

Yankton lanterns.

When planning for the Walnut Street redesign, the City along with the newly formed Meridian District, brought to town the Design South Dakota group. As a part of the Design South Dakota meetings with community stakeholders, it was noted that design efforts should take into account the history of the community and other unique design elements found throughout the community. Using elements found in the Meridian Bridge Plaza to incorporate into the Walnut Street design created continuity in the corridor. At the north end of the Meridian District, on Walnut Street, sits City Hall. The decorative lanterns found on the north side of City Hall were identified as unique and discussions turned to incorporating these into the Walnut design. The unique lanterns being placed on the Walnut Street corners of 4th Street and 2nd Street set those corners apart for the traveling public. For pedestrians in the corridor, the lanterns are important because the space is a walkable and social gathering area for the community. The Welcome to Walnut celebration commemorates the important community investment in a public space aimed at making the downtown a really great experience for citizens and visitors.