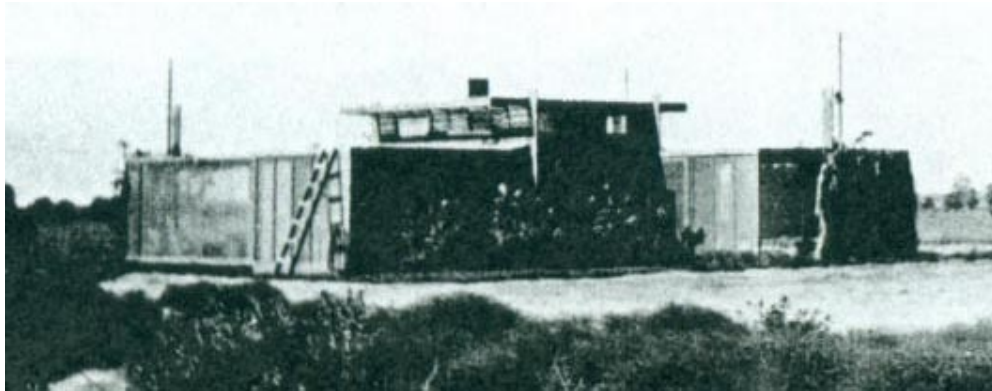


Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

This timeline is an amalgamation of the Palm Springs Preservation Foundation's (PSPF) and Palm Springs Modern Committee's timelines, with additions from The Modern Architecture of Hugh Michael Kaptur and The Design of Herbert Burns, written by PSPF Board Member Steve Keylon. Photographs used are taken from random sources on the Internet.

1922

R M Schindler designs the first modern building in the desert, a cabin for Paul and Betty Popenoe located in Coachella:



1925

The Oasis Hotel, a Modern masterpiece in slip-form concrete, designed by Lloyd Wright, is built at 121 S Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs. Its tower survived the demolition of the hotel and is now designated as a Class One Historic Site:



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1927

The El Mirador Hotel, located at 1150 N Indian Canyon Drive in Palm Springs opens on New Year's Eve. It was razed in 1989 after a fire and its Tower was reconstructed on the grounds of Desert Regional Hospital and is now designated as a Class One Historic Site:



1934

Albert Frey, with New York partner A Lawrence Kocher, designs Palm Springs' first modernist building in the International Style. Known as the Kocher-Samson Office Building, it is built at 766 N Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs and is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



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1936

La Plaza Shopping Center, Theater & Apartments designed by Harry Williams, introduced as one of the first car-oriented shopping centers in America, is built at 160 S Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs and later designated as a Class One Historic Site:



1936

The avant garde all-concrete Church of Palm Springs, designed by Charles Tanner, is built at 284 S Cahuilla Road in the Tennis Club neighborhood of Palm Springs. It was extensively damaged by fire in 2013 and is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



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Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1936

Eric Webster and Adrian Wilson design the streamlined/nautical moderne “Ship of the Desert” which is built at 1995 Camino Monte in the Mesa neighborhood of Palm Springs. It is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



1937

Richard Neutra designs the Grace Lewis Miller House that includes her Mensendieck posture therapy studio. It is located at 2311 N Indian Canyon Drive in Palm Springs and is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1937

Architect Howard T Fisher's Edmund F Lindop Residence, a prefabricated steel house manufactured by General Houses, Inc is built at 1320 E Tamarisk Rd:



1939

The Palm Springs Woman's Club, designed by John Porter Clark, is built at 314 S Cahuilla Road in the Tennis Club neighborhood of Palm Springs:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1939

John Porter Clark builds an International Style house for his family on the former El Mirador Golf Course:



PHOTO: JULIUS SHULMAN

JOHN PORTER CLARK HOUSE, 1939

1940

The Welwood Murray Library, designed by John Porter Clark, is built at 100 S Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs. It is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



WELWOOD MURRAY LIBRARY, 1941



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1946

Richard Neutra's Kaufmann house, where photographer Julius Shulman would take one of his most famous photographs, is built at 470 West Vista Chino in Palm Springs. It is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1946

