

## Tom Meyer- MSR Architects

A registered architect with 40 years' experience, Tom is a founding principal of MS&R. He is well-known nationally for his work with historic preservation and the Mill City Museum complex (recognized with a national AIA Honor Award for Architecture, National Trust for Historic Preservation Honor Award, and The Waterfront Center's Excellence on the Waterfront Top Honors). Tom's career is threaded with a strong interest in the correlation between old and new that has resulted in work with historic district planning, building rehabilitation and restoration, adaptive reuse projects, new construction in historic districts, and museum and interpretive center design. In addition to his professional practice, he teaches design at the University of Minnesota College of Design. Tom was elected into the AIA College of Fellows in 2006 and is past president of AIA Minnesota.

## Mill Ruins



Mill Ruins Park is located on the west bank of the Mississippi River in downtown Minneapolis and is adjacent to St. Anthony Falls and the Stone Arch Bridge. As the centerpiece of the revitalization of Minneapolis' historic West Side Milling District, Mill Ruins Park combines an exploration of the history of Minneapolis with present day activities for all ages.

This industrial powerhouse was the catalyst for the development of Minneapolis and the birthplace of a number of companies which remain

significant to this day, including General Mills, Pillsbury, Washburn Crosby (WCCO), and Xcel Energy. Mill Ruins Park lies within the St. Anthony Falls Historic District and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Mill Ruins Park is directly adjacent to the 1883 [Stone Arch Bridge](#), a National Historic Engineering Landmark constructed to connect Midwestern farmers and their crops of wheat to the booming flour production mills.

The park tells this story through the now exposed historic walls and waterpower features long buried beneath many feet of sand and gravel. With the reopening of the historic tailrace canal, which carried water from the mill turbines back to the river, visitors have the opportunity to interact directly with an exciting water feature. Mill Ruins Park features the historic mill ruins, biking and walking paths, landscaping, raised catwalks, interpretive signs to provide information and guide visitors as they explore the river, and spectacular views of the falls and the Stone Arch Bridge.

## Centennial Mills

Centennial Mills represents one of Portland's greatest chances to create a community-defining riverfront while preserving a unique piece of the city's history. Centennial Mills was acquired by PDC from ADM Milling Company in 2000 using urban renewal and City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) funds. The property was acquired to fulfill the River District Urban Renewal Plan's stated objective of enhancing the waterfront with public open spaces and to facilitate connectivity between the River District, the Willamette River and the Willamette River Greenway.

In 2006, PDC together with the Bureau of Planning completed the [Centennial Mills Framework Plan](#) which outlines Portland's interest and aspirations for redevelopment of the site. The framework plan is the result of a six month public process and was approved by the Portland City Council in December 2006. The plan does not posit particular redevelopment schemes for the property. Rather, it outlines various development opportunities and lays out five key principles to guide redevelopment: Provide Open Space, Capture History, Define a Community Focal Point, Strengthen Connections, and Embrace Sustainability. Redevelopment of the site is also anticipated to further the goals of the city's [Economic Development Strategy](#).

In March 2013, PDC and Harsch Investment Properties signed a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding, summarizing the intent of both parties to work toward a successful negotiation of a binding disposition and development agreement for redevelopment of the Centennial Mills site. Harsch is currently working on design and due diligence, with plans to present a refined concept for the site in early 2014.



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