction schedule, supporting continuous progress from demolition through final fit-out.

The Traeger headquarters now stands as a showcase of industrial preservation and modern engineering precision. McNeil's contributions helped translate a historic printing facility into a high-performance, state-of-the-art home for a global brand—just in time for summer grilling season—anchoring the Post District as one of Salt Lake City's most vibrant urban hubs.



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THE FRONT CLIMBING GYM



MCNEIL CIVIL ENGINEERING

Allow us to share the story of The Front Climbing Club, where indoor climbing meets innovation. Nestled in the City of Millcreek, it serves as a haven for adventure enthusiasts seeking the thrill of bouldering, sport climbing, and the tranquility of yoga. Here, Jiu-Jitsu masters grapple, fitness seekers thrive, and climbers gear up for their ascent.

When it came to the site design and necessary Civil Engineering services, our team, led by Daniel Canning, meticulously crafted the Millcreek project, considering the landscape around the building, the parking lot design, and the seamless integration of underground utilities. They even orchestrated improvements to Main Street, harmoniously blending function and aesthetics.

After the successful design and construction of the Millcreek location, our focus now shifts to the vibrant setting of Flagstaff, Arizona, where The Front Climbing Club's next chapter unfolds. Once again, under the guidance of Daniel Canning and the McNeil Engineering team, the site design begins to take shape. The meticulous design of the building's surroundings, the planning of the parking lot, and the integration of vital underground utilities are all essential to ensure a solid foundation for the new facility to thrive. Let's not overlook the Thompson Street road frontage improvements, which stand as a testament to their comprehensive approach and attention to every detail.

Our team here at McNeil Engineering takes great pride in collaborating with Menlove Construction. This partnership is a natural fit for us due to the precision and quality exhibited by the Menlove Construction team, ensuring the flawless materialization of our unified vision.

With the start of this new chapter in our collaboration with Menlove Construction and the team at The Front Climbing Club, Daniel and our McNeil Engineering team eagerly anticipate once again delivering quality engineering, creating a space where walls ascend and climbers conquer, one remarkable endeavor at a time.



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MCNEIL CONSULTING

McNeil Engineering's Consulting team, led by Carl Greene, is currently providing roofing consulting services for the Viewmont High School re-roof project in Centerville. Our team is helping to ensure the school's facility improvements were executed efficiently, safely, and on schedule. The project involved the removal of the existing roofing system and the installation of a new, durable roof designed to extend the building's lifespan and protect students, staff, and campus assets.

Our team provided essential consulting services, including roof assessment, material recommendations, quality assurance, and construction oversight. By evaluating structural conditions, drainage systems, and existing materials, we helped the Davis School District select a roofing solution that balances longevity, performance, and cost.

Throughout the project, McNeil's consultants worked closely with contractors and school administrators to minimize disruptions to daily operations while maintaining rigorous safety and quality standards. Regular site inspections and documentation ensured that installation met design specifications and manufacturer requirements.

It was a pleasure to partner with the Davis School District on this important project. The completed re-roof now offers enhanced durability, improved energy efficiency, and protection against Utah's weather extremes, demonstrating McNeil's commitment to delivering practical, high-quality consulting solutions that safeguard both public investments and the people who rely on them.

CRANE DESIGN



MCNEIL STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

McNeil Engineering's Structural team is proud to provide expert crane design services that ensure safe, efficient lifting on projects of all sizes. From high-rise buildings to industrial facilities, our engineers design crane foundations, supports, and attachment points that meet rigorous safety codes while integrating seamlessly into overall building structures.

By modeling dynamic loads—including wind, seismic forces, and operational stresses—our team helps prevent costly field modifications and ensures that every lift can be executed reliably. Close collaboration with contractors, architects, and project managers keeps crane operations coordinated, reducing risk and supporting construction schedules.

Recent projects have included crane bases for multi-story developments such as the Worthington Tower in downtown Salt Lake City, temporary support systems for renovations, and specialized solutions for complex load conditions. McNeil's crane design expertise allows construction teams to work confidently, keeping projects on track while protecting both workers and structures.