Albert Frey designs a house for famed industrial designer Raymond Loewy in what is becoming the Desert Modern architectural style that he and others are pioneering. Built with a 'swim into the house pool', it is located at 600 W Panorama Road in the Little Tuscany neighborhood of Palm Springs and is designated as a Class One Historic Site:1946



1946

The Marion Toole House, designed by R M Schindler, is built at 44-870 Cabrillo Avenue in Palm Desert:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1947

The Clark & Frey Office Building, designed by John Porter Clark and Albert Frey, is built at 879 N Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs:



1947

Mountainside additions to the Tennis Club include the “Bougainvillea Room,” designed by architects A Quincy Jones and Paul R Williams, it is located at 701 W Belardo Road in the Spencer’s Restaurant complex of the Tennis Club neighborhood of Palm Springs:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1947

William Cody designs the Del Marcos Motel, which wins an AIA prize. It is built at 225 W Baristo Road in the Tennis Club neighborhood of Palm Springs and is designated as a Class One Historic Site:

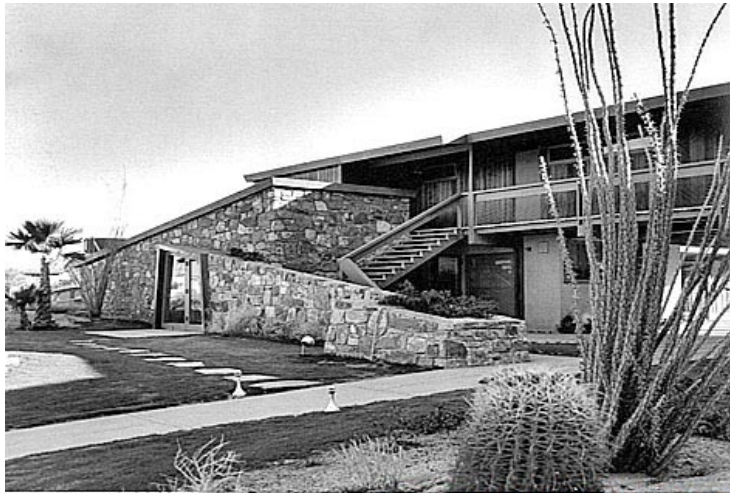


PHOTO: JULIUS SHULMAN

THE DEL MARCOS HOTEL, 1947



1947

The Desert Hot Springs Motel (now the sensitively restored Hotel Lautner) is designed by John Lautner and built at 67710 San Antonio Road in Desert Hot Springs:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1947

The Villa Hermosa Apartments, designed by Albert Frey, are built at 155 W Hermosa Place in Palm Springs:



1947

Designed by Herbert Burns, the Town & Desert Apartment Hotel (now the Desert Hideaway) opens in the Tennis Club neighborhood at 370 W Arenas Rd garnering international recognition in the press. It is designated a Class One Historic Site:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1947

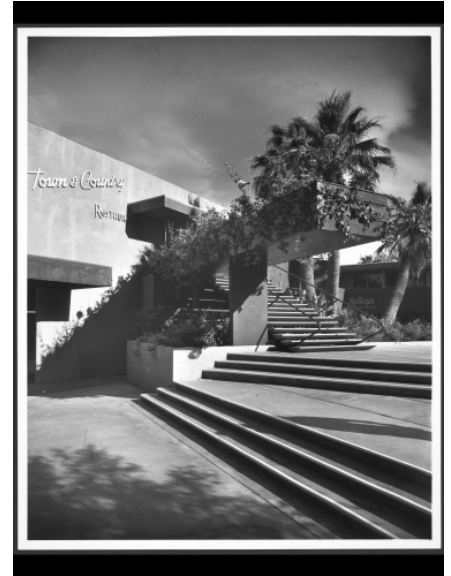
E Stewart Williams designs the Frank Sinatra house (aka: Twin Palms) that is built at 1148 E Alejo Road & 1145 E Colusa in the Movie Colony East neighborhood of Palm Springs. It is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1948

