

**Don Clark: Burning Man  
Collection CAE1708**

**Introduction/Abstract**

Architect Don Clark designed the Burning Man and Burning Man base structures for the 2014 and 1015 events. Materials include sketches, architectural drawings and specifications, digital images, presentations, and videos.

**Biographical Note: Don Clark AIA, Principal, Cathexes**

Reno architect Don Clark, AIA received a Bachelor's in Architecture at the University of Idaho and established his full-service architecture firm, Cathexes, in 1982. The firm works on projects from single-family homes to large-scale urban developments. He is the architect for Tessera, a planned technology infill project in downtown Reno, and the co-founder of REA250 and NVA250 (the Renewable Energy Accelerator and Nevada Venture Accelerator) with his wife, Susan Clark. He was a founding member of the Black Rock Design Institute and the Reno Arts Commission, and served on the Nevada Arts Council.

**Scope and Content**

Burning Man is "an annual art event and temporary community based on radical self-expression and self-reliance," according to its website. The festival is held annually during the last week of August on the Black Rock Desert playa one hundred miles north of Reno. Attendance has grown from the low hundreds in the early 1990s to more than 75,000 in 2017. The central feature of the event is the burning of a stylized man-shaped sculpture.

Don Clark was asked to design the Burning Man and Burning Man base structures for 2014 and 1015. His idea to enlarge the sculpture to more than one hundred feet tall and return its footing to stand on the ground, versus a platform, was unique in the recent history of the sculpture's design.

Materials include sketches, architectural drawings and specifications, digital images, presentations, and videos.

**This archive is currently in process.**