BY ALEX MARCHESCHI




# A WORK OF ***ART***

## DaVinci Sign Systems details a recent project for a housing development.

For more than two decades, DaVinci Sign Systems has been a go-to signage partner across Northern Colorado and beyond. They've built a reputation on creativity, craftsmanship and a commitment to doing the right thing. Founded in 2004 and headquartered in Windsor, Colorado, this 100 percent employee-owned custom sign design, fabrication and installation company serves clients from small local businesses to large institutional projects throughout Colorado, Wyoming and Western Nebraska.

Known for its hands-on approach and diverse portfolio, from digital displays and monument signage to channel letters and wayfinding systems, DaVinci has become a regional leader that blends bold design with practical execution. The company's consistent performance has not gone unnoticed: it's earned multiple national awards and was recently recognized with a BBB Torch Award for Ethics, underscoring how its people-first culture and customer focus set it apart in a competitive industry.

But it's the work itself, like the latest standout installation, that truly tells DaVinci's story. Whether it's a complex wayfinding system for a bustling mountain destination or a striking monument sign that redefines a community gateway, DaVinci's projects reflect both technical prowess and an understanding of place. With deep expertise in sign design and engineering, the team navigates challenges large and small, turning client visions into signage that not only grabs attention but also supports branding and communication goals. Let's take a closer look at a recent DaVinci installation at The Nest at Canyon Creek, a housing development in Erie Colorado. Get the lowdown on how the sign came to be below!

Photo Credit: DaVinci Sign Systems

*SBI: Can you walk us through how the sign for The Nest at Canyon Creek was mounted to the stone wall and what measures were taken to protect the masonry over time?*

**Jen Moore, Marketing Director, DaVinci Sign Systems (JM):** Steel pipe passes through the base and cabinet and the pipe is set in the concrete footing. In the Nest at Canyon Creek sign, the stone veneer and cap stones were set in place after the footing was in. Stone veneer color is Sunset Stone 'Ash Stacked' with four inch ash/light grey precast cap stone. Choosing a thorough and skilled installation with a moisture barrier is the first line of defense for this type of masonry, which is set upon a three-foot-deep footing reinforced with a rebar cage.

*SBI: What type of LED illumination was used, and where is the power source and access point for future maintenance or repairs?*

**JM:** The sign is illuminated with an LED grid mounted to the frame back with internal light baffles to illuminate the end returns. Power supplies are GE Tetra LED 24 volt variable power, with 120/277V housed inside the cabinet – GE Current Power Max and GE power supplies. Service access is through frame back and top return access doors.

*SBI: How do the aluminum, acrylic and digital film overlays perform in Colorado's weather, and what is the expected lifespan of these materials?*

**JM:** In weather that is frequently sunny, snowy and widely varying such as Colorado's, good quality signage with UV protection can last up to 10 years, but it will degrade faster without care. A sign that is in shade will generally have longer lasting acrylic.

To maximize life, always use UV protected films and inks, use thicker acrylic, and do regular cleanings. If a sign is not UV stabilized, one would expect yellowing and brittleness at around the five-year mark.

*SBI: What routine maintenance do you recommend to keep the sign, lighting and finishes looking their best?*

**JM:** DaVinci recommends twice a year cleanings and lighting maintenance and replacement with one of our cleaning and maintenance contracts so that the customer does not have to anticipate when the sign will need maintenance. We work with individual companies on their notification that our technicians will be on site, and work with them on how much notice they need and how they are notified. For excellent sign longevity, maintenance BEFORE you need maintenance is always the recommendation. Regular cleanings DO extend the life of signs.

*SBI: How did you coordinate with Henry Design Group during fabrication and installation to ensure the final product matched the original design intent?*

**JM:** Any time we engage with a design firm, the usual process is that drawings from the design firm, along with specific color and materials matching, often down to the vendor and brand name for certain materials, become part of the project in an immersive way. So, not one move is made towards fabrication without multiple confirmations and allowance for revisions so that the design firm feels that the project remained absolutely true to its original vision.

Individual design firms have their preferences as to how this process is controlled, and so we worked with Henry Design Group in the way that they prefer in terms of communications. ●