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ARCHITECTS ANNOUNCE LOCATIONS FOR 14TH ANNUAL TOUR

The American Institute of Architects Central Oklahoma Chapter will host the 14th annual Architectural Tour on Saturday, April 11, 2015 from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. This self-guided tour includes architectural destinations such as residential homes and commercial buildings that allow participants to experience great architectural design in Oklahoma City.

Architecture Week 2015, April 6-12, includes a week-long series of events that promotes the important role that the architectural profession contributes to the Oklahoma City community.

The 2015 AIA Architecture Tour locations include:

309 Monterey located at **309 NW 13th Street** was originally built in 1947. This former Chrysler-Plymouth sales and service shop is now home to an office suite spanning more than 21,000 square feet. The size of the property provided a unique opportunity for an open-air design. Most recently used as a warehouse, the previous owners added a drop ceiling, covering the skylights and interior steelwork. The 35-foot high skylight now fills the space with natural light. The ceilings also hid original air hose devices, now hanging from the newly exposed original ceiling over desks, concealing electrical and internet wiring. The building's four original garage doors, which were hidden above the ceiling, were restored, and two similar ones were added, serving as reminders of the building's past. The previous owners also hid the original windows on many of the exterior walls with brick. As many of these windows as allowable were replaced, per code. The stand-out feature of the industrially designed space is a row of 13 stacked shipping containers. The 8x20 foot structures feature glass walls at the ends to reveal their finished interiors. Galvanized plank stairs lead to a catwalk connecting the top containers.

Walkways and break areas are formed by the spaces between the containers and multiple office spaces surround them. 309 Monterey is owned **Monterey Energy Group** and was designed by **Fitzsimmons Architects**.

828 Residence was designed by **Task Design, Inc.** and is located at **828 NW 8th Street**. SoSA (South of Saint Anthony), once a semi-blighted area, is a residential neighborhood located in the Midtown area. Due to its close proximity to downtown Oklahoma City, it has become one of the most sought after neighborhoods where many vacant lots and older homes have been replaced with impressive modern houses. The Architect, hired after the original dilapidated house was demolished, strived to make the new residence relate to the scale and simplicity of the original houses without mimicking them. The massing intentionally relates to the existing house to the south and east. The exterior horizontal painted lap siding, similar to existing homes, complements the vertical galvalume metal panel, which is durable, recyclable, and reflective of heat during summer months. The scorched cedar siding adds warmth and helps visually connect upper and lower windows. The exterior façade of the residence also expresses functional elements within the design as art, such as the steel posts on the front porch, the sun screen on the west façade, and the scorched cedar guardrail on the roof terrace. The property is owned by Northline Ventures.

Classen Residence is located at **925 NW 8th Street** and was designed by **Butzer Gardner Architects**. Having lived in once gritty Mesta Park for 41 years, long-time neighborhood proponents **Brian and Ann Dell** decided to build a smaller home that would relieve them of the on-going yet loving repairs of their historic home. Not ready to abandon Oklahoma City's near-Midtown area, however, they purchased a lot at NW 8th and Classen that is the ultimate "edge site". The Dells turned to their friends and neighbors at Butzer Gardner Architects to help develop the vision for their new 2,681 square foot home. The resulting design matches the Dell's pioneering lifestyle, and one that subtly expresses their individual personalities. The corrugated shed typology recalls early settlers' homes on the wide-open Oklahoma landscape. Its tall west façade engages rugged Classen Boulevard, while setting up the sloping transition down to the quieter residential neighborhood to the east. The modulated number of window openings towards Classen reduces heat gain and noise transmission to the cozy interiors. The adjacent multi-paneled colored "billboard" spells out the family's name in Morse code, a reference to Brian's early years in the military. The more intimately scaled east side of the home sets up an ideal place for Ann's soon-to-be implemented morning garden, something she enjoyed at her previous house nearby. A covered south-facing porch greets pedestrians in transition along NW 8th Street.

The interior's public spaces open onto the morning garden's east light. Only the one high west window invites grazing west light into the vaulted living space. The z-shaped plan circulation ensures morning light in all four bedrooms, natural cross ventilation and a view of Devon Tower. Constructed for \$169 per square foot, including the lot price, professional fees, and all construction, the Dells are happy to be camped out on the edge once again.

Mayfair Apartments, designed by **Butzer Gardner Architects** and owned by **Midtown Renaissance** are located at **1315 N. Broadway Place**. The tax-credit guided renovation of this historic 1930's structure within the Midtown District of Oklahoma City is a careful study in both the preservation of a landmark building and opportunity for contemporary design intervention. Due to the vast temporal chasm between the original construction and renovation work, the contrast between the two could not be plastered over in any believable manner. Yet the obvious alternative, an unmitigated juxtaposition of the existing and new, seemed irreverent to the spirit of historic preservation. Instead, the designers opted to suspend their modern insertion within the restored historic shell by establishing buffer zones to separate the two. New millwork and gypsum board are held off the historic perimeter, while the generous use of reveals ensures that the two time periods will not touch. Subtle material and color changes between units offer an unexpected diversity and individuality to the project., A rich palette of woods, whether walnut, white oak or bamboo, is complemented by harder surfaces of quartz and porcelain tile. The restored exterior belies the modern interiors, where comfort and flexibility are key to this successful development.

