CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE CITY OF PALM DESERT MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, September 25, 2024
9:00 a.m.
Administrative Conference Room, City Hall
73-510 Fred Waring Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 2449, this meeting will be conducted as a hybrid meeting and there will be in-person access to this location.

- To participate via Zoom, use the following link: https://palmdesert.zoom.us/j/82890728644 or call (213) 338-8477, Zoom Meeting ID: 828 9072 8644
- Written public comment may also be submitted to <u>cityclerk@palmdesert.gov</u>. E-mails received by 5:00 p.m. the day prior to the meeting will be distributed to the Committee. Any correspondence received during or after the meeting will be distributed to the Committee as soon as practicable and retained for the official record. Emails will not be read aloud except as an ADA accommodation.

Pages

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. ROLL CALL
- 3. NONAGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS

This time has been set aside for the public to address the Cultural Resources Preservation Committee on issues that are not on the agenda for up to three minutes. Speakers may utilize one of the three options listed on the first page of the agenda. Because the Brown Act does not allow the Cultural Resources Preservation Committee to act on items not listed on the agenda, members may briefly respond or refer the matter to staff for a report and recommendation at a future meeting.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and may be approved by one motion. The public may comment on any items on the Consent Agenda within the three-minute time limit. Individual items may be removed by the Cultural Resources Preservation Committee for a separate discussion.

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the consent calendar as presented.

4.a APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Minutes of August 28, 2024.

5. ACTION CALENDAR

The public may comment on individual Action Items within the three-minute time limit. Speakers may utilize one of the three options listed on the first page of the agenda.

None.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

The public may comment on individual Public Hearing Items within the threeminute time limit. The applicant or appellant will be provided up to five minutes to make their presentation. Speakers may utilize one of the three options listed on the first page of this agenda.

6.a CONSIDERATION OF A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE DESIGNATION OF THE AVONDALE GOLF CLUB CLUBHOUSE LOCATED AT 75800 AVONDALE DRIVE AS A HISTORIC LANDMARK (CRPC24-0001)

RECOMMENDATION:

Make findings and recommend approval to the Palm Desert City Council to adopt a resolution to designate the existing clubhouse located at 75800 Avondale Drive on Assessor's Parcel Number 626-030-043 a local historic landmark pursuant to Criterion D and F of Palm Desert Municipal Code Section 29.40.010.

7. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS & COMMENTS

- 7.a CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- 7.b CITY COUNCIL LIAISON
- 7.c CITY STAFF

7.d ATTENDANCE REPORT

8. ADJOURNMENT

The next Regular Meeting will be held on October 23, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

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9. PUBLIC NOTICES

Agenda Related Materials: Pursuant to Government Code §54957.5(b)(2) the designated office for inspection of records in connection with this meeting is the Office of the City Clerk, Palm Desert Civic Center, 73-510 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert. Staff reports for all agenda items considered in open session, and documents provided to a majority of the legislative bodies are available for public inspection at City Hall and on the City's website at www.palmdesert.gov.

Americans with Disabilities Act: It is the intention of the City of Palm Desert to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, or in meetings on a regular basis, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact the Office of the City Clerk, (760) 346-0611, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing agenda for the Cultural Resources Preservation Committee was posted on the City Hall bulletin board and City website not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

/S/ Michelle Nance Deputy Clerk

CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE CITY OF PALM DESERT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

August 28, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

Present: Committee Member Paul Clark, Committee Member Don Graybill,

Committee Member Thomas Mortensen, Committee Member David Toltzmann, Committee Member Linda Vassalli, Chair

Rochelle McCune

Absent: Vice-Chair Kim Housken

Staff Present: Principal Planner Nick Melloni, Principal Planner Carlos Flores,

Recording Secretary Michelle Nance

Liaison(s) Present: City Council Liaison Mayor Pro Tem Jan Harnik

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Cultural Resources Preservation Committee was called to order by Chair McCune on Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at 9:03 a.m., in the Administrative Conference Room, City Hall, located at 73-510 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, California.

2. ROLL CALL

3. ELECTION OF THE CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Motion by: Committee Member Mortensen **Seconded by:** Committee Member Toltzmann

To elect Chair McCune as Chairperson.

NOES (1): Committee Member Vassalli

Motion Carried (5 to 1)

Motion by: Chair McCune

Seconded by: Committee Member Mortensen

To elect Committee Member Linda Vassalli as Vice-Chairperson.

Motion Carried (6 to 0)

4. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli

Seconded by: Committee Member Mortensen

To approve the consent calendar as presented.

Motion Carried (6 to 0)

5.a APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli

Seconded by: Committee Member Mortensen

Approve the Minutes of June 26, 2024.

Motion Carried (6 to 0)

6. CONSENT ITEMS HELD OVER

None.

7. ACTION CALENDAR

7.a HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT AND SURVEY KICK OFF

Mary Ringhoff, of Architecture Resources Group, narrated a presentation and responded to member inquires.

Feedback provided; no formal action taken on this item.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

8.a CONSIDER ADOPTING A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION AND APPROVE A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS TO CONSTRUCT A NEW BREEZE BLOCK GARDEN WALL AT AN EXISTING LANDMARK LOCATED AT 72861 EL PASEO

Committee Members Graybill and Toltzmann recused themselves from this item due to their conflict as both Committee Members and Applicants and left the meeting room.

Principal Planner Flores narrated a PowerPoint presentation and responded to members' questions.

Chair McCune opened the public hearing.

Chair McCune closed the public hearing, there being no other member of the public wishing to speak.

Committee Member Mortensen expressed appreciation for the proposed breeze block wall exhibit.

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli

Seconded by: Committee Member Mortensen

Determine that the requirements of the findings have been met based on the analysis and grants the Certificate of Appropriateness for 72861 El Paseo (APN: 640-220-052) and determine that the project is categorically exempt from the CEQA.

RECUSED (2): Committee Member Graybill, and Committee Member Toltzmann Motion Carried (4 to 0)

9. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS & COMMENTS

9.a CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee Member Clark expressed excitement for the Historical Context Statement and Survey kick off.

Chair McCune, with consensus of the Committee, expressed desire to have education workshops.

9.b CITY COUNCIL LIAISON

Mayor Pro Tem Harnik provided an update on recent approval of the Mills Act update made by City Council in relation to the Committee.

9.c CITY STAFF

Principal Planner Melloni provided an update of the upcoming demolition of a private residence located at 49425 JFK Drive in Palm Desert.

9.d ATTENDANCE REPORT

Report provided; no action taken on this item.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Cultural Resources Preservation Committee adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,	
Michelle Nance, Deputy Clerk Recording Secretary	- II
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CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: September 25, 2024

PREPARED BY: Nick Melloni, AICP, Principal Planner

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL

TO APPROVE THE DESIGNATION OF THE AVONDALE GOLF CLUB CLUBHOUSE LOCATED AT 75800 AVONDALE DRIVE AS A HISTORIC

LANDMARK (CRPC24-0001

RECOMMENDATION:

Make findings and recommend approval to the Palm Desert City Council to adopt a resolution to designate the existing clubhouse located at 75800 Avondale Drive on Assessor's Parcel Number 626-030-043 a local historic landmark pursuant to Criterion D and F of Palm Desert Municipal Code Section 29.40.010.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The item for consideration is a request by a property owner, Avondale Golf Club, to designate the Avondale Golf Club clubhouse located at 75800 Avondale Drive as a historic landmark. The Avondale Golf Club is an existing residential development located north of County Club Drive and bound by Eldorado Drive to the east and Frank Sinatra Drive to the north. The community was originally developed in the early 1970s and was originally known as the Del Safari Country Club.

This item was previously brought before the Cultural Resources Preservation Committee (CRPC) on June 26, 2024. At that time, the landmark request included the Avondale golf course. Staff recommended approval of the landmark request for the clubhouse and denial of the request for the golf club. The CRPC continued the item to ensure that Avondale obtained property owner authorization from members of the golf club and to bifurcate the application requests for the golf club and the clubhouse nominations. The applicant has provided a letter indicating they obtained authorization in accordance with the by-laws of the Avondale Golf Club to proceed with a nomination request for the Avondale Golf Club clubhouse structure only. The applicant has withdrawn their request to nominate the golf course.

The clubhouse is a modern-style, three-story, circular structure, which was originally designed by architect John Franklin Galbraith in 1969 and completed in March 1970. A landmark nomination and survey (survey), dated August 2024, was prepared to assess the eligibility for the site features as a local historic landmark.

The Cultural Resources Preservation Committee (CRPC) is asked to make a recommendation of approval to the City Council to formally designate the clubhouse as a local historic landmark.

Staff recommends the CRPC make findings that the clubhouse is eligible for historic designation under criteria D and F per Palm Desert Municipal Code (PDMC) Section 29.40.010 and make a recommendation of approval to the City Council.

BACKGROUND:

The Avondale Golf Club (Avondale) is a residential community located at the northeast corner of Country Club Drive and Eldorado Drive. The community is approximately 220 to 240 acres and is generally bound by Frank Sinatra Drive to the north, Eldorado Drive to the east, Country Club Drive to the south, and the Desert Falls Country Club residential community to the west. The existing golf course occupies approximately 124 acres of the community with the clubhouse located near the central area of the site. The golf course perimeter is lined with mature trees which adjoin existing single-family residential dwellings and private streets located within the community boundaries.

Originally known as "Del Safari Country Club", the development of the community initially began in 1969, approximately four (4) years before City of Palm Desert incorporation in 1973. The original developers were a business partnership of Burton "Burt" Graham, and George Glickley of Chicago, Illinois. They envisioned the development of a country club with eighteen holes and residential units along the fairways, similar to other country club developments in the Coachella Valley at the time. Development of the golf course and clubhouse was completed by early 1970 before any residential units were constructed. The developers originally envisioned up to 250 residential units would be constructed along the perimeter of the golf course however only a small segment of these units were completed. Due to financial issues, the development was repossessed by a bank and auctioned to William "Bill" Stephens, who, in 1986 renamed the club "Avondale Golf Club". In 1990 the club was sold to a consortium of its members.

Figure 1 – Views of the Clubhouse in early 1970 shortly after completion









ANALYSIS:

Pursuant to PDMC Title 29, Chapter 29.20, a "landmark" means any cultural resource representative of the historical, archaeological, cultural, architectural, community, aesthetic or artistic heritage of the City that is designated pursuant to this title or is a designated National Historical Landmark, California Historical Landmark or Riverside County Historical Landmark. A request for designation can be initiated by any person, organization, or entity; however, may only be acted upon with the written consent of the property owner. The property owner, Avondale Golf Club, and its president have submitted a written request for the landmark designation application.

A request for a cultural resource to be designated as a landmark by the City Council may be initiated upon completion of a survey and recommendation of the Committee. The Committee must determine that the structure retains integrity, meaning the structure contains most of the aspects that closely relate to the resource's significance, including location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Eligibility for designation is based on any of the following criteria established under PDMC Section 29.40.010:

- A. Is associated with an event or events that have made a significant contribution to broad patterns of history; or
- B. Is associated with the lives of persons significant in the past; or
- C. Embodies distinctive characteristics, or is one of the few remaining examples of a style, type, period or method of construction or possesses high artistic value; or
- D. Represents the work of a master builder, designer, or architect; or
- E. Is an archaeological, paleontological, botanical, geological, topographical, ecological, or geographical resource that has yielded or has the potential to yield important information in history or prehistory; or
- F. Reflects distinctive examples of community planning or significant development patterns, including those associated with different eras of settlement and growth, agriculture, or transportation. (Ord. 1168, 2008)

Clubhouse Analysis

The clubhouse is an eclectic modern style, three-story building which sits atop, and is partially set into the grade of an artificial hill near the central portion of the Avondale Community which is used as a dining room for the club with a bar, lounge and event space. The distinguishing characteristics of the building include its circular building footprint, and distinctive tiered roof structure which includes deep roof overhangs with exposed rafters, large windows, and large wraparound second-story balcony overlooking the golf course to the west. American architect, John Franklin Galbraith, designed the structure in 1969, and it was completed in March 1970. The eastern façade serves as its primary entrance to the building with a distinctive Porte cochere leading from Avondale Drive. The entry is at the top of the hill which leads into the second level of the structure. There is also a faux turret design element which once supported a decorative spire.

Along the north side of the building entrance, its circular shape becomes apparent as the form transitions to a large circular stucco wall with windows that project out from the face of the building. The entire western side of the building is completely circular in shape. The first floor of the structure is partially set into the grade of the hill, features a small patio addition on the north side, and is surrounded by paved areas used for golf cart parking. The second story of the western elevation features a balcony that wraps around the building to provide views over the golf course (see Figure 3 below). The southern elevation includes a portion of the wrap-around balcony and an enclosed service area to screen utilities for the building.

To the east of the clubhouse, there is a non-contributing accessory clubhouse building which is rectangular and constructed from fluted concrete masonry units with a simple shed roof featuring the red shingle roof used on the clubhouse building.



Figure 3 - Views of the Western Elevation in 1970 (above) and present day (below)



Clubhouse Alterations and Character Defining Elements

Several alterations to the clubhouse have occurred over the years including:

- Entry Way Modifications of the port cochere by removing a portion of the structure and overhang and lowering of the structure ceiling.
- Patio Structure Addition On the north side of the building a patio cover structure was added to create an extended patio overhang.
- Decorative Spires Originally, the primary roof and secondary turret featured decorative metal spires which were removed in the 1990s.
- Roof Structure Protruding Beams. The roof design was extended so the overhangs fully extend over the protruding beams.
- Roof Structure Material and Color The roof material was changed from an original white roofing material to a light red shingle roof. Additionally, the white color of the original structure was painted beige.

The character defining elements of the structure include:

General:

- Curved/circular footprint of the building
- Protruding beams and roof overhang
- Stucco cladding throughout
- CMU blocks on first level
- · Existing roofline and volume

Entryway/Eastern Façade:

- Sculptural, fluted entryway structure
- Two cutouts within porte cochere
- Placement of window on northern (tall) column of porte cochere
- Faux turret structure
- General volume and facade of northern wall of porte cochere
- Placement of five windows on curved wall (proceeding north) of two pairs of windows and one window in center
- Stucco lips encasing five windows

Western Façade

- Three-story configuration with wraparound balconies on the second and third floors
- Uninterrupted, sweeping curved facade
- Wooden beams and roof overhang
- Metal balcony railing on all balconies
- Placement of floor-to-ceiling windows
- Third-story bar room protruding from top of structure

Though alterations to the structure have occurred, the clubhouse retains most of its character defining elements and integrity to convey its cultural significance.

Architect - John Franklin Galbraith

The clubhouse architect, John Franklin Galbraith, AIA (1923-2012) was a prolific architect who was active in Southern California between 1949 and 1969. Galbraith's work is known for its distinctive mid-century modern styling which was applied to single-family homes, places of worship, and multi-family apartments. One of his more notable works is the Horizon Home (1964) in Laguna Niguel which features a circular footprint and roof shape (pictured below), a design element seen in the Del Safari Project. Del Safari is the only country-club-style project by Galbraith and is his last documented work as an architect.

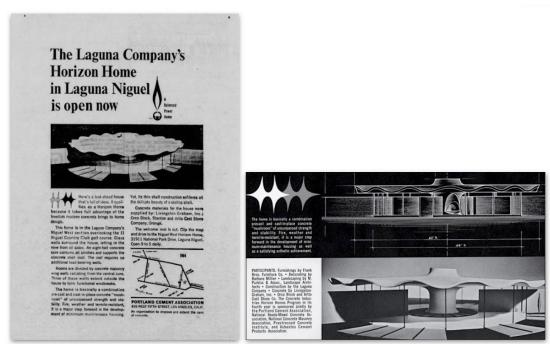


Figure 4 - Horizon Home (1964) designed by Galbraith

Figures 10 and 11. The Horizon Home as designed by Galbraith and engineered by George Bissell, completed in 1964 to much fanfare.

Significance - Clubhouse

Pursuant to the requirements of PDMC 29.40.010, the structure is eligible for designation based on the following criterion:

Criterion D - Represents the work of a master builder, designer or architect

The clubhouse is one of the final and more inventive works of John F. Galbraith A.I.A. (1923-2012), a modernist Pasadena architect who designed a wide variety of post-war modern buildings. His buildings were recognized, published, and epitomized larger trends in Modernism while rising above typical post-war Modernism. The Avondale clubhouse represents a later phase of his work which began to turn away from the rigidity of previous Modernism and embraced other styles and more sculptural qualities

Criterion F – Reflects distinctive examples of community planning or significant development patterns, including those associated with different eras of settlement and growth, agriculture, or transportation.

The Avondale clubhouse was built amidst a distinct era of country club development in the late 1960s and 70s along with projects such as Marrakesh, Mission Hills, and Ironwood. These developments featured golf courses surrounded by residences and centered around a clubhouse. In addition, this particular phase of golf course development was noted for its themed environments. The Avondale clubhouse epitomizes this trend of development between 1958 and 1977 with its architectural clubhouse.

Public Input

Pursuant to the requirements of PDMC Section 25.40.060, a ten-day (10) notice of this hearing was posted in The Desert Sun on September 13, 2024, and mailed to all property owners within a 300-foot radius of the subject properties. At the time of preparation of this report, no comments were received.

Environmental Review

Designation of the clubhouse as a local landmark is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15060(c)(2), the general exemption rule, of the CEQA Guidelines as the proposed project will not result in any foreseeable indirect change in the environment. The project is also exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3) as the activity is not considered a project as defined under Guidelines Section 15378 and has no potential for resulting in any indirect or direct physical changes to the environment.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There are no anticipated financial impacts by this action.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Avondale Golf Club Nomination (August 2024)
- 2. Property Owner Authorization
- 3. Avondale Golf Club Landmark Application
- 4. Minutes Cultural Resources Preservation Committee June 26, 2024
- 5. Public Hearing Notice



Landmark Nomination for the

Avondale Golf Club Clubhouse

(Formerly Del Safari Country Club)

Prepared for the City of Palm Desert Cultural Resources Committee

By Luke Leuschner V3: August 2024

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Property Description and Location

The Avondale Golf Club is a residential development with a golf course and clubhouse located at 75800 Avondale Drive, Palm Desert, CA. The property consists of parcels #626030043 (91 acres), #626030044 (18.7 acres), #626030028 (7.8 acres), and #626030033 (7 acres), totaling approximately 124.5 acres. The subject of this application, the clubhouse, sits of APN# 626030043, which also contains a large portion of the golf course. To the North, Avondale is bounded by Frank Sinatra Drive, to the East by Eldorado Drive, to the South by Country Club Drive, and to the West it shares a border with Desert Falls County Club.





The subject structure of this landmark nomination is the clubhouse, a three-story, circular structure entered from the eastern facade by a driveway and porte cochere. Its western facade is lined with a balcony and windows that lookout onto the expanse of golf course. It was designed in 1969 by modern architect John Franklin Galbraith A.I.A. (see Biography). To this day it used as the club dining room, bar, lounge, and space for club events. The three-story building is placed on an artificial hill intended to provide a view over the expansive golf course and surrounding desert.





The golf course is an eighteen-hole course lined with mature trees, winding golf cart pathways, and decorative lakes as designed by Jimmy Hines. It is viewable from the clubhouse but not the subject of this application.





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Architectural Description: Clubhouse

The Avondale [Del Safari] clubhouse sits atop an artificial hill with desert landscaping, accessible by a driveway that runs to the entrance/porte cochere of the building. From this side the circular shape of the building is not apparent:



The porte cochere on the primary facade consists of two sculptural volumes faced in stucco, between which is a roof entryway. Almost the entire building is covered in varying types of stucco. In the right (northern) volume is a window, and inside the entryway to the left (south) are two rectangular cutouts:



ALTERATION #1: ENTRYWAY

The porte cochere originally extended further outward and was lined on one wall with wrought-iron lights. At some point in the 1990s, this section was removed and it was simplified to the current design. The interior ceiling was also lowered for a sunken light element. This is the most significant alteration to these structure, although the sculptural qualities of the entryway are still preserved:





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On the southern wall of the entryway (with the cutouts), the roof is at a pitch and the walls are fluted, reinforcing the sculptural qualities and the fortress-like aesthetic. Attached to the front of the building is a faux turret structure which also contributes to the fortress nature:



Looking at the northern wall of the porte cochere from below, on the left, the volume is a solid stucco wall whose roof is angled at a slight V-shape. Three small windows are at the top of the volume. Again, the solidness of this volume reinforces the buildings more sculptural qualities.



At this point the circular quality of the building becomes apparent, and the facade is a smooth circular volume with five windows varying in sizes, each wrapped with a sculptural stucco lip. This work recalls the homogenized Late Modern design that the architect, John Galbraith, was working in, and which was popular in the late 1960s Coachella Valley. Set back from this circular facade are the upper portions of the structure, which are just simple straight walls. At this point the rear of the building, a massive wraparound balcony covered by a massive circular overhang, is apparent:





The entire rear (western) facade of the structure is also completely circular in shape. It is differentiated from the first portion of the circular structure (which is sculptural in shape) by a dramatic overhang roof which protrudes from the footprint of the building. On the ground floor on the northern portion of the rear is a patio area (added later) and on the ground floor on the southern portion is the golf cart shop, with a staircase leading to the second-story balcony. The second-story balcony protrudes and overhangs above the ground floor, and has a simple metal guardrail. The second-story balcony is continuous around the entire rear, except for a small storage room on the southern end:





ALTERATION #2: PATIO STRUCTURE

On the northern portion of the building, a small mansard roof was attached the side of the side of the building to create a patio. The windows were also pushed out at this point and a pergola was added over an extended patio. This is the other more significant alteration, although it follows the existing curve of the building and could be easily removed:





Much of the second story is wrapped in ceiling-height windows. The entire second-story wraparound balcony is shaded by the roof which dramatically overhangs, its beams protruding with the roof structure visible:

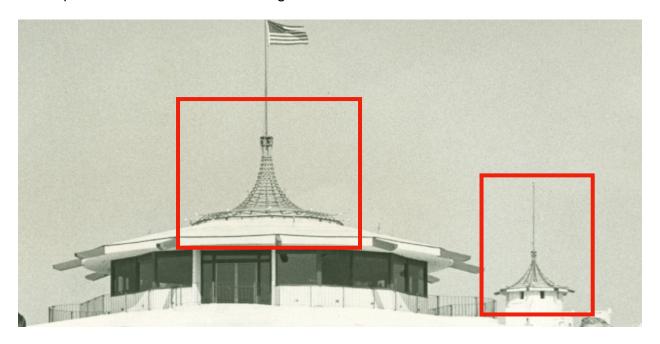




ALTERATION #3: DECORATIVE SPIRES

At the top of the main, third-story roof and the decorative turret adjacent to the entryway were two decorative spire structures original to the Galbraith-designed buildings. These appear to have been of metal construction and were likely removed during a renovation in the 1990s.

Both spire structures are now missing:





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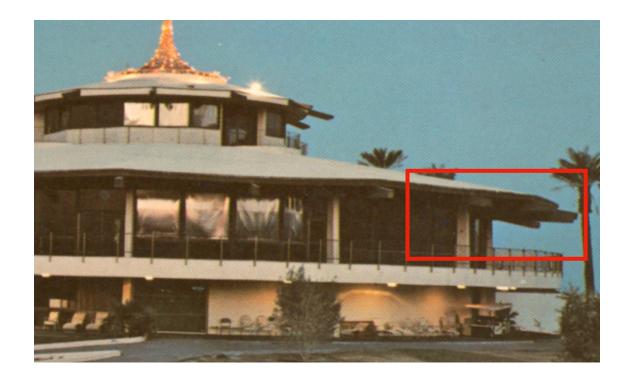




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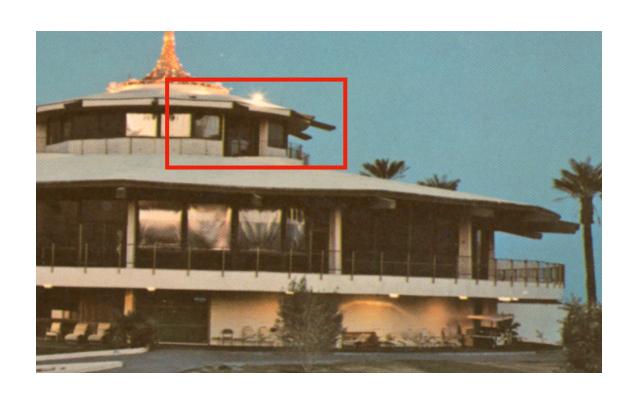
ALTERATION #4: PROTRUDING BEAMS

At some point, the roof footprint was extended to completely cover the beams that previously protruded:





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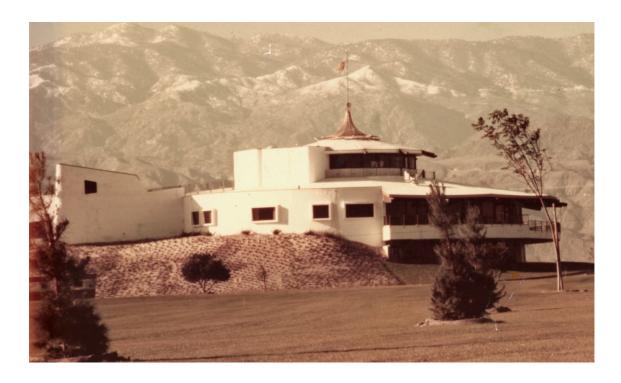
On the southern portion of the clubhouse, between the entryway and the start of the rear patio, is a large curved masonry wall covered in hedges, obscuring the building infrastructure and utility and storage areas:





ALTERATION #5: GENERAL / PAINT COLORS

Now beige, the original color of the structure was white with dark brown highlights. The original white roof roofing material has also been replaced with a light red shingle roof.





Although it is not immediately visible from the ground, the third-story section of the building is wrapped with a balcony that overlooks the golf course and Coachella Valley:



Adjacent to the clubhouse is an accessory building that is not a part of this landmark application (above). This building is covered in CMU block and has a simple shed roof design, and was built at a later date:



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CLUBHOUSE ALTERATIONS ANALYSIS

Although the Del Safari/Avondale clubhouse has undergone aforementioned alterations over its existence, the general idea of the Galbraith design has been preserved. It has retained its circular shape, three-story configuration with balconies covered by a protruding roof (supported by original wooden beams), sculptural qualities typical of 1960s/70s Late Modernism, and use as a clubhouse/center for the club it supports.

Galbraith's design consisted of two primary elevations of the building, the eastern portion, from which people entered the building, and the western half, which was wrapped with balconies and was intended to look onto the golf course view. The eastern half was highly sculptural and representative of Late Modern design trends in the southwest which hybridized with Pueblo and Spanish Revival. This design is still preserved and clear in the eastern half of the Avondale clubhouse. The entryway supports are fluted, with curved cutouts, and the stucco material helps to create a more sculptural effect. Proceeding to the rear of the building, the five windows that wrap around the building maintain their distinctive stucco lips, and the roof volumes above them are also irregular and sculptural. The primary alteration to this portion of the building was the shortening of the porte cochere, and while this may have reduced its presence as a design element, it did not deprive the building of its sculptural Late Modern qualities.

The other distinctive portion of the building, the rear (western) elevation, also remains true to Galbraith's design intent. The sweeping, three-story curve of the building is still in full effect and lined with two balconies. Dramatic beams support the protruding roof which shades the two balconies and floor-to-ceiling windows. At the top of the building, the circular bar third-story is preserved with its wrap-around balcony. The primary alteration to this portion of the building was the slight extension of the roofline to fully cover the protruding beams, and the appendage of a small bar patio roof structure to the second-story balcony facade. While the roof extension obscured a design element of the protruding beams, it did not alter the general expression of the dramatic circular roof, and the protruding beams are still existent and expressed clearly in the design. The patio roof structure, while preventing the curved facade from being fully clear, does follow the curve of the structure and does not interrupt the curve. Moreover, it was not a structural alteration and appears to be largely superficial, and could be easily removed in the future.

Other features to the building that have changed, like the white paint color and roofing material, could be easily addressed in future updates to the building, and do not affect the general intent of Galbraith's design.

CLUBHOUSE: FEATURES TO BE PRESERVED

>GENERAL

- Curved footprint of the building
- · Protruding beams and roof overhang
- Stucco cladding throughout
- CMU blocks on first level
- · Existing roofline and volume

>ENTRYWAY/EASTERN FACADE

- Sculptural, fluted entryway structure
- Two cutouts within porte cochere
- Placement of window on northern (tall) column of porte cochere
- Faux turret structure
- · General volume and facade of northern wall of porte cochere
- Placement of five windows on curved wall (proceeding north) of two pairs of windows and one window in center
- Stucco lips encasing five windows

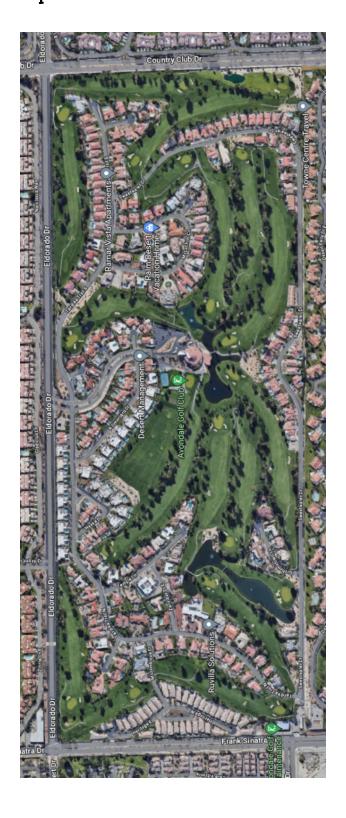
>WESTERN FACADE

- Three-story configuration with wraparound balconies on the second and third floors
- Uninterrupted, sweeping curved facade
- · Wooden beams and roof overhang
- Metal balcony railing on all balconies
- Placement of floor-to-ceiling windows
- Third-story bar room protruding from top of structure

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES

- Current (as of 2024) beige paint color
- Red tile roof
- Patio structure, pergola, and seating area appended to western facade
- Accessory building with shed roof

Architectural Description: Golf Course



Although not subject to this landmark nomination, the Avondale golf course is a typical 18-hole Coachella Valley golf course with pastoral, flowing hills planted with decorative trees of varying varieties (palm, pine, eucalyptus, etc) and decorated with seasonal flowers. Basic concrete sidewalks wind around the course which has a number of lakes original to the Jimmy Hines design. It is to be considered as part of the context of this report but not for landmark status.





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<u>Figure 1.</u> John F. Galbraith in his fighter plane during WW2. Image reproduced from Carl Molesworth, *Very Long Range P-51 Mustang Units of the Pacific War* (New York: Osprey, 2006), 35.

BIOGRAPHY: John Franklin Galbraith A.I.A.

Despite a successful career amid the flowering of mid-century modern design, little has been written about the life and work of John Franklin Galbraith (1923-2012).

Galbraith was born on February 11, 1923 in Washington, D.C. to Winston William Galbraith (1898-1978) and Lucille Crouch (1900-1988). He had one brother, Robert, born two years later. His father appears to have worked in the bureaucracy of the federal government, and by 1930 the family had relocated to Albuquerque where the elder Galbraith was an accountant for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). By 1940, the family had moved again, this time to California, where the family lived in Glendale and Winston continued to work for the BIA.

John Galbraith, who would have graduated high school shortly before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, was clearly bound for war service. In 1941, he entered the University of Maryland and was a student at their School of Engineering before he enlisted in the United States Army Air Forces in 1942.³ Galbraith became a fighter pilot (and later, flight leader) and was sent to the Pacific battlefront in 1944 where he flew P-51

¹ 1930 U.S. Federal census.

² 1940 U.S. Federal census.

³ It appears that Galbraith's family had also relocated to Silver Springs, Maryland this year, although they were in Los Angeles for the 1940 census. At this point the Air Force was still part of the Army, and wouldn't become a separate entity until 1947.

Mustangs (fig. 1). Only standing about 5'6" and weighing 120 pounds, Galbraith didn't exactly appear to be a formidable soldier, but he garnered a reputation for his service and bravery. In 1945, he was officially cited for his bravery when a group of Japanese soldiers attacked his squadron's camp just before dawn. Galbraith, who had woken up to "nearly a dozen" grenades exploding around his tent, quickly took the offense and successfully defended the camp. As was reported by various newspapers, he became a "ground fighter" that morning.⁴

After the war, Galbraith (who was officially discharged in 1947) enrolled in the University of Washington's architecture program from which he received his Bachelor's in Architecture in 1949.⁵ Architecture programs in the United States, and particularly along the West Coast, thrived in the post-war period. Emboldened by innovations in material science, the rapid course of Modernism, and a massive influx of Gls, architectural Modernism reached in zenith in those years. In particular, with its expanding economy, population, and penchant for design, California was most poised to reap the benefits.

In 1946, less than a year after the end of the war, Galbraith married Jeannette "Nettie" McKenzie (1922-1997). By 1950, Galbraith was living in Southern California with a degree in architecture, a wife, a newborn baby, and was employed as a draftsman at the firm of Harold J. Bissner.⁶ His time in the office of Bissner, a seasoned architect and Pasadena's foremost, was clearly a major influence in the architectural development of Galbraith. (It is unclear how he came into contact with Bissner, but it is possible that Bissner, a WW2 veteran himself, was impressed with Galbraith's service.)

Bissner, who was working in a modern vocabulary at this point in his career, designed a wide variety of (mostly residential) projects. In those years after the war, he was most prominent for designing dozens of apartment buildings along Colorado Blvd and Orange Grove Ave, many in a distinct Japanese-Modern style, but he also excelled at single-family residential architecture (figs. 2-3). His homes of the period were of utmost design, photographed by Julius Shulman, and frequently published in regional architecture journals. Anyone joining Bissner's firm at this time, Galbraith included, was clearly exposed to the development and veneration of California's distinctive post-war modern architecture.

Galbraith, who proceeded to become a full designer in Bissner's firm, left in 1952 and established his own practice. He remained in the San Gabriel Valley area of Los Angeles County where he would design the most structures in his career. Unsurprisingly, he

⁴ Carl Molesworth, *Very Long Range P-51 Mustang Units of the Pacific War* (New York: Osprey, 2006), 35

⁵ Los Angeles City Directory, 1962.

⁶ 1950 U.S. Federal census.

took up a modern style much in the mold of Bissner. His first documented project as an independent architect was the El Monte office and manufacturing plant for Swimquip Incorporated (1955), a simple industrial structure with a modernist office appended to its facade, which he then expanded in 1958.⁷ The office portion of the project was low-slung with a deep overhang, with a decorative cutout for palm trees. This project was completed as the same time as his Temple City Professional Pharmacy (1955), another modern office structure that was low-slung, had mitered windows, decorative stone walls, and a courtyard with a roof cutout.⁸





<u>Figures 2 and 3.</u> Harold Bissner's residence for himself, completed in 1951 during Galbraith's tenure. Custom, high-modern residences like this one were what Galbraith was exposed to at his time in the office. Photographs by Julius Shulman, © J. Paul Getty Trust. Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles (2004.R.10).

While his first documented projects may have been commercial, Galbraith's specialty and where he was able to showcase his talent, much like Bissner's, was in custom single-family homes. The first of these was his own family home in Pasadena (1954), followed by the William Gosline house (1955), Melvin P. Knoll house (1956), Rand Lewis house (1956), and Phil Sechler house (1958) (fig. 7). All of these homes epitomized post-war modernism, with roof structures that were either low-slung or post and beam, deep overhangs, decorative cutouts, walls of glass, inventive fireplaces (a Galbraith speciality), and the use of new and simple materials.

One of Galbraith's earliest homes, his residence for P. Melvin Knoll from 1956, is one of his most notable. Knoll was the pharmacist who commissioned Galbraith for the Temple

⁷ [Untitled article], *Los Angeles Times*, July 3, 1955; "El Monte Firm Buys Land for Expansion," *Los Angeles Times*, November 16, 1958.

^{8 [}Untitled article], Los Angeles Times, July 3, 1955.

City Professional Pharmacy of the prior year, and clearly maintained a working relationship and friendship with Galbraith. (He would also commission Galbraith for a second, larger house in 1963.) The Knoll house was a flat-roofed structure in the exclusive hills above Pasadena. Entering the house from a walkway with a series of planters and cutouts, the interior was a showcase of post-war design: walls with wood paneling, terrazzo and slate flooring, and built-in cabinetry. The living room contained a fireplace at the center of the room with a distinct sculptural hood, from which one could survey the backyard and view from a wall of glass. More than its design particularities, the house also represented the larger pretensions of California modernism. Viewed from the pool, the boundaries between the inside and outside were blurred in a procession of stark materials and clean edges.





<u>Figures 4 and 5.</u> Galbraith's first residence for P. Melvin Knoll, completed in 1956 in the hills overlooking Pasadena. Photos by Cameron Carothers for Deasy Penner Podley.

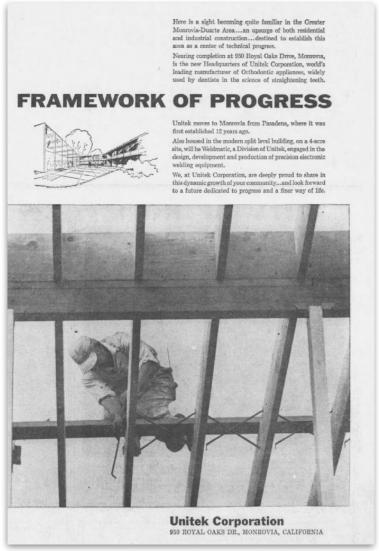
With communities in Los Angeles County rapidly expanding, Galbraith was among a legion of architects delivering good design to a number of clients. While his earliest years were filled with custom residential projects by the late 1950s he began to pick up more commercial and institutional projects. Galbraith was accepted into the American Institute of Architects in 1959 and had established the next phase of his firm, John F. Galbraith and Associates, sometime in the early 1960s.⁹

As early as 1956, not even a decade out of architecture school, Galbraith had been commissioned for the (unbuilt) Foothill Hospital in Monrovia. ¹⁰ In 1958, he designed the Temple City Christian Church, a chapel with an A-frame roof structure that he would

⁹ "John F. Galbraith," Pacific Coast Architecture Database, https://pcad.lib.washington.edu/person/4386/.

¹⁰ "New Foothill Hospital Plans Unique Features," Los Angeles Times, July 15, 1956.

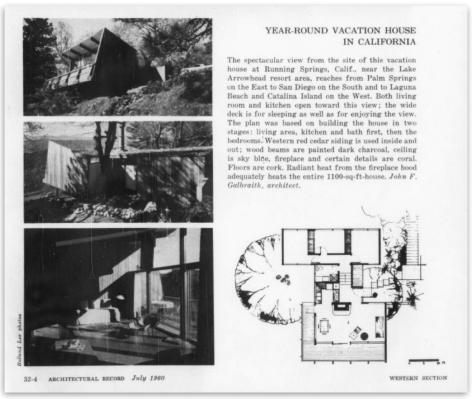
continually iterate in future church designs such as the South Pasadena Christian Church (1961), Lutheran Church of the Cross (1964), First Christian Church in Wilmington (1965), and the First Christian Church in Pasadena (1966) (fig. 14). The general idea of his documented religious buildings remained the same for his career, of an A-frame chapel with a decorative panel (sometimes of stained glass) at the end of the structure which diffused the interior light.



<u>Figure 6.</u> An advertisement touting Galbraith's design for the Unitek Corporation in Monrovia, a quintessentially modern structure of the post-war period. Reproduced from the *Daily News Post*, December 28, 1959.

Galbraith also continued designing corporate structures, typically combinations of manufacturing and office uses. The Unitek Corporation building in Monrovia, completed 1959, was a prime example of this area of his work. Unitek was a company that specialized in the manufacture and design of Orthodontic equipment before shifting to

"precision electronic welding equipment" in the growing military-industrial complex of post-war California. Galbraith's high-tech offices for the firm were designed in a "clean, uncluttered look that will remain in good taste for years to come" (fig. 6).¹¹ Galbraith was responsible for similar structures for the Fortifiber Corporation in Memphis, TN (1959), National Rain Bird in Azusa (1964), and two locations for the California Water and Telephone Company (1966).



<u>Figure 6.</u> Galbraith's modern design for a home overlooking the Antelope Valley. Reproduced from *Architectural Record*, July 1960.

Despite larger projects coming into his office at this time, Galbraith continued designing custom homes for which his prowess was frequently cited. From the 1950s until the mid-1960s, his homes were almost incessantly chosen as the "Home of the Week" in the Pasadena Independent Star-News (see next page). Indeed, one of Galbraith's residential clients at the time noted how in selecting an architect she and her husband "didn't know who we might want, so I went to the Pasadena A.I.A. office and they showed me their newspapers files on the homes... [a] lot of the things John Galbraith had done were something of what we had in mind." These homes included the David A. Thomas house (1960), C. A. Stanley house (1960), Robert Culp house (1960), Charles Snider house (1961), Leonard Weeks house (1961) (fig. 9), Bartley Cannell

¹¹ "Unitek Corp. Occupies New Monrovia Factory in February," *Daily News Post, December 28*, 1959.

¹² Margaret Stovall, "Home of the Week," *Independent Star-News*, March 18, 1962.

house (1962), W. W. Galbraith house (1962), and a second house for P. Melvin Knoll (1963), all in the San Gabriel Valley region. As before, these homes exhibited utmost modern design, with the exception of the Cannell house (1962) (fig. 8), which was designed in a modernized Hollywood Regency style. His ca. 1960 vacation home for an unknown client in Hidden Springs, CA, published in Architectural Record that year, was a hillside structure with two volumes that formed a butterfly roof which accentuated the site and looked upon the desert of the Antelope Valley (fig. 6).¹³













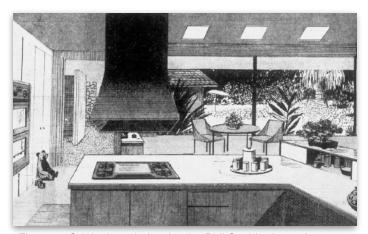








¹³ "Year-Round Vacation House in California," Architectural Record, July 1960.



<u>Figure 7.</u> Original rendering for the Phil Sechler house's kitchen. Reproduced from the *Daily News*, July 18, 1963.



 $\underline{\text{Figure 8.}} \text{ The Bartley Cannell residence in La Canada Flintridge,} \\ \text{completed in 1962. Photograph by Maynard Parker, courtesy of } \\ \text{Huntington Library digital collections.} \\ \text{.}$



<u>Figure 9.</u> The Leonard Weeks residence in Carmel, completed in 1961. Photograph by Maynard Parker, courtesy of Huntington Library digital collections.

Galbraith had worked with at least one tract developer as early as 1960, when he created three designs for Harmony Homes, a company which would build its homes on any lot provided by a client. Galbraith's designs for the Harmony Homes were rather basic and inexpensive houses in a Ranch style ubiquitous of low-cost tract housing, and it is unclear how many of them were built. It is surprising, then, that the arguably most inventive and distinctive design of Galbraith's career arose from another alliance with a tract house developer. Between the late-1940s and mid-1960s, numerous developers allied with talented architects to deliver showcase homes that touted new materials and design, often sponsored by building corporations. The prime example of this was the Case Study Houses, the series of thirty-six houses designed by leading modernists for Arts & Architecture magazine between 1945 and 1966. Despite the high design and incredible visitation of the Case Study Houses, their modernist vocabulary never quite caught on to the developers of California's endless subdivisions, and low-cost homes like the Harmony Homes proliferated.

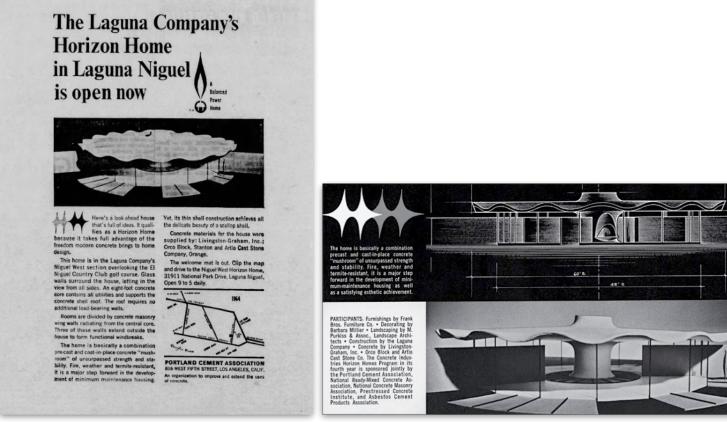
A less frequently cited example of this was the Horizon Homes Program as sponsored by the concrete industry. In the first two years of its existence in the early 1960s, a reported 200,000 people visited its eleven model homes in Southern California, and many more were reported to have visited other Horizon Homes across the natoin.¹⁵ In 1963, Galbraith was selected to design one of the Horizon Homes for the Laguna Niguel Corporation, which was was using the program to showcase a subdivision of homes designed by George Bissell.¹⁶ The house, which sat on a prominent site overlooking the beach, was a completely circular home with a wavy, cantilevered precast concrete roof structure, supported only by a central core (figs. 10-11). Except for a few partitions, the edge of the circular was completely wrapped in glass and covered by the floating roof, sixty feet in diameter. The central core doubled as a chimney with a sculptural fireplace hood reminiscent of earlier Galbraith works, around which the living space was peppered with furniture by the likes of Harry Bertoia, Eero Saarinen, and the Eames. The home was the showpiece of the 1964 Horizon Homes Program, sponsored jointly by a number of concrete companies, and included all the latest innovations in building materials and science. In the first three weeks of the annual program, more than 5,000 people visited Galbraith's design.¹⁷

¹⁴ "Seven Different Models Spring from Three Basic Plans, American Builder, September 1960, 156-157.

¹⁵ "Site Chosen for Concrete Home," Los Angeles Times, June 30, 1963.

¹⁶ Ibid; Larry Washburn, "New Home on Horizon," *Independent Star-News*, June 30, 1963. While George Bissell was involved in the engineering and construction of the home, he is frequently and erroneously cited as the architect of the home, and Bissell himself has reiterated that Galbraith was responsible for the design. See Dave Weinstein, "Little Gem with History," *Eichler Network*, n.d., https://www.eichlernetwork.com/article/little-gem-history?page=0,5.

¹⁷ "Horizon Homes Proves Big Attraction," *Anaheim Bulletin*, May 16, 1964.



Figures 10 and 11. The Horizon Home as designed by Galbraith and engineered by George Bissell, completed in 1964 to much fanfare.

Likely through connections and his reputation made through his church designs, Galbraith also became increasingly involved in the design of buildings for religious colleges throughout Southern California, particularly Biola University, Chapman University, and Loyola Marymount University. His first documented project of this type was Morlan Hall, a dormitory at Chapman University completed in 1963.¹8 Morlan Hall, expanded in a second phase in 1965, was a two- and three-story structure of simple pink-hued brick with long horizontal corridors that centered around a communal courtyard. Galbraith followed this design with the Alpha Hall (1965) and the Men's Residence Hall (1966) at Biola University, which although designed in his ubiquitous modern style, did not have design language as robust as Morlan Hall.

Galbraith designed at least two non-residential structures for universities during this period, including the Student Union at Biola University (1966) and the Leavey Faculty Center (1968) on the Loyola Marymount University campus. The former, a low-slung brick structure, was contemporary with Galbraith's other simple modern work for the campus. His Leavey Faculty Center, however, exhibited a new direction in his work that was consistent with larger shifts in Southern Californian architecture. By the late 1960s, the formal modernism of the post-war period was developing into the Late

¹⁸ "New Quarters Soon Ready at Chapman," *Anaheim Gazette*, July 25, 1963.

Modern style which was not as rational and was more willing to embrace irregular forms. In California, this Late Modern style also took on a more organic ethos, with the use of more regional materials for exterior cladding. Such was the case with Galbraith's Leavey Faculty Center, which lacked the sharp edges of his Unitek Corporation building (1959) and was instead designed to evoke a more Southwestern palette, with stuccoclad volumes, sculptural window openings, and decorative copper elements. Despite its ubiquity in Southern California, it is difficult to label the style of projects like the Leavey Faculty Center, which was a hybridization of Late Modern with Southwestern styles such as Spanish and Pueblo Revival. Galbraith had shown his progression towards this style with his First Christian Church in Pasadena, completed in 1966, which was another iteration of his typical A-frame church. In this design, however, the exterior walls of the structure were sculptural and stucco-clad, and the roof was covered in brown shingles — again, a vague and increasingly Late Modern hybridization with California's more historicist styles.





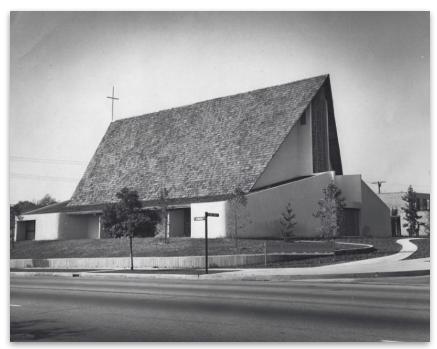
<u>Figures 12 and 13.</u> The Morlan Hall at Chapman University (left) and the Leavey Faculty Center at Loyola Marymount University, two examples of Galbraith's educational work, with the latter exhibiting his changing design. Images provided courtesy of their respective institutions.

One of Galbraith's last documented commissions, and the subject of this report, was his 1969 design for the Del Safari Country Club. Although the Palm Springs architect William Cody was the initial architect for the development and designed a rough scheme, Galbraith replaced him and was responsible for the design of all of Del Safari's buildings, including the clubhouse, gate house, and an initial phase of condominiums. It was the first documented country club-type project that Galbraith had worked on. The development, capitalizing on its desert locale and following the precedent of other

^{19 &}quot;Church Plans Ceremony for Building," Independent Star-News, November 6, 1966.

themed developments, was designed to embody an African motif. While Galbraith's gatehouse was a simple stucco structure with a red-tile roof and his condominium plans appear to have been abandoned, his clubhouse for the development was singular: a massive circular clubhouse set atop an artificial hill overlooking the expanse of desert and golf course. More than any of his other designs, it was a hybridization of many styles, but the three-story clubhouse was primarily intended to evoke a fortress-type structure.

As a whole, the circular building was divided into two parts: a sculptural entryway (eastern facade) and the dramatic three-story facade looking out onto the golf course (western facade). On the entrance side of the building (eastern facade) the building was highly sculptural, with irregular curved volumes surrounding the covered entryway. Moving north along the curve of the building, windows were framed with sculptural elements protruding from the smooth stucco wall. Opposite the entrance side of the building (western facade) was the main portion of the building, a circular three-story facade with a wraparound balcony on the second and third stories. The roofs on the second and third stories had an overhang (complete with protruding beams) to shade the patios below. Design motifs meant to evoke a fortress were added throughout, including a turret above the entryway and decorative metal detailing. The entire structure was topped with a spire meant to evoke a wooden structure, and a small version was also placed on top of the turret.



<u>Figure 14.</u> The First Christian Church in Pasadena, designed in 1966 by Galbraith, showing his shift towards the Late Modern hybrid. Photo from Irenic Projects.

The clubhouse, which was completed in the early winter of 1970, is Galbraith's last documented project as an architect. Although it departed from his earlier, formally modern designs, various components of the Del Safari clubhouse can be found in his previous works. The idea of a circular structure supported by a central column can first be found in his Horizon Home (1963), and the sculptural qualities of the building were first explored in micro for the fireplaces of the Knoll house (1956) and Horizon House (1963), and then dramatically expanded in his work on the First Christian Church in Pasadena (1966) (fig. 14) and Leavey Faculty Center (1968). Even the central spiral staircase which leads to the third story of the Del Safari clubhouse also bears a striking resemblance to that of the First Christian Church.

Beyond his Del Safari project, which was clearly one of the largest of his career, little is known and documented about Galbraith. Mentions of his projects all but disappeared from the papers that used to celebrate his work, and after Del Safari he either entered a state of retirement or at least took on less publicized projects. His A.I.A. membership had lapsed in 1965 and he did not renew it. Galbraith died in 2012. He had no known archive nor have there been any studies of his work. This partial catalog of his work has been constructed through research, though it is certainly an incomplete picture of this California modernist:

>1954

John and Nettie Galbraith House Demolished 1262 Hartwood Point Drive, Pasadena, CA

>1955

Temple City Professional Pharmacy Standing 9676 E Las Tunas Rd, Temple City, CA

Swimquip Inc Building Standing (partially demolished) 3301 Gilman Rd, El Monte, CA Expanded in 1958

William J. Gosline House Demolished 1600 Highland Oaks Dr, Arcadia, CA

<u>>1956</u>

Foothill Hospital Unbuilt

Monrovia, CA

Rand Lewis House Standing 3170 Mesaloa Ln, Pasadena, CA

P. Melvin Knoll House #1 Standing 2105 Villa Heights Rd, Pasadena, CA

>1957

Unknown Home 3605 Canon Blvd, Altadena, CA

<u>>1958</u>

Temple City Christian Church Standing 9723 Garibaldi Ave, Temple City, CA

Phil Sechler House Standing 2804 E California Blvd

>1959

Unitek Corporation Demolished 950 Royal Oaks Dr, Monrovia, CA

Fortifiber Company Undetermined Memphis, TN

Paul A. Cox House Standing 534 Arroyo Dr, South Pasadena, CA

<u>>1960</u>

Harmony Homes Undetermined San Bernardino, CA

David A. Thomas House Standing

2045 Elkins Pl, Arcadia, CA

Unknown House Standing 2375 Vosburg St, Pasadena, CA

C. A. Stanley House Undetermined Pasadena, CA

Robert and Mary Culp House Undetermined La Canada, CA

Unknown House Undetermined Antelope Valley, CA

<u>>1961</u>

Charles Snider House Standing 2116 Canyon Rd, Arcadia, CA

South Pasadena Christian Church Standing 1316 Lyndon St, South Pasadena, CA

Leonard Weeks House Undetermined Carmel, CA

>1962

W. W. Galbraith House Standing 463 N Canyon Blvd, Monrovia, CA

Samuel Bartley Cannell House Standing (altered) 567 Meadow Grove St, La Canada Flintridge, CA

>1963

Morlan Residence Hall at Chapman University Standing

575 N Center St, Orange, CA

P. Melvin Knoll House (2) Standing 2147 Villa Heights Rd, Pasadena, CA

<u>>1964</u>

Lutheran Church of the Cross Standing 66 W Duarte Rd, Arcadia, CA

National Rain Bird Co Undetermined N Grand Ave, Glendora, CA

>1965

Alpha Hall at Biola University Standing Biola University Campus

First Christian Church Standing 444 E Lomita Blvd, Wilmington, CA

>1966

Men's Residence Hall at Biola University Undetermined

California Water and Telephone Company, Pacoima Undetermined 13461 Van Nuys Blvd, Pacoima, CA

California Water and Telephone Company, Sepulveda Undetermined Near Sepulveda and Nordhoff

Student Union at Biola University Standing Biola University Campus

First Christian Church Standing 789 N Altadena Dr, Pasadena, CA

>1967

Unknown House [needs further confirmation] 1275 Old Mill Rd, San Marino, CA

>1968

Leavey Faculty Center, Loyola Marymount College Standing [Now Collins Faculty and Alumni Center]

Rosedale Plaza Shopping Center Demolished Huntington Dr at Alta Vista Ave, Monrovia, CA

1975

Unknown House Standing 1901 Gibraltar Rd, Santa Barbara, CA [Noted in real estate listing, needs further confirmation]

<u>UNKNOWN</u>

Richard Woodard House La Canada Flintridge, CA



<u>Figure 15.</u> Bud McLachlan, Burt Graham, and George Glickley place the flag for the ninth hole on the sand dune that would become Del Safari, in June of 1970. Photo: Historical Society of Palm Desert.

HISTORY: Del Safari Country Club

In the beginning of 1969, George Glickley (1919-2012) and Burton "Burt" Graham (1911-1998) set about materializing a lush dream of leisure and exclusivity from 240 acres of sandy desert. The land was located in the northern stretches of Palm Desert (still a few years away from incorporation) and had never been previously developed. They purchased the land from Sophia Maloof, a long-time resident and businesswoman of Palm Springs who had owned the land for some time. ²⁰ Maloof (or a predecessor) had picked up the land from Southern Pacific Railroad, the railroad ever eager to liquidate their desert land in the Coachella Valley in the years before country clubs were even thinkable. ²¹

Glickley and Graham, both of whom had made a fortune in the steel business in Chicago, had been had been lifelong friends, business partners, and seasonal residents

²⁰ "Luxurious Golf Club Due Soon," Desert Sun, March 4, 1969.

²¹ Historic land patents show that this section of land had been given by the government to the Southern Pacific Railroad as part of the company's deal with the government.

of the Coachella Valley. Since the late 1940s, they were both co-owners of the Modern Steel Heat Treating Company and, in shortly after the club's opening in 1959, had purchased neighboring homes in the Bermuda Dunes Country Club.²² The Coachella Valley's newfound fame in the post-war decades had propelled so many like them — successful businessmen seeking a winter retreat — to buy into new country clubs with their swank golf courses, condominiums, and clubhouses. Glickley and Graham quickly settled into this crowd, and newspaper clippings from the 1960s are rife with mentions of their golf scores, communal dinners at the clubhouse, and other pursuits of the good life.



<u>Figure 16.</u> George Glickley and Burt Graham at their joint operation, the Bermuda Dunes Airport. Reproduced from the *Desert Sun*, May 31, 1963.

Only a few years after buying their homes in the Bermuda Dunes Country Club, and likely witnessing the fortunes being made from desert expanses, Glickley and Graham began to turn their attention towards real estate. Between 1962 and 1963, Glickley and Graham partnered with the owners of BDCC, Ryan Ryan and Ernie Dunlevie, to develop the Bermuda Dunes Airport, a private airport adjacent to the club and intended

²² [Untitled article], *Desert Sun*, November 16, 1962.

for the use of homeowners like themselves (fig. 16).²³ Shortly thereafter, in 1965, they were instrumental in negotiating the purchase of the Bermuda Dunes Country Club from Ryan and Dunlevie by a consortium of club members.²⁴ Glickley became the club's new president for the following two years, and the development ambitions of him and his closest friend, Graham, were clearly growing.

As legend has it, Glickley once "had to wait an hour or so for a tee time" at BDCC, and while using the time to get a haircut, had learned of a bare patch of land for sale from the manicurist at the barber shop. And so, the idea of his own country club was born. The reality, however, is that Glickley and Graham had been scheming such a plan for many years. They were both clearly interested in development in the Coachella Valley, were familiar by then with development patterns, and had experience in managing and financing a golf course operation through their tenure at BDCC. In the announcement for the future club, it was noted that it was "five years in the mind" of Glickley and Graham, and the land was nearby to the BDCC.

Glickley and Graham's interest in developing a country club also fit a larger trend of development that was happening in the Coachella Valley in the late 1960s and early 1970s. While golf had a presence in the Coachella Valley since the 1920s with the opening of a course at Palm Springs' El Mirador Hotel followed by the O'Donnell Golf Club, it had taken on a new potency and desirability in the years after World War II. Prior to the war, courses were typically smaller, standalone operations with no residential component.²⁷ This was revolutionized, however, in 1951 with the opening of Thunderbird Country Club as developed by Johnny Dawson. With eighteen holes, not only was it the first full sized course in the Coachella Valley, but it combined the popular amenity of golf with a residential component. Modern and expensive homes faced the golf course, and residents, which grew more prominent by the year, had the privilege of frequenting a clubhouse. For the first time, all of the popular and sellable amenities in the Coachella Valley — clubs, sports, seasonal homes, and architecture were combined into a single development.²⁸ Thunderbird was a highly successful venture and catalyzed the development of dozens of golf courses in the following years.

Capitalizing on this new model and supplied with thousands of acres of desert land, developers set about remaking the Coachella Valley. The first distinct wave of

²³ [Untitled article], Los Angeles Times, April 14, 1963.

²⁴ "Members Own Bermuda Dunes," Desert Sun, January 31, 1966.

²⁵ Avondale Golf Club, "Our 50th Anniversary," https://www.avondalegolfclub.com/legacy.

²⁶ "Luxurious Golf Club Due Soon," Desert Sun, March 4, 1969.

²⁷ Tracy Conrad, "Golden Days of Desert Golf," Desert Magazine, April 2012.

²⁸ Melissa Riche, "Thoroughly Modern Cody," *Palm Springs Life,* February 10, 2020, https://www.palmspringslife.com/thunderbird-country-club-rancho-mirage/.

development occurred from the mid-1950s to the early-1960s, and included such developments as the Tamarisk Country Club (1952), Eldorado Country Club (1956), Indian Wells Country Club (1957), Shadow Mountain Golf Club (1958) Bermuda Dunes Country Club (1959), La Quinta Country Club (1959), Palm City [Palm Desert Country Club] (1961), and Seven Lakes Country Club (1964). These developments all repeated the Thunderbird model of a full-sized golf course lined with residences, centered around a clubhouse, and populated/maintained by an exclusive club organization.²⁹ Moreover, while they capitalized on the celebrity and popularity of Palm Springs, they were all concentrated in the less developed, eastern portions of the Coachella Valley.

In this first wave of country club, architecture became a key component. Clubhouses were designed by modernist architects such as William Cody, Donald Wexler, and Richard Harrison, and the estate-sized homes were similarly well-designed. These clubs embraced a more refined, simpler vision of architectural modernity: clean edges and glass walls that faced artificially green expanses and looming mountains. Increasingly, however, country clubs began to develop condominiums as a more affordable alternative to custom-built estate lots. Shadow Mountain Golf Club and Bermuda Dunes Country Club, for instance, were each built with condominiums facing their course, with both developments hiring the modernist architect Richard Harrison.

Central to the growing world of golf in the Coachella Valley was James "Jimmy" Hines (1903-1986), a professional golfer turned course designer and developer.³⁰ Hines began his golf career in the 1920s and 1930s as a golf course assistant and professional in the East Coast. He played in the leading national tournaments through the 1930s, was the two-time winner of the Los Angeles open, and was even selected for the 1939 Ryder Cup team.³¹ When Thunderbird Country Club opened in 1951, Hines was brought on by developer Dawson to be the course's golf pro.³² Dawson, continuing his success with Thunderbird, developed a series of courses in the decades following and frequently partnered with Hines. Beyond Thunderbird, the two worked together on the Pauma Valley Country Club (1958) in Escondido and Eldorado Country Club in Indian Wells (1958). Hines also began developing courses on his own, and was a leader in the consortiums that produced the Royal Lahaina Golf Club (1961) in Maui an the Desert Air Club (1968) in Rancho Mirage. Dawson and Hines' developments were at the forefront of larger trends in golf courses happening in Southern California and beyond.

²⁹ Renee Brown, "How the Coachella Valley Became a Golfer's Paradise," *Desert Sun, June 8*, 2017, https://www.desertsun.com/story/life/2017/06/08/how-coachella-valley-became-golfers-paradise/380877001/.

³⁰ Obituary for James Hines, Los Angeles Times, May 14, 1986.

³¹ Ihid

³² "New Thunderbird Golf Course Open Thursday For Play by Members," *Palm Springs News*, January 23, 1951.

Golf course development, along with development in general in the Coachella Valley, dampened in the mid-1960s. One exception was Dawson's Seven Lakes Country Club in Palm Springs, which opened in 1964, but otherwise the initial boom cooled off. As the 1970s approached, the architecture and development patterns of the Coachella Valley were also shifting from the refined modernism of the post-war years to a swankier, more fantastical aesthetic typical of the work of Arthur Elrod. The sleekness of the 1950s was being replaced by architecture that was more historicist and "exotic," layered with shag rug excesses while still pandering to long-established patterns of leisure and exclusivity.

Another distinct period of golf course development began in the late 1960s and continued into the early 1970s. As before, these followed the country club model with facilities for golf (as well as tennis and other elite sports), a clubhouse, and residences. The condominium — the novelty of which had worn down in the 1960s — became the staple of many of these new country clubs. Dawson began developing the Marrakesh Country Club (1969) in Palm Desert while Hines was working on his Desert Air Club in Rancho Mirage (1968). Other developers were working on Eldorado West (1969), Mission Hills, (1969), Lago La Quinta (1969), La Cortina Country Club (1969, ultimately unbuilt), and Ironwood Country Club (1974).³³

It was in the midst of this resurgence in golf course development that Glickley and Graham acquired their land and set about developing a country club of their own. In March of 1969, the project was officially announced as The Safari Country Club and was intended to be a country club with an eighteen-hole golf course, clubhouse, and condominiums. To design the clubhouse they had initially brought on the famed Palm Springs modernist William Cody, who was known for country club work. He had designed the Eldorado clubhouse and updated the Thunderbird clubhouse for its grand 1951 reopening, in addition to dozens of custom-built estate homes in country clubs across the Coachella Valley. To design the complementary golf course, Glickley and Graham enlisted none other than Hines, who was noted as the "top golf course layout expert" in the announcement.³⁴ While Hines was responsible for the design of the course, he was assisted by engineer J. D. Kilpatrick and builder Cal Hardin in its execution.³⁵

In the spring of 1969, Graham and Glickley worked out details and plans for their project. They formed the M.G.G. Corporation to finance the project, bringing other investors into the endeavor: Daniel "Bud" McLachlan, George Harmon, and, later, Earl

³³ John Beath, "\$200 Million Tempo in Upper Valley Growth," Desert Sun, December 29, 1969.

³⁴ "Luxurious Golf Club Due Soon," Desert Sun, March 4, 1969.

³⁵ "Del Safari Golf Course Attracts North, South," special Del Safari edition of the *Desert Sun*, February 9, 1974; "New Major Golf Project Planned," *Palm Desert Post*, May 29, 1969.

Temple.³⁶ ("M.G.G." was an acronym of the names of McLachlan, Graham, Glickley.) In addition, the concept of the club was worked out, which was renamed to be the Del Safari Country Club. William Cody, who had developed an initial scheme, was replaced for unknown reasons with another talented modern architect, John F. Galbraith, and the initial construction permits were filed.³⁷



<u>Figure 17.</u> Marrakesh Country Club which began construction in 1968 as designed by John Elgin Woolf. Marrakesh, with its hybrid Hollywood Regency and African motifs, also embodied the second wave of more "exotic" country club developments. Photo: Desert Beautiful Slide Collection, Historical Society of Palm Desert.

What differentiated the Del Safari concept and this new phase of golf course development from its predecessors was its emphasis on themed environments. While the country clubs of the 1950s and early 1960s were simpler, refined manifestations of modernism, the developments of the late 1960s and early 1970s were frequently intended to be exciting and "exotic." Such was the case for the Del Safari, which was to be built in a homogenized "African motif." The clubhouse and condominiums were intended to evoke a modernistic African fortress, streets were named after places in Africa (e.g. "Tandika Trail," "Kilimanjaro Drive," "Sweetwater Drive," and "Monzambique

³⁶ "Rapid Pace of Construction in PD Hastens Del Safari Development Project," *Palm Desert Post,* October 2, 1969.

³⁷ Riverside County Building Permit #BZ169556, May 8, 1969.

³⁸ Ibid.

Drive"), and the main decorative lake abutting the golf course was named "Lake Victoria" for the African namesake. Even the main guardhouse, complementing the seven-foot barbed wire fence that wrapped the development, had a gate adorned with spear motifs (fig. 18). Marrakesh Country Club (fig. 17), which was kicked off in Palm Desert shortly before Del Safari, was conceptualized to mimic a Moroccan aesthetic, which the architect John Elgin Woolf creatively hybridized with the Hollywood Regency style. Similarly, La Cortina, announced shortly after the Del Safari, was intended to have an "early Californian" Spanish atmosphere.



Figure 18. The original guardhouse with its decorative spear-capped gates. Photo: Historical Society of Palm Desert.

The M.G.G. Corporation received their first permit in May of 1969 to construct a well and pump to supply water to their development while plans were worked out for the clubhouse. Shortly thereafter, in July of that year, they received the permits to begin construction on the clubhouse and golf course. The clubhouse, valued at \$300,000 (though the final figure was likely higher), was built by Aljac Construction Company.³⁹ Construction began on the clubhouse in September of 1969 after site preparations, and by December of 1969 its decorative spire was being lowered into place. The golf course, a sweeping and expansive eighteen-hole course lined with trees and two lakes as designed by Hines, was completed just as construction was picking up on the clubhouse in the fall of 1969. The pace of construction moved at a surprisingly fast

³⁹ Riverside County Building Permit #BZ171323, July 15, 1969.

rate. The golf course was opened for play in January of 1970, and the clubhouse was completed in March, not even a year after Glickley and Graham closed escrow on the land, and less than six months since construction commenced.⁴⁰









<u>Figure 19-22.</u> The clubhouse and surrounding golf course shortly after their completion in early 1970. The clubhouse, designed to mimic an African fortress, was elevated and stood out starkly against the barren desert. Photos: Historical Society of Palm Desert.

⁴⁰ "New Golf Club Open," *Desert Sun, March* 4, 1969; Riverside County Building Permit #BZ171323, July 15, 1969.

Once completed, the clubhouse epitomized the swanky excesses of the 1960s. It was a themed environment with a hybridized modern/African building, from which one could look out onto the golf course and desert expanse from either the club's grand dining room or rooftop bar.⁴¹ As the sales director said at the time, "what we have done is to bring forth a total environment of living."⁴² The new golf course, which one columnist hailed as "beautiful... particularly the back nine which has some demanding holes," was supported by the new golf pro, Fred Scherzer.⁴³









<u>Figure 23-26.</u> The golf shortly after its completion in early 1970 as designed by Jimmy Hines, showing Lake Zanzibar and its expansive, pastoral nature. Photos: Historical Society of Palm Desert.

⁴¹ The rooftop cocktail bar went by a variety of names. At varying points it was referred to as the "Crow's Nest," "Top of the Mark," and "Zanzibar Room."

⁴² "Del Safari Fits Tone of Desert," Desert Sun, December 17, 1971.

⁴³ "Ed Vines at Del Safari as Director of Sales," *Desert Sun*, September 21, 1970; "Braven Dyer," *Desert Sun*, January 30, 1970.

While the construction of the golf course and clubhouse sped along, the residential component proceeded at a languid pace. The golf course and clubhouse were completed before a single house was built. It was the initial plan to develop some 250 condominium units, also designed by Galbraith, but these plans fell through.⁴⁴ In the fall of 1970, work started on twenty-one townhouses.⁴⁵ By the end of 1971, only six "executive homes" were completed and half of the townhouses were ready for occupancy (fig. 27). Then, in 1972, Graham and Glickley announced another \$2,000,000 round of residential development for some forty units that were completed at the end of the year.⁴⁶



<u>Figure 27.</u> The townhouse units built in 1971, which were only a few of the original quantity intended. It is unclear if these were also designed by Galbraith. Photo: Historical Society of Palm Desert.

The new construction campaign, however, was not enough to make the project pencil out, and by the mid-1970s the project was plagued with financial issues. In the mid-1970s, a bank took possession of the development and it was then auctioned to Williams "Bill" Stephens in 1979. In 1986, Stephens renamed the club "Avondale Golf Club" to "reflect his British heritage," before it was sold to a consortium of its members in 1990.⁴⁷

⁴⁴ "New Major Golf Project Planned," Palm Desert Post, May 29, 1969.

⁴⁵ "Ed Vines," Desert Sun, 1971.

⁴⁶ "Club Plans \$2 Million Expansion," *Los Angeles Times*, July 9, 1972; "Del Safari Club Into 3rd Successful Season," *Desert Sun*, December 15, 1972.

⁴⁷ Avondale Golf Club, "Our 50th Anniversary," https://www.avondalegolfclub.com/legacy.

Apart from its financial distress in the mid-1970s, members made ample use of its clubhouse, course, and facilities. The Club golf tournaments, was eventually built out with residences, and its clubhouse held all the social events expected of such a clubhouse. The Avondale Golf Club is a surviving example of a distinct era in the late-1960s Coachella Valley, in which architecture, themed environments, and money combined to form clubs like itself.



<u>Figure 28.</u> The Galbraith-designed clubhouse in the mid-1970s, a few years into its existence. Photo: Historical Society of Palm Desert.

Statement of Significance

<u>Criterion A: Is associated with an event or events that have made a significant contribution to broad patterns of history.</u>

Clubhouse: The clubhouse is not associated with a specific event or events related to Palm Desert's history. It entertained the expected parties and events of a clubhouse but nothing that rose to a level of notability. Therefore the clubhouse does not appear eligible under this category.

Criterion B: Is associated with the lives of persons significant in the past.

Clubhouse: The clubhouse is not associated with any particularly significant person. While its developers, Glickley and Graham, were prominent businessmen, they were among many of their kind in the Coachella Valley. Therefore the clubhouse does not appear eligible under this category.

<u>Criterion C: Embodies distinctive characteristics, or is one of the few remaining examples of a style, type, period or method of construction or possesses high artistic value.</u>

Clubhouse: While the clubhouse is the work of a master architect, its style is a hybrid of many (Late Modern, Neo-African, Southwestern, etc.) and cannot be attached to a single given style. Therefore it is not exemplar of a particular style because it does not have one. Therefore the clubhouse does not appear eligible under this category.

Criterion D: Represents the work of a master builder, designer or architect

Clubhouse: The clubhouse is one of the final and more inventive works of John F. Galbraith A.I.A. (1923-2012), a modernist Pasadena architect who designed a wide variety of post-war modern buildings. His buildings were recognized, published, and epitomized larger trends in Modernism while rising above typical post-war Modernism. The Avondale clubhouse represents a later phase of his work which began to turn away from the rigidity of previous Modernism and embraced other styles and more sculptural qualities. Therefore the Avondale clubhouse appears eligible under this category.

Criterion E: Is an archaeological, paleontological, botanical, geological, topographical, ecological, or geographical resource that has yielded or has the potential to yield important information in history or prehistory.

Clubhouse: A review of pre-history was not undertaken as part of this report. Therefore the clubhouse does not appear eligible under this category.

<u>Criterion F: Reflects distinctive examples of community planning or significant</u> development patterns, including those associated with different eras of settlement and growth, agriculture, or transportation.

Clubhouse: The Avondale clubhouse was built amidst a distinct era of country club development in the late 1960s and 70s along with projects such as Marrakesh, Mission Hills, and Ironwood. These developments featured golf courses surrounded by residences and centered around a clubhouse. In addition, this particular phase of golf course development was noted for its themed environments. The Avondale clubhouse epitomizes this trend of development with its architectural clubhouse. Therefore the clubhouse appears eligible under this category.

In conclusion, the Avondale clubhouse appears eligible for landmark status under criterion D and F.

Appendix A Historic Construction Photographs (All photos courtesy the Historical Society of Palm Desert)











58 of 74







59 of 74



60 of 74







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 $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{Appendix} \ B \\ \textbf{1974 Special Issue of the Desert Sun on Del Safari} \end{array}$



Appendix C Chronology of Building Permits

1969 5/8 BZ169556 Pump for well

1969 7/7 BZ171273 Electric service and motors to sump pump

1969 7/8 BZ171279 Plan check for country club

1969 7/8 BZ171280 Plan check for gate house

1969 7/10 BZ171300 Gate house for country club [finaled 1969 11/26]

1969 7/15 BZ171323 Country Club clubhouse [finaled 1970 3/25]

1969 7/16 BZ171327 Temporary power pole

1969 8/1 BZ171408 Plan check for steel storage building

1969 8/6 BZ171428 Office and maintenance building [finaled 10/16/1969)] 1969 9/4 BZ172938 Temporary power pole

1970 8/6 BZ183909 Restroom on golf course [finaled 1970 9/16]

1970 10/13 BZ184289 Elevator shaft for clubhouse [finaled 2/23/1971]

1972 3/2 BZ201931 Gas lights on clubhouse

1978 3/27 BZ326250 Plan check over walkway

1978 4/18 BZ326829 Clubhouse roof structure over walkway

1994 4/4 93-00001697 Remodel club house (\$112k valuation) Robert H. Ricciardi AIA

1995 9/20 93-00005563 Unknown permit for guard house

1998 6/5 93-00012234 Interior demolition James E. Simon Company

1998 8/4 93-00012844 Remodel clubhouse James E. Simon Company Valued at \$300k

1998 8/14 93-00012923 Fire sprinkler system

1998 9/30 93-00013396 Upgrade electrical panel

1998 10/6 93-00013445 Pump house

1999 1/27 93-00014443 Add seepage pit

2000 6/21 93-00018941 Remodel guard house

2001 1/17 93-00020498 Retaining walls

2001 8/1 93-00022363 Add walk-in cooler

2003 9/22 03-00029260 Reroof clubhouse

Desert Magic Lures The Affluent

Not too many years ago the idea of a country club and its accompanying life style in the sun-splashed Coachella Valley was just that. An idea.

Today the idea, the dream, has come into fruition at del Safari Country Club.

Today the idea, the dream, has come into fruition at del Safari Country Club. Beyond the private gateway to this lush oasis, the life style is one of elegance and serenity, beauty and seclusion, generously laced throughout with all the maglic ingredients that attract the sports enthusiast, the social-minded, or the affluent homeody who simply desires privacy in a superbly scenic environment. Beautiful del Safari Estates and Villas rim the perimeter of the 18-hole championship golf course. Carefree living is assured by protective walls and fencing, round-the-clock surveillance by security guard personnel, and del Safari sexpert maintenance of house and grounds. The influence of del Safari membership reaches far beyond the club's georgraphic borders. An exchange of ideas while carting between strokes on the me-

georgraphic borders. An exchange of ideas while carting between strokes on the me-ticulously manicured golf course well may re-shape a business future or way of life in Chicago, or inspire a tennis junket to Mexico. There's no patent on ideas, but the del Safari life style is unique in its

potential range of influence.
Kingpins from all walks of life appear on the club's prestigious membership roster, an impressive bluebook listing of national notables in the fields of business industry, finance and entertainment. In-fluences that reach deeply into the eco-nomic life of the country.

It isn't that the affluent are attracted

nomic ine of the country.

It isn't that the affluent are attracted to del Safari as a place in which to talk tickertape or DJA. They are drawn by such wholesome and restorative qualities as the tender desert climate, del Safari's privacy and its peaceful environs, year-round golf and tennis, elegant and functional homes, the exotic and picture-sque clubbouse. And the people.

The natural splendor of the California desert inspired George Glickley and Burton Graham, developers of del Safari Country Club, to build the \$1.5 million clubbouse. The three-story showplace towers protectively over the emerald-carpeted golf course, sparkling blue lakes and plush homes. From the third-story Zanzibar Room there is an awe-inspiring 360-degree panoramic view of desert and mountain vistas. At night the clubhous shines like a desert diadem. Extensive exterior illumination, dramatically visible for miles around, gives it the fantasy look of an exotic castle.

The second level houses the Kilimanian. of an exotic castle

The second level houses the Kilimanjaro Room, famed for its vivid and cheery atmosphere and its excellent cuisine. The first level houses the festive Nairobi Grille and overlooks the 10,000,000-gallon Lake Diamondi.



MASTERPIECE ON THE KNOLL — The del Safari Clubhouse stands majestically as a celebrated landmark of the Palm Desert Community.

Festooning the walls of all three levels are African oil paintings and large murals with conglomerate scenes of African wildlife and Safariland landscapes



GEORGE GLICKI.EY

All this elegance is keyed to del Safari's All this elegance is keyed to del Safari's total privacy and security with gatehouse entry and 24-hour patrol, and to its lei-surely and pleasant life style — the del Safari way of life, already widely ren-owned and promising a rich and royal perpetuation.



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- Susie Byrne, Pro Shop Manager at del Safari, can offer the fashion-minded lady or gentleman the very latest in casual and sports attire from an expansive

To The Salton Sea

A View From Three Stories In Heart of The Desert

The majestic Clubhouse of del Satari Country Club stands proudly as a land-mark of justified distinction. It looks like a million dollars. And it is, give or take a few. It looks like the vanity squandering of a potentate wasterel who winters in Nairobi. But most of all it looks like home to those already comfortably ensconsed on

to those aiready comfortably ensconsed on the grounds of del Safari.

There is nothing half-way on this lush knoll that man – and imagination – built. It's 360-degrees all the way, and that includes the view. Up in the Zanzibar Room, via a dramatic stairway or a nonroom, via a dramatic statirway or a non-stop elevator, one can relax on a clear day and contemplate a cold dacquari and a warming view of the Salton Sea at the same time.

If the Zanzibar louige is a step ahead

of the rest, replete with 360-degrees, dac-quaries and the Salton Sea, so is the locker

quaries and the Salton Sea, so is the locker room at ground level.

In truth, there are two locker rooms.
Ladies take a left, men a right. Taking a right, the locker area is luxuriously carpeted and the lockers spacious. A mahogany bar that's comfortably com-pact, is just off the carpeting. In another direction, so is the sauna. In close proxim-

There are places in Spain and castles on the Rhine. And there are penthouses on Park Avenue.

But there's only one Masterpiece on The Knoll.

The majestic Clubhouse of del Safari Country Club stands proudly as a land-

lion gallons of water.

And throughout the clubhouse's 33,000 square feet is a feeling of belonging. Or wanting to.



JIM SAUNDERS - Extends a welcoming hand to visitors in his ca-pacity as sales director for del Sa-fari properties.

Style, Conviviality **Abound At Clubhouse**

The circular, three-story cathedral-like Clubhouse is many things to many residents. For the mother of a family, it's a sweet respite from the kitchen. The male with an eye to a televised sporting event can share his enthusiasm with fellow members at a community screen.

The country club's popular focal point offers something for everyone.

One of the more popular areas is the game room off the lobby. Available to all members, it provides the ideal setting cand acoustics) for a rousing game of gin runnny, a friendly pow wow, bridge or the plush battlefield for a backgammon tournament. tournament.

While the clubhouse becomes a veritable desert diadem at night with its expansively illuminated exterior, the drama of color and design carries through to the interior. Most prominent is a magnificent replica

of a giant fireplace known to visitors of Kenya. It is this masterful design with its warming welcome that sets the stage for the highly valued paintings of African

for the highly valued paintings of African life — wild and domestic — that are walled throughout the interior.

Off the lobby, and offering splediferous view of the greens and lakes, is the pro-Shop, a popular area under the direction of Fred Scherzer and his manager, Susie Byrne. A wide variety of sport and casula fashions captures the most casual of permisers





COURT SPORT — Viewed from the second story pro shop, the country club's championship tennis courts are in play 12 hours daily. An additional three courts are scheduled



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From Newfoundland to Mexico

del Safari Golf Course Attracts North, South

In another clime and another place, a wily sage once acknowledged, "there is nothing more welcomed than a challenge. And there is nothing more challenging than competition."

Probably no one area in the world comrevolution one area in new word competes with greater fervor for the golfer than the Coachella Valley. And no one golf course in the area has met the challenge more professionally than the 18-hole championship spread at del Safari.

In a short year following its opening in 1970, the del Safari course was enjoying an international acclaim, with devotees from Newfoundland to Mexico City counting themselves as "regulars" - and tying the knot with substantial resident investments to ensure their wintertime joy.

Desert golfers in the know have unanimously agreed that the first to meet the seasoned eye at the del Safari course is its startling departure from the tradition-ally flat desert course. Builder Cal Hardin, together with noted architect Jim Hines, together with noted architect Jim Hines, moulded and tamed rolling sand dunes on the country club's vast acreage into a golfer's paradise. Their combined talents added to a character and charm that is echoed among its stalwarts from the north and to the south. And, appropriately, overseeing the championship measure of 7,010 yards with a par 72 rating is a professional taking giant steps to the fore among his contemporaries.

Fred Scherzer has been at the helm of the del Safari golf course from the begin-ning. He answered the call of developers Burt Graham and George Glickley not as a stranger to the Palm Desert community. In 1960, following two years on the cele-brated Northwestern University golf team, he stepped into the professional ranks, dividing his time between Thorngate Country Club in Deerfield, Ill. and La Quinta Country Club during the winter

An 18-month Army stint saw Fred per-An 18-month Army European golf forming on the All-Army European golf team in Berlin. Not long after his dis-charge in 1964, he switched both Illinois and California alliances, moving to the and Cattornia alliances, moving to the Biltmore Country Club in Barrington, and Bermuda Dunes C.C. as assistant to head pro Ed Vines in the local community. During his tenure at Bermuda Dunes, he married and together with wife Marien and six-year-old daughter Denise, has called Palm Desert his permanent home for the past seven years.

Happily, for del Safari and its far-flung Happity, for del Satari and its far-flung regulars, Fred Scherzer has maintained his enthusiasm for the links he first rea-lized at age nine when he was indoctrinat-ed into the business of golf as a caddy at the Indian Hill Club in Winnetka, (Ill.).

The same must be said for assistant pro Ken Redfern, who is probably still too young to lose his enthusiasm for anything. young to rose his entitusiasin for anything.

In a hand-prepared biography for business purposes, the U. of Arizona grad
(1972) notes that he is in his second year
at del Safari — adding "incidentally, I
am the finest assistant pro this side of
the 49th parallel. No brag — just fact."

the stut paramet. No orag — Just rect.
"Yes, that's a fact," echoes del Safari
resident Craig Dobbins, of Newfoundland.
"He spotted a hitch or two in my approach
shots and probably knocked two strokes
off my handicap."

Scherzer agrees. And so does his of 10 months, pretty Robin Glickley.

Ken's credentials would suggest it's "fact," too. At age 10 he caddied and worked the bag room, locker room and pro shop at St. Charles C.C. in Winnepeg, one of Canada's foremost courses. He rode a golf scholarship through the U. of Ari-zona in Tucson — his indoctrination to desert golfing. Ken recently attended the P.G.A. Business School in San Francisco a necessary requirement to attain
P.G.A. Class A membership.

Professionally speaking, it's apparent

the beauteous rolling greens at del Safari are in accomplished hands. And pretty ones, too.

On the femme side. Scherzer and his aide de camp are supported by no less a figure than Sandra Palmer, one of the leading dollar winners among the touring lady professionals.

Desert golfing comes naturally to Phoenix-born Cal Hardin. He kicked up a bit of dust and a divot or two when he built the del Safari Course in 1969 — at age 26, 11 years after his father had done the same for Bermuda Dunes. In the process, Cal developed an affair of the heart and stayed on as del Safari's greens superintendent. The former San Fernando Valley College Business Administration major is currently on the Board of Direc-tors with the Hi Lo Desert Golf Course Superintendent.

But back to the course. The rolling contours of the lush course is as modern

and up to date as Burt Reynolds. The tees are long and they're wide, imparting a rare playing flexibility amid an exhilarating aura of spaciousness. The greens, the greens, the greens, the greens, the greens about them, measuring an average of 13,000 square feet.

The beauty and playability of the del Safari course did not come about by acci-dent. In addition to design and building expertise, the setting is one in a subterranean reservoir and fed by nature's gift to the imposing Mt. San Jacinto — the melting snows of spring time.

The course is as green as the faces of the competition. And it's lush. The gargantuan acreage encompassed by the course is completely watered by an automatic sprinkler system. More than two million gallons of water absorbed daily—via more than 3,000 sprinkler heads.

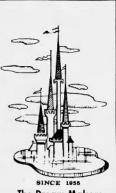
Five lakes and five thousand trees dot the luxury of this particular kind of lush life. The lakes are positioned for beauti-fication rather than for playing hazards and contain over 50 million gallons of water!

With the championship course measur-With the championship course measuring 7,010 yards, the regular course measures out at 6,414 with a par of 72. The women's course is taped at 6,087 with a par 74. Overall, it's nature's gift to the particular — an abundance of scenery, spaciousness, and water. In a word, the del Safari course is a natural. No brag — just fact.

Ask Ken Redfern.



TIME OUT - Celebrated performers on the Ladies P.G.A. tour, Marlene Bauer Hagge (left) and Pam Higgins, take time out during last week's outing at del Safari course to get a grip on things with del Safari's Fred Scherzer.



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ROBIN LYNN and BILL RENNER

DINING OUT — Mrs. Pat Brown and the former California Governor can be found at the club's dining room when in the Palm Desert area. Picture above caught them during recent dining visit.



HAPPY TIME — Mrs. Burton Graham takes time out during a Tuesday Evening "Around The World Dining" at del Safari to chat with Bob Prescott (center), Flying Tiger Airline prexy, and San Francisco orchestra leader, Jack Ross.

Entertainment, Gourmet Delights — And Nature's Selected Murals

With nature providing the setting, outstanding professionalism catering the tables and a quartette of musicians entertaining, the picturesque dining room of del Safari stands as a social focal point in a social oriented community.

Six gracious steps down from the lobby's exotic decor of African murals, the dining room, with its free sweeping bar, embraces with a far-reaching multi-dimensioned view. Visitors and members alike have acclaimed the area and its penthous setting of the Tanganyika Lounge as Palm Desert's most breathlaking panoramic vantage point.

Supervising the grand setting is Michael Conway, long recognized as one of the area's leading food and beverage directors.

Conway's reputation carries through the Southern California desert to the mile-high

Special Nights Invite Diners

The menu at del Safari is a reading delight for the gourmet.

Under the supervision of Mike Conway and chef Al Morale, the dining room encompasses a wide appeal for a variety of tastes, with distinct French-Northern Italy overtones.

Italy overtones.

Augmenting the menu is an interesting schedule of Tuesday evenings, spotlighting dining surprises from around the world. The inaugural offering of "An Evening in Paris" — with musical strains to match the culinary offerings — was enthusiastically received and the "Around The World Dining" became a Tuesday evening fixture.

Chef Morale cooks lightly and carries heavy credentials with a career as head chef dating back to the Lake Arrowhead C.C. and, more recently, the Bermuda Dunes and That John's in Palm Desert.

climes of Colorado and dates back to a post-World War II setting at the Denver Athletic Club, followed by eight years as manager of the Garden of the Gods Club in Colorado Springs.

Mike studied Hotel Administration at Denver University and first came to the desert area in 1959, opening the El Dorado as Maitre 'd Hotel. He joined del Safari following six years at Palm Springs' Howard Manor.

A major feature of the Conway domain is a kitchen facility he acknowledges to be "the finest I've ever had the pleasure to work with." A "cook's tour" of the facility is available for the asking.

facility is available for the asking.

Bill Renner's Quartette has captured the bandstand. The group features Renner on the percussions, beauteous Robin Lynn on weals and Fred Massey at the piano. They're new to the del Safari dining room and lounge but not to the Palm Springs community. They were equally popular at bath El Mirador and El Dorado Country Club. Tommy Wheat has been added to the guitar with Renner delighting with his specialty numbers and drum solos.

The entertainment menu features mini-

The entertainment menu features minimusical productions highlighting the music of the 1930s through the current hits of the day. And, with it all, versatile strains for the dancers of the evening.

Unfortunately — for the public — it's all available to members and guests only, just six gracious steps down from reality.



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del Safari Cart Fleet One of Area's Finest

The del Safari is recognized in the Palm Desert community for its brilliant lush greens, panoramic scenery and sparkling lak³s.

akes, pandamic scenery and sparking lakes. What is NOT commonly known is that it stands as a bustling transportation center—of a sort. Recessed unobtrusively in the lower level of the Clubhouse is a sprawling garage area. It's one of the busiest in the community—and certainly the quietest. As Service Director Howard Brown Sums it, "True to ecological concerns, there is positively no noise pollution at del Safari." And for a very sound reason. There are 73 vehicles maintained in the garage—all operating solely on electricity.

ity.

The club's electric cart fleet is one of the finest in the desert. Approximately 30 per cent belong to residents with the remainder the property of del Safari.

Among the member carts are some of the most luxurious to be found quietly breezing over any fairway. From colorful painting to interesting designs, they sport the very latest in 1974 luxury — back seats that collapse, converting the cart to a minipick-up, electric fans; turn signals; special horns; radios and tape deeks. Yes, and

even television sets.

Over 110 manhours are expended weekly in the daily care and maintenance of the del Safari fleet under the direction of garage superintendent George Dudley.

Howard Brown has been with the club since it formally opened in January, 1970. As Service Director, encompassing all-maintenance and service crews, he shoulders one of the major responsibilities of any major country club and estate development. Like the security patrol at the front gate, his department is available the front gate, his department is available around the clock, 24 hours daily, to all residents.

residents.
"Sure, its a responsibility and the hours are long," muses Brown. "But it's gratifying when you see a sea of happy faces around the clubhouse, in the grill and dining room—complaining only that their shoes might be too tight!"

shoes might be too tight!"
Personnel attitude scores high at del
Safari – from the front office team of
such as Carroll Purkey, Linda Eisenman
and Margot Morrison to 2nd cook Jim
LaDouceur in the kitchen. The morale is
high and teamwork is the key to efficiency.
Meanwhile, back at the garage, George
Dudley cases a smile and tells you, "I've
got the quietest job in town."



ONCE OVER BRIGHTLY - All is quiet on the electric cart front as del Safari Service Director Howard Brown (left) goes over a daily check list with cart fleet supervisor George Dudley. Seventy-three vehicles are cared for and maintained daily at club's expansive lower level cart garage.



APPROVING EYE — del Safari professional Fred Scherzer, left, casts an approving eye as assistant pro Ken Redfern tees off with sparkling Lake Diamondi in the beckground. Redfern is in his second year at the Palm Desert resort — and in his first with lovely wife Robin. He's a U. of Arizona graduate.

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A Hole In One -For Heaven's Sake

Mnsgnor. Vincent Cooke, counting his blessings, returned to the clubhouse sev-eral weeks ago and presented the score a card that said if all: he had scored a hole-in-one. His good fortune came at the No. Eight hole, 199 yards, via a well controlled No.

The retired head of Catholic Charities in Chicago is the reigning Handicap Chairman at del Safari.





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For Fun and Games

'Women's Liberation' del Safari Style

There's a wonderful, wide women's world at del Safari Country Club — and everyone's happy about the whole thing!
Those days when the male of the house would tip his hat on an early morning departure for the links or courts and do a solo run at the good times — with his favorite blond bound housewife — are only

memories.
"And bad ones, too," chimes in a pretty,
but anonymous member of the del Safari out anonymous member of the der Sariardistaff set. "I went through one year of that in Shaker Heights and said 'nutst'.

— I'm getting outdoors if it's only to play shuffleboard'. Today I'm into tennis daily and put in about 72 holes on the course

weekly.

"And I'm not the only wife at del Safari into this life style. I thought I was rather unique. But when we bought our villa last year, I realized the old adage — you know, 'birds of a feather'. Consequently, I have made many new friends — good friends — because of this common bond."

The esprit de corps among del Safari's distaffers extends beyond the links and courts. Some have assumed active rolls

courts. Some have assumed active rolls in the club's Women's Auxiliary, a very functional organization that carries its

gates and into community charity affairs.

For the most part, distaff club members do leave their feel for competition outdoors. Many are bringing it inside, apply-

doors. Many are bringing it inside, apply-ing this zest to a variety of activities eminating from the game room. One of the current rages is a backgam-mon tourney, with many first-year affi-cionados leading the way. Others find their

cionados leading the way. Others find their way to the chess boards, or competitive hand of bridge. And there is not a male complaint registered. Just so the independent lass finds her way back to the house.

And there are opinions. In the area of sports fashion, a recent poll found half of the local golfers stating — as an example — that the biggest need in golfing attire is more pockets as well as a more efficient design of pockets, too shallow, too trim, etc. Opines one member, "I'll the designers would get out from behind their drawing boards and get out on the courses, they'd boards and get out on the courses, they'd do a much better job." Most are down on the golf dress and big for the dress-shorts outfit as well as skirts-shorts and even knickers. Hot pants and "scooter skirts" (VERY short skirts) were on the preferred list. As member males cheer

"Women's Lib," as it's popularly known, is only watered down to an easy way of life at del Safari. ("If my husband stopped opening doors and lighting my eigarettes I'd take a fast run to the mirror and buy a new dress!") The big drive for the liberation hasn't hit the fairways, at least at del Safari. And, apparently nationally, according to a poll of the DU.S. women professional golfers.

These gals are quite content with the rules of the game as they exist. And they scoff at the suggestions of changing the name of their organization (Ladies Professional Golf Association) to Women's PGA. Too, they prefer to play with men.

fessional Golf Association) to Women's PGA. Too, they prefer to play with men. Says Judy Kimball, a leader in the ladies pro tour: "In non-competitive golf! Ifind men usually have a more professional approach to the game than women."

Marlene Bauer Hagge, always a top contender and money winner, insists "I play better when I compete against a longer hitter and men have the strength to hit a longer ball. But not necessarily a more accurate one." a more accurate one.

a more accurate one."

We take you now to Janie Blalock, 1973
winner of the Dinah Shore-Colgate
Tournament and — of more pertinent
importance — a resident of del Safari.
Says Janie: "I play off-tour golf with men

Says Jamie: "I play off-tour golf with men simply for a change of pace. I play on tour with women 25 weeks a year and playing against men I pick up a lot of pointers that help my game."

Speaking out further on the game, the local Villa owner says, "I personally feel compelled to play all tournaments on the tour. If our tour were longer, we all would be allowed an occasional respite." Also: "I think the worst quality a golfer can have is negativism."

have is negativism."

At del Safari, those lonely sunny days at the homestead are only memories.





Sandra Palmei

del Safari's

Sandra Palmer **A Winner**

Sandra Palmer is a double joy to del Safari Country Club. Not only is this attractive Ladies PGA professional a resident, but she also carries the del Safari banner on the professional tour. Sandy is a winner. Not only in the terms of dollars and cents (in the top five for the nast three years) but as a person

the past three years) but as a person.

The gal who has finished 14 times in the Top 10, has opinions and answers.

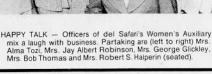
Asked if she could foresee mixed doubles

Assed if she could roresed make domines in golf as in tennis, Sandy said "Yes. I think the American public would like to see a new twist, especially for television." Playing with celebrities: "I think it helps of they are informed about the rules of golf. But I wouldn't care if Joe Namath

knew the rules or not?"

For the past four years, Sandy has been a pace setter among the LPGA. Her earnings during this time have totaled over \$35,000 annually

The pretty winner enjoys the pleasure of one of her best friends on the tour. Janie Blalock, as being another resident on the del Safari fairways.





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Model Villas Now Open To Public

Long ago, in another era, the discontended would say they would change their ways. Today, they change their life style. New scenery. A new way to go.

One of the more direct steps for the seekers in search of change is to say hello to del Sadrai and enjoy a tour that points to a new way to go. From the Executive Homes to the Townhouse Villas, a new life style is only a short tour away.

With spaciousness, seclusion and security as the kenote, there are designs for every taste, and answer for every style. Model Villas were recently opened at del Safari, and, consequently, so were the eyes of the public.

The overall beauty and variety of styling is incentive enough for perusal, but with it all is the knowledge that you own the land and the private pool that comes with it.

If your life style includes getting away from the crowds, then one facet of your

If your life style includes getting away fryour life styre includes getting away from the crowds, then one facet of your desires is accounted for. A total limit of 250 residential properties has been established to assure the exclusivity and openness so in demand today. Recognizing this limit has been set on a property of 650 nature near tell. 650 acres says it all.



BRIGHT AND OPEN — Living room spaciousness is clearly depicted in this del Safari model Villa, with dining area at extreme upper left. Wet bar is at right of casual table. All Villas, with private pool-patio areas fronting on the fairway, are provided a tight, 24-hour security.

Del Safari's developers offer a passport epitomizing the hippy art of homemanto a new world life style with Villas ship. Each plan features a conveniently

located wet bar in the spaciousness of a incated wet oar in the spaciousness of a dining-living room area and sunken Roman tubs geared to a silent water system that is as luxurious as the more obvious beamed, high ceilings. Garden-like patios with fountains and waterfalls are only subtle additions to the aura of casual elegance.

And the basic joys are there, too. Huge walk-in closets with built-in shoe racks, a pethora of linen closet space and an electric-doored two-car garage.

It's yours for the basking.



SPACED OUT — The generous spacing of the pool and patio area is one of the favored features of del Safari Villas. All of this and land ownership, too. Interference-free television reception embracing many channels is provided via the cable system.



CASUAL ELEGANCE — is evident in this scene of the driveway at the Villa's front. Villas range in square footage from 1,776 to 2,450. Land ownership is included with each home purchase. All utilities are underground.

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Appendix D Letter of Authorization



March 15th, 2024

Mr. Luke Leuschner

RE: Avondale Golf Club

Dear Luke:

In response to your e-mail dated March 13th, 2024, the legal name of the club is "Avondale Golf Club". The club and golf course are owned soley by the equity members of the club. As the General Manager/COO of the Avondale Golf Club, I am authorized to have you handle the nomination of the Club for historical status with the City of Palm Desert. Please consider this letter as authorization to continue the nomination process on behalf of the Club.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Rick Bauer GM/COO

Avondale Golf Club

75800 AVONDALE DRIVE PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA 92211 | 760.345.2727



September 10, 2024

Mr. Nick Melloni c/o The City of Palm Desert 76510 Fred Waring Drive Palm Desert, CA 92260

RE: Avondale Golf Club Equity Member Vote

Good Morning Nick:

As you are aware, the Avondale Golf Club is an equity owned entity. Per the By-Laws of the Club, a vote of the equity members was taken regarding the request for Historical Status of the clubhouse by the City of Palm Desert. A simple majority of the vote was needed to pass the request. The vote came back with overwhelming approval for the Club to move forward in asking for this request. All conditions for voting as required by the By-Laws of the Avondale Golf Club were met.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Rick Bauer GM/COO

Avondale Golf Club



City of Palm Desert
Department of Development Services - Planning
73-510 Fred Waring Drive,
Palm Desert. CA. 92260

Palm Desert, CA, 92260 Phone: (760) 776-6483, Email: planning@palmdesert.gov

Fax: (760) 776-6392

Landmark Cultural Resources Nomination Application

IDENTIFICATION

1.	Common nam	Avondale ne:	e Golf Club Clu	ubhous	e					
2.	Historic Name	Del Safari County Club Clubhouse								
3.	Street address	75800 Av	ondale Dr							
	City Palm De	sert		State	CA	92211 Zip				
4.	Assessor Pare	cel number:	626030043							
5.	Legal Owner:	Avondale G	olf Club							
	City Palm De	sert		State	CA	7in 92260				
6.	Present Use:	Clubhouse		_						
7.	Original Use:	Clubhouse								
Date f	orm prepared:	8/9/2024								
8/9/2024 Date form prepared: Luke Leuschner Preparer:										
Spons	soring Organiza	ation (if any)	Avondale Go	olf Club						
	75800 Avo									
City _	Palm Desert			_ State	CA	Zip:				
	760-345-272 e:									

DESCRIPTION
8. Legal property description:
Include approximate property size (in feet): Street Frontage Depth
9. Architectural Style: Late Modern/Pueblo Revival hybrid 10. Construction Date: Estimated 1969-70 Factual 1969-70
10. Construction Date: Estimated Factual Factual
Source of Information: ☐ Assessor's Records ☐ Building Permit ☐ Sanborn Map
☑ Publications ☐ Oral Interviews
11. Architect's Name: John F. Galbraith Builder's Name: Aljac Construction Co.
12. Condition: ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated
☐ No longer in existence (for site of)
13. Alterations: See pages 3-21
14. Use type:
☐ Residential ☐ Industrial ☐ Commercial ☐ Civic ☐ Other
15. Is the structure on its original site?
☑ Yes □ No □ Unknown If moved, approximate year
16. Related features and/or outbuildings:
17. Architectural Description
See pages 3-21

SIGNIFICANCE

18. Statement of Significance

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 19. References used
- 20. Photographs
- 21. Letter from property owner

CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE CITY OF PALM DESERT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 26, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

Present: Committee Member Paul Clark, Committee Member Don Graybill,

Vice-Chair Kim Housken, Committee Member Thomas

Mortensen, Committee Member David Toltzmann, Committee

Member Linda Vassalli, Chair Rochelle McCune

Staff Present: Principal Planner Nick Melloni, Principal Planner Carlos Flores,

Director of Development Services Richard Cannone, Recording

Secretary Michelle Nance

Liaison(s) Present: Mayor Pro Tem Jan Harnik

Click <u>HERE</u> to review the meeting audio. Click HERE to access the meeting agenda packet.

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Cultural Resources Preservation Committee was called to order by Chair McCune on June 26, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Administrative Conference Room, City Hall, located at 73-510 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, California.

2. ROLL CALL

3. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli

Seconded by: Chair McCune

To approve the consent calendar as presented.

Motion Carried (7 to 0)

4.a APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the Minutes of March 27, 2024.

5. CONSENT ITEMS HELD OVER

None.

6. ACTION CALENDAR

6.a REQUEST TO PROVIDE DIRECTION ON MILLS ACT ELIGIBLE SCOPES OF WORK

Principal Planner Flores provided a presentation and answered member inquiries. During the course of discussion, the following issued were addressed:

- Whether the City can regulate interior renovations of designated historic landmark homes.
- Preservation of character defining landscaping when designed by a prominent landscape architect.
- Separating Appendix A, Item No. 64 "Install/remove/repair swimming pool" into two categories as follows: "Install swimming pool" and "Remove/repair swimming pool."

<u>Juleen McElgunn</u>, of Palm Desert, expressed concerns about the updated Mills Act guidelines.

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli **Seconded by:** Committee Member Clark

Recommend City Council approval of the Mills Act Program Appendix A with the following revisions:

- Revise row #35 "New water heater" to deem eligible under "Architectural and/or Historical Integrity" with footnote elaborating on front yard location.
- Revise row #62 to say "Contributing Landscaping and Hardscape" and to deem eligible under "Architectural and/or Historical Integrity".
- Break out row 64 to create two rows: 1) Install new swimming pool, which would be ineligible and 2) Remove/repair swimming pool, which would be eligible under "Architectural and/or Historical Integrity".

NOES (1): Committee Member Toltzmann

Motion Carried (6 to 1)

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

7.a CONSIDERATION OF A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION FOR AVONDALE GOLF CLUB TO DESIGNATE THE EXISTING CLUB HOUSE LOCATED AT 75800 AVONDALE DRIVE AND GOLF COURSE AS HISTORIC LANDMARKS (CRPC24-0001)

Principal Planner Melloni provided a presentation and answered member inquiries.

The public hearing was opened.

Bryan Corcoran, Vice President of Avondale Golf Club, spoke on behalf of the applicant in favor of the designation and answered member inquires.

<u>Richard Eberst</u>, of Palm Desert, spoke in favor of the designation and inquired about restrictions on improvements that designation may cause.

Roy DePaul, of Palm Desert, questioned the reason for the designation.

The public hearing was closed.

During the course of discussion, it was discovered that Avondale Golf Club is an equity membership and may need to obtain approval from equity members to move forward with the designation. City staff recommended that the Committee continue the matter to a date uncertain.

*Committee Member Mortensen left the meeting at this time.

On a motion by Chair McCune, seconded by Committee Member Graybill, carried 6-0, the matter was continued to a date uncertain. However, the Committee expressed a desire to provide feedback to the applicant on any potential changes needed in advance of the item returning to the Committee.

On a motion by Committee Member Vassalli, seconded by Committee Member Clark, carried 6-0, to reconsider the matter for further discussion.

The Committee briefly discussed the matter and requested the applicant submit separate applications for the Avondale Clubhouse and the Avondale Golf Course.

Motion by: Committee Member Vassalli **Seconded by:** Committee Member Clark

To continue the item to a date uncertain.

Motion Carried (6 to 0)

8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS & COMMENTS

8.a CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair McCune reported on the California Foundation conference she attended in May 2024.

8.b CITY COUNCIL LIAISON

None.

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8.d ATTENDANCE REPORT

Report provided; no action taken on this item.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Cultural Resources Preservation Committee adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

10. PUBLIC NOTICES

Michelle Nance, Deputy Clerk								
Recording Secretary								
Carlos Flores, Principal Planner								
Secretary								

DATE APPROVED BY CRPC



CITY OF PALM DESERT

73-510 Fred Waring Drive Palm Desert, California 92260-2578 Tel: 760-346-0611 INFO@CITYOFPALMDESERT.GOV

CITY OF PALM DESERT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CASE NO. CRPC24-0001

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BEFORE THE CULTURAL RESOURCE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA, TO CONSIDER A RECOMMENDATION TO THE PALM DESERT CITY COUNCIL FOR THE DESIGNATION OF AN EXISTING CLUBHOUSE STRUCTURE, KNOWN AS THE AVONDALE GOLF CLUB, LOCATED AT 75800 AVONDALE DRIVE AS A LOCAL LANDMARK

The City of Palm Desert (City), in its capacity as the Lead Agency, has found that the proposed historic landmark designation is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Guidelines Section 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3) as the project will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and is not a Project as defined by Section 15378.

PROJECT LOCATION/DESCRIPTION:

PROJECT LOCATION: 75800 Avondale Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92211 (Assessor's Parcel Numbers 626-030-043).

<u>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</u>: The project is a request to designate the existing golf clubhouse building, located at 75800 Avondale Drive within the City of Palm Desert a local landmark. The Cultural Resources Preservation Committee will make a recommendation to the Palm Desert City Council.

PUBLIC HEARING: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Cultural Resources Committee of the City of Palm Desert, California, will hold a Public Hearing at its meeting on September 25, 2024. The Cultural Resources Committee meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. in the Public Works Conference Room at 73510 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, California. Pursuant to Assembly Bill 2449, this meeting may be conducted by teleconference. Options for remote participation will be listed on the Posted Agenda for the meeting at https://www.palmdesert.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/city-clerk/committee-calendar. There will be in-person access to the meeting location.

PUBLIC REVIEW: The plans and related documents are available for public review Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. by contacting the project planner, Nick Melloni. Please submit written comments to the Planning Division. If any group challenges the action in court, issues raised may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence at or prior to the Cultural Resources Preservation Committee hearing. All comments and any questions should be directed to:

Nick Melloni, AICP, Principal Planner City of Palm Desert 73-510 Fred Waring Drive Palm Desert, CA 92260 (760) 346-0611, Extension 479 nmelloni@palmdesert.gov

PUBLISH: THE DESERT SUN RICHARD D. CANNONE, AICP, SECRETARY

SEPTEMBER 13, 2024 CULTURAL RESOURCE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Cultural Resource Preservation Committee

Year	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023	Total Absences	
Month	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct		
Day	28	24	26	22	24	27	28	24	26	28	31	Unexcused	Excused
Clark, Paul	Р	-	Р	-	=	Р	-	Α	-	=.	Р	1	0
Graybill, Don	Р	-	Р	-	-	Р	-	Р	-	-	Р	0	0
Housken, Kim	Ε	-	Р	-	-	Р	-	Р	-	-	Р	0	1
McCune, Rochelle	Р	-	Р	-	-	Р	-	Р	-	-	Р	0	0
Mortensen, Thomas	Р	-	Р	-	-	Р	-	Р	-	-	Р	0	0
Toltzmann, David	Р	-	Р	-	-	Р	-	Р	-	-	Р	0	0
Vassalli, Linda	Р	-	Р	-	-	Р	-	Е	-	-	Р	0	1

Palm Desert Municipal Code 2.34.010

Monthly: Three unexcused absences from regular meeting in any twelve-month period shall constitute an automatic resignation of members holding office on boards that meet bimonthly.

Please contact the Recording Secretary to discuss any attendance concerns.

P Present
P Remote
A Absent
E Excused
- No Meeting
Resign