Beyond safety and efficiency, our crane design services also contribute to project innovation. By providing flexible, custom solutions for unique site challenges, McNeil Structural Engineering enables teams to lift heavier, move faster, and build smarter—turning challenging projects into successful, well-executed structures.



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WATER- CONSCIOUS DESIGN



MCNEIL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

McNeil Engineering's Landscape Architecture department, led by Scott Schoonover, is committed to designing outdoor spaces that conserve resources while enhancing beauty. One of the team's most effective tools is xeriscaping—a landscaping method that uses drought-tolerant plants, efficient irrigation, and thoughtful design to thrive in Utah's arid climate.

With outdoor irrigation accounting for up to 60% of residential water use in many Utah communities, xeriscaping can reduce consumption by as much as 50–70% while supporting local biodiversity. Scott's team integrates these principles from the start, selecting native species, designing shade to minimize evaporation, and incorporating smart irrigation systems that deliver water precisely where it's needed.

For over ten years our team has provided designs that have replaced standard landscapes with vibrant, low-water plant palettes and naturalized pathways, proving that conservation-focused landscapes can be both functional and visually striking.

By taking a proactive approach to water management, McNeil's Landscape Architecture team not only helps clients meet sustainability goals but also contributes to Utah's larger effort to protect precious water resources. Their designs demonstrate that responsible, water-wise landscaping can be a defining feature of modern, resilient communities.



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STORYTELLING & ENGINEERING



STORYTELLING & ENGINEERING

By Cade Walker, Marketing Manager

When most people think about engineering, they picture calculations, drawings, and specifications — not storytelling. But the truth is, every project we take on has a story, and the way we tell it can make the difference between our work being understood, appreciated, and remembered.

Storytelling isn't about adding fluff or dumbing things down. It's about framing technical achievements in a way that connects with people who may not speak the language of load paths, stress tolerances, or other intricate technical details. Clients, stakeholders, and community members often make decisions based on what they understand and trust. A clear, well-told story helps them see the why behind the work—not just the what.

Think of a recent project that presented a major challenge—maybe a difficult site condition, an aggressive schedule, or a brand-new material that had never been used in that way before. When we explain not only the solution, but the thought process, teamwork, and innovation that got us there, we transform an engineering deliverable into something that resonates on a human level. In marketing, we often say: facts tell, but stories sell. That's just as true in engineering. A technical report filled with numbers might meet the requirements, but a client who understands the journey will value the expertise even more. For example, rather than simply saying, "We designed a retaining wall to support 120 psf of lateral earth pressure", we might say, "Faced with a hillside that had shifted more than two feet in the last storm season, our team developed a wall system that would not only stop further movement but preserve the client's budget by using locally available materials." The data is still there, but the context makes it meaningful.

Storytelling also strengthens internal collaboration. When technical teams explain their process in narrative form, it's easier for other disciplines—architects, contractors, planners—to follow the reasoning, spot potential issues early, and build on each other's work. This reduces misunderstandings, improves efficiency, and fosters a sense of shared purpose.

There's also a long-term benefit: stories are memorable. Years later, you might not recall the exact beam size or soil bearing pressure from a past project, but you'll remember the time a client called you at midnight about an emergency, or when your team brainstormed a creative fix over coffee in the job trailer. Those moments become part of our company's legacy—and they're the moments clients retell when they recommend us.

Here are a few quick ways engineers can practice storytelling in their day-to-day work:

1. Start with the "why" – Before diving into specs, explain the goal or challenge you're addressing.
2. Describe the journey – Share the steps, obstacles, and problem-solving moments along the way.
3. Highlight the people – Engineering is a human effort; mention collaboration, leadership, or innovation from the team.
4. Use clear, concrete language – Avoid unnecessary jargon when speaking to non-technical audiences.
5. Show, don't just tell – Use visuals, diagrams, and photos to help people connect to the work.

At the end of the day, the structures we design will speak for themselves. But it's the stories we tell that make people stop, listen, and truly appreciate what it took to bring them to life. By blending technical precision with compelling narrative, we not only deliver great work—we make sure it gets the recognition it deserves.



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