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PERKINS EASTMAN RELEASES WHITE PAPER THAT EXAMINES THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF BIOPHILIC DESIGN IN SENIOR LIVING ENVIRONMENTS

New York, NY (May 16, 2015) Top international design and architecture firm Perkins Eastman is pleased to announce the publication of its latest white paper, **“Biophilic Design: An Alternative Perspective for Sustainable Design in Senior Living,”** co-authored by Associate Hillary DeGroof IIDA, LEED AP ID+C, and Architect McCall Wood, who are based in the firm’s Chicago and San Francisco offices, respectively. This paper examines the relatively untapped idea of Biophilic Design, studies the various ways by which it lends focus to the evolving topic of sustainability, and, most importantly, revisits a number of the firm’s most successful projects to promote an understanding of the potential benefits of applying Biophilic Design principles in Senior Living environments.

“Biophilic Design is a focused area of research that brings people to the center of the sustainability discussion,” notes DeGroof and McCall. “It attempts to scientifically understand how people interact with their environment and, consequently, how their environment can be designed to better support them.” While this idea has existed for nearly three decades, its use within the field of architecture has not been common practice, which could be considered a missed opportunity, until now. Establishing Biophilic Design as a guiding principle throughout the design process, especially as it concerns Senior Living environments, is to recognize the imperative role the built environment plays in resident health, well-being, and quality of life.

According to the authors, “As designers, we can better understand how our environments impact us psychologically and physiologically to create architecture that promotes positive and transformative interactions. This white paper presents knowledge of how the brain and body respond to their environment and how the application of this knowledge helps demonstrate a commitment to sustainability.”

Among the spotlight projects used as case studies for this white paper are Camphill Ghent, Chatham, NY; Moorings Park, Naples, FL; NewBridge on the Charles, Dedham, MA; North Chicago VA Community Living Centers, Chicago, IL; Rockwood Retirement Community, Spokane, WA; Saint John's on the Lake, Milwaukee, WI; Sun City Park, Yokohama, Japan; and Westminster Village; Scottsdale, AZ. This white paper was produced and edited under the guidance and design expertise of Perkins Eastman's Senior Living leadership team.

The entire "Biophilic Design" white paper is available for free download at www.perkinseastman.com/white_papers.

About Perkins Eastman

Perkins Eastman is among the top design and architecture firms in the world. With almost 1,000 employees in 15 locations around the globe, Perkins Eastman practices at every scale of the built environment. From niche buildings to complex projects that enrich whole communities, the firm's portfolio reflects a dedication to progressive and inventive design that enhances the quality of the human experience. With work in 46 states and more than 40 countries, the firm's portfolio includes high-end residential, commercial, hotels, retail, office buildings, corporate interiors, schools, hospitals, museums, senior living, and public sector facilities. Perkins Eastman provides award-winning design through its offices in North America (New York, NY; Boston, MA; Charlotte, NC; Chicago, IL; Los Angeles, CA; Pittsburgh, PA; San Francisco, CA; Stamford, CT; Toronto, Canada; and Washington, DC); South America (Guayaquil, Ecuador); North Africa and Middle East (Dubai, UAE); and Asia (Mumbai, India, and Shanghai, China).

Images available.

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