OKSea, owned by **Richard McKown, City Center Development** is located at **30 NE 2nd Street** in downtown Oklahoma City. OKSea is a mixed-use regeneration project that activates an underutilized plot of land in downtown Oklahoma City. This urban site—on the same intersection as AHMM's Level and Mosaic projects—is transformed from a unused lot into a collection of 17 stripped and refitted shipping containers, hosting a bar, flexible retail, and office spaces. Arranged in an angled formation across the site, the rectilinear volumes of the containers are offset and cantilevered to create a range of amenity spaces; private terraces at second floor, and new public patio that augments the underused plaza to the east. A variety of apertures are cut into the boxes to ensure naturally lit and comfortable spaces inside the structure, which rises up to a double-height projection that addresses the street. The building is complemented by a robust, urban landscaping scheme that repurposes industrial liquid shipping containers as enclosures, planters, and light features. The scheme has a 10 year lifespan on the current site, at the end of which it will be dismantled and reconstructed elsewhere, hopefully acting as a catalyst for urban

renewal in another part of Oklahoma. The OKSea project was designed by **Allford Hall Monaghan Morris, LLC**.

House of Good Taste, located at **12713 St Andrews Terrace** in Oklahoma City is owned by **Michael and Lindsey Deatsch**. The architect of the home was **Edward Durrell Stone**, who is now deceased. To show off the latest in technology and design at the 1964 NYC World's Fair, architects were chosen to design traditional, contemporary, and modern homes. For the modern entry, internationally renowned architect, Edward Durrell Stone came up with an "inward" design that allowed homes to be built close together without losing privacy. The design was so popular that Stone sold plans for \$1,000 to people interested in having their own "House of Good Taste." After seeing Stone's design, OKC homebuilder Stanley Brown wanted to build one to kick-off his new development in Rolling Hills – later, The Greens. Brown bought a set of plans and built a slightly-modified version of the home. Despite the popularity of Stone's design, it is not known if any others were built. Once completed in 1965, the home met with great fanfare and was the crown jewel on that year's parade of homes. Lines formed around the block as curious Oklahomans waited to see this unusual modern home. In the 80s, the home had a cosmetic makeover including a hallway built to connect the originally detached garage, but the core of the home remained original. The current owners purchased the home in March 2014 and embarked on a complete renovation/restoration. Special attention was paid in keeping true to the period and adding in new elements in the likeness of the original. Now completely restored, one of the showpieces of the house is the original terrazzo floor that was covered by the same carpet for 25 years.

Howard House, designed by longtime Oklahoma City Architect, **Bill Howard**, now deceased, is located at **3341 Quail Creek Road**. The home is owned by **Marty and Kim Dillon**. Bill Howard's home was built to fit a wooded lot bordered by a creek next to the Quail Creek Country Club. Howard broke away from all convention, designing a hexagonal, split-level space that, while very dramatic, humbled itself to the "wholeness of the building." The result is a 3,900 square foot home that is both down-to-earth and extraordinary. Frank Lloyd Wright's influence is evident throughout Howard's private residence, especially in the oblong wing of the house created by the living room. An angled floor-to-ceiling brick fireplace dominates one side of the room and a long wall featuring floating built-in shelves leads to a cluster of windows and glass doors overlooking the second green. Hexagonal-shaped Mexican Saltillo tile flooring is found throughout the first level of the home while, at every corner, layered bricks extend into nothingness in a completely organic fashion. The home was profiled in the April 19, 1987

edition of the Daily Oklahoman's "My Haus" series and was recognized by AIA Oklahoma as one of the 10 best project designs in the decade from 1975-1985. Howard lived in his beloved "cabin" until 2011.

Buddah Minda Monastery located at **5800 S. Anderson Road** in Midwest City. From site planning to the architectural rhythm to the interior flow of spaces, the new monastery reflects the core values of Zen Buddhism. The Buddha Mind campus is built on 20 acres of rural, heavily wooded and undeveloped property with significant elevation changes throughout. The temple is conceived as an "inward" building, allowing followers to filter the impurities of life and embark on their journey to inner tranquility. This \$4.6 million campus consists of a 6,000 sf residence and a 16,000 sf main temple featuring a Zen meditation hall, library, dining hall, full service kitchen, classrooms, offices, and a central "reflection" courtyard. A covered walkway surrounding the courtyard encourages followers to meditate as they recite the mantra. The 18 columns surrounding the courtyard symbolize the 18 Lohan (original followers of the Buddha). As curvature is significant to the ancient Chinese doctrine of "*heaven is round, earth is square*"; curved elements are found throughout the design such as the main entrance and the roof of the meditation hall. At the rear of the meditation hall is the start of a looped dirt trail that weaves through the surrounding woods, providing a path for meditation and represents pursuit of "*harmony of man with nature*". The Buddah Minda Monastery was designed by David Hung of Pacific Design Group in California.

AIA Central Oklahoma would like to thank this year's AIA Architecture Week sponsors: Bell & McCoy Lighting and Controls, JE Dunn Construction, Smith Lighting Sales, Timberlake Construction, Triple C Lighting & Controls, Acme Brick, Triangle A&E, Miles Associates, Studio Architecture, TAP ARCHITECTURE, Space Division Products, The Womble Company, Thermal Windows, Crossland Construction, Flintco, White & Associates, and Small Architects.

Tickets for the 14th Annual AIA Architecture Tour will be on sale on Monday, March 23rd online and at our ticket outlets. For more information, please visit the AIA Central Oklahoma web site at www.aiacoc.org or call the office at 405-948-7174.

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AIA Central Oklahoma is a 450-member professional organization committed to serving the community and the profession by promoting excellence in, and public awareness of, the built environment through quality architecture.