

## Most Unique Government Office

The Department of Commerce and the Tourism and Recreation Department, 900 N. Stiles Ave., are housed in the former Maywood Presbyterian Church. Constructed in 1906 in an undeveloped residential neighborhood, the building is now situated in the Oklahoma State Capitol Complex, OU Medical Center and Research Park.

The historic building is a testament to Oklahoma's past and its vibrant future. The church was designed by architect William N. Meredith in a Romanesque ecclesiastical style and served as a school in the main auditorium and balcony.

The Oklahoma City Urban Renewal Authority is currently working with hopes to restore the building to its original glory. The 1987 plans were announced in 1987 and the building is now a complex. The Department of Commerce and the Tourism and Recreation Department have been housed in the building since 1996, and the building was renovated in the summer of 2015.

The church's historical significance is a spooky side, as eye-witnesses will tell you.

One Saturday, a Commerce Department employee was in his cube when he would stop to investigate. Another Saturday, a Tourism and Recreation employee saw his ruler fly off as though someone was there.

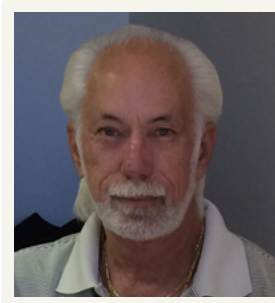
Other employees will tell you the building has a life of its own, with no one inside pushing the doors open. For more about it at <http://newsok.com/state-commerce-department-workers-say/article/3723987>.

Make sure you swing by to admire this beautiful historic building, and you may have a story of your own to tell.



## Billy McMeans, Real Property Specialist

Billy McMeans joined REALS in October 2014 as a real property specialist. In addition to assisting state agencies with lease agreements, addenda and renewals, Billy processes all purchase orders received by REALS. With 18 years as a certified procurement officer and 41 years of procurement experience with state entities including the Department of Tourism and Recreation, Department of Education, Central Purchasing and OKC Public Schools, REALS is fortunate to have Billy and his extensive background serving our customers.



Billy McMeans,  
Real Property Specialist

Questions or comments? Email us at [infoREALS@omes.ok.gov](mailto:infoREALS@omes.ok.gov) or call 405-521-3819.

## State Tenants Vacate First National Center

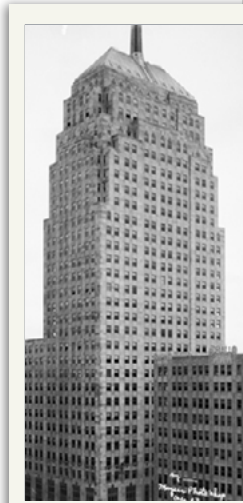
The First National Center was built in 1931 and, at \$5 million, was the largest and costliest building constructed during the oil boom era in Oklahoma City.

Several state agencies have officed in the building, including the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, Oklahoma Land Commission, Oklahoma Tax Commission, Pardon and Parole Board, Aeronautics Commission and the Department of Securities.

Due to deteriorating conditions, OMES and the agencies recently staged an emergency relocation in order to avoid potential interruption of service to the public and to ensure a safe work environment.

The exceptional attitudes and efforts of all involved were key factors in quickly relocating. OMES Information Services completed all the necessary cabling and workstation relocation. OMES Central Purchasing procured movers and worked closely with the agencies to coordinate moves. OMES Capital Assets Management provided office and storage space as needed, retrieved surplus property and assisted with locating/procuring permanent space. Way to go, Team OMES!

The Tourism and Recreation Department has relocated to the Department of Commerce building at 900 N. Stiles Ave. The Oklahoma Tax Commission is now in Cotter Tower in downtown Oklahoma City. The Pardon and Parole Board and Aeronautics Commission are temporarily in the Will Rogers Building, and both continue to work with REALS to procure the best long-term space solution.



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