



2014 AAO MEMBERS WEEKEND Palm Springs, CA – March 13-16

TRIP ITINERARY

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

3:00pm-5:30pm

Group Welcome: Palm Springs Art Museum

Private Tours of Frey House II

(101 Museum Drive, Palm Springs CA 92262)

(Note: Gather at the Palm Springs Art Museum; an easy walk over from the Hyatt Hotel)

Come explore the local museum's collection of modern and contemporary art, with works ranging from Chagall to Picasso, Judd to Rauschenberg. Small group tours will be arranged to visit the much studied [Frey House II](#), commonly regarded as the working template for Desert Modernism.

Group Tour A (shuttle departs Museum at 3:00pm)

Imber (guide)

Duke	Eudaly, J
Eudaly, N	Hoffman
Lubenau	Lucas, Larry
Lucas, Lynn	McQuinn
Robertson	

Group Tour B (shuttle departs Museum at 3:45pm)

Brown	Claypool
Glassman	Mayer
Munson	O'Driscoll
Osmond	Rynd
Sourapas	Torretto

Group Tour C (shuttle departs Museum at 4:30pm)

Ernst	Jenewein
King	Rice
Sears	Smallwood
Sylvan	Vickrey

5:30pm-

Free Evening / Optional Small Group Dinners (Dutch Treat)

Lots of options abound right in the downtown area; an easy walk from the museum. Here's a convenient [dining guide](#).

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

9:00am-12:45pm

Step On Tour of Palm Springs, CA

Guide: Robert Imber, Palm Springs Modern Tours

(Note: Tour departs from Hyatt Hotel. Gather in the main lobby by 8:45am – 285 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262)

Alongside Palm Springs's