The Town & Country Center, remodeled in the Late Moderne style with design by A Quincy Jones and Paul R Williams at 146-176 N Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs, is designated a Class One Historic site and has been determined as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places:



1948

The Palm Springs Biltmore Hotel on E Palm Canyon Dr, designed by Fred Monhoff, opens (recently demolished and replaced by condominiums):



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1951

The Herbert Burns designed Holiday House is built at 200 W Arenas Rd in the Tennis Club neighborhood. A 2nd story was later added along with other revisions:



circa 1951



1952

The Oasis Commercial Building, an early International Style structure, designed by E Stewart Williams with interiors by Paul R Williams is built adjacent to Lloyd Wright's Oasis Hotel tower at 101-121 S Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs. The upper level only is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1952

Security First National Bank, designed by Joseph Wang with its noted terracotta bas-relief, is built at 500 S Indian Canyon Drive in Palm Springs:



1952

L'Horizon Hotel, designed by William Cody, is built at 1051 E Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1953

Albert Frey remodels the Palm Springs house he built for himself in 1940 and adds a futuristic, spaceship-like second story (now demolished):



1953

The Edris House, designed by E Stewart Williams, is built at 1030 W Cielo Drive in the Little Tuscany neighborhood of Palm Springs. It is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1955

The Village Manor (now the Orbit Inn) is designed by Herbert Burns and built at 562 W Arenas Rd in the Tennis Club neighborhood:



1955

Donald Wexler designs his personal residence and has it built at 1272 E Verbena Drive in the Movie Colony East neighborhood of Palm Springs:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

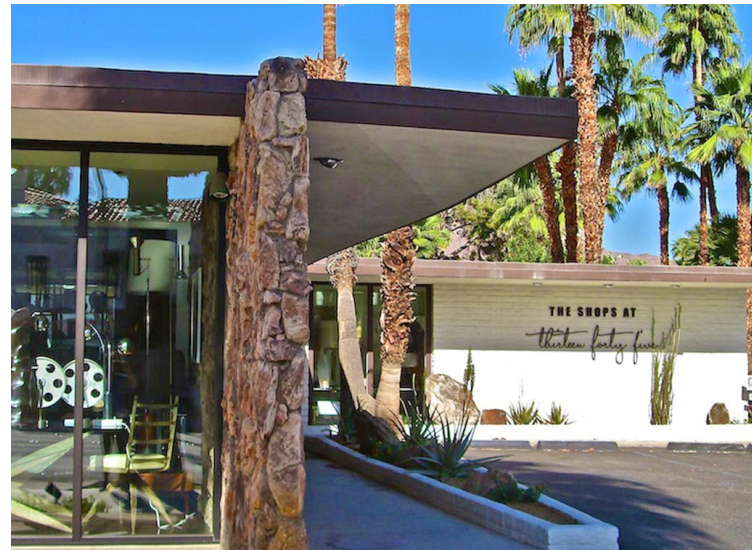
1955

The Raymond Cree House II, designed by Albert Frey, is built at 66-389 E Highway 111 in Cathedral City:



1956

The Harold Hicks Real Estate building, designed by E Stewart Williams, is built at 1345 N Palm Canyon in Palm Springs:



1956

Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

The Ocotillo Lodge, a collaboration between the Alexander Construction Company and the architectural firm of William Krisel and Dan Saxon Palmer, is built at 111 E Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs:



1956

The Desert Star Motel, designed by Howard Lapham with its colliding flat and shed roofs, is built at 1611 S Calle Palo Fierro in the Deepwell neighborhood of Palm Springs. It is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



1956

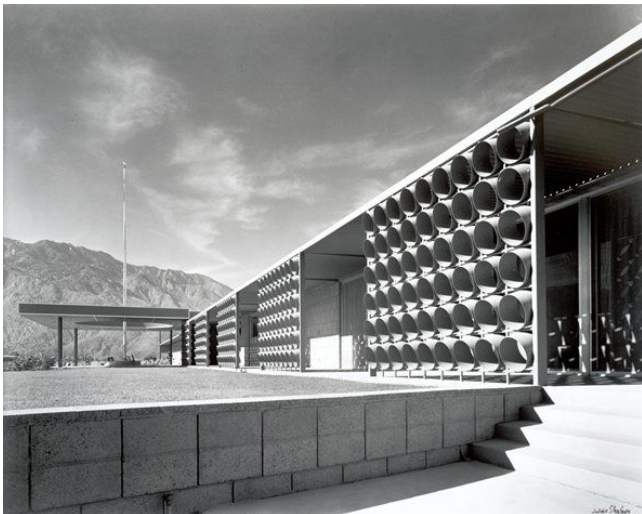
Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

The Laura K Carey Residence, designed by Albert Frey, is built at 651 W Via Escuela in the Chino Canyon neighborhood of Palm Springs. It is designated a Class One Historic Site:



1952 – 1957

Palm Springs City Hall, designed by Albert Frey and John Porter Clark, is built at 3200 E Tahquitz Canyon Way in Palm Springs. Its later-added two wings were designed by Roger & E Stewart Williams and John Porter Clark. It is now designated as a Class One Historic Site:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1957

William Cody's Huddle's Springs Restaurant, a superior example of Googie style, opens on South Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs (now demolished):



PHOTO: WILLIAM F. CODY, FAIA ESTATE



THE SPRINGS RESTAURANT, 1957

1957

Palm Springs Fire Station #1, designed by Albert Frey & Robson Chambers, is built at 277 N Indian Canyon Drive in Palm Springs. It is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1957

The Palm Springs Chamber of Commerce building, designed by Joe Kiktavi, is built at 190 E Amado Road in Palm Springs:



1957

Albert Frey's First Church of Christ Scientist is built on Riverside Dr in Tahquitz River Estates:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1957

Designed by William Krisel of Palmer & Krisel, the Alexander Construction Company builds the tract home development Twin Palms in South Palm Springs with 90 homes. The innovative designs establish a template for affordable desert modern homes in the Twin Palms neighborhood of Palm Springs.:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1957

The Ted Leff Residence, designed by Donald Wexler, with his characteristic 'spider leg' steel columns is built at 362 W Via Sol in the El Mirador neighborhood of Palm Springs:



1957

The Burgess Residence (aka "Bougainvillaea" house) designed by Hugh Kaptur, is built at 550 Palisades Drive above the Palm Springs Art Museum (PSAM) and adjacent to Frey House II in Palm Springs, with later additions by Albert Frey:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1958

William Pereira and Charles Luckman design Robinson's Department Store with its marble and quartz aggregate patterned in a horizontal diamond which is built at 333 S Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs. It is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



1958

Hugh Kaptur's Impala Lodge (now the Triangle Inn) is built at 555 E San Lorenzo Dr in the Tahquitz River Estates neighborhood with fantastic forms and painted icons:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1958

The Sandpiper Condominium development, with architecture and landscape design by William Krisel, opens in Palm Desert at Highway 74 and El Paseo:



1958

"Swiss Miss" style homes designed by Charles Dubois with quirky A-framed roofs echoing Polynesian architecture are built in the Vista Las Palmas neighborhood of Palm Springs:



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1959

City National Bank (now Bank of America) opens, designed by Rudy Baumfeld of Victor Gruen Associates, it is an homage to Le Corbusier's Ronchamp chapel built five years earlier. It is located at 588 S Palm Drive in Palm Springs and is designated as a Class One Historic Site:



1959

Construction begins on the Spa Bathhouse and Hotel, designed by architects William Cody, Donald Wexler, Richard Harrison & Pierre Koenig, it is located on S Indian Canyon Drive in Palm Springs (now demolished):



Desert Modernist Architecture Timeline 1922-1959

1959

The Pete Siva House, aka Douglas Russell House, designed by Hugh Kaptur, was built on Palisades Drive near Frey House II. A later sunshade addition done by Albert Frey is added in 1983:



1959

The North Shore Yacht Club, designed by Albert Frey with a nautical style, is built on the Salton Sea. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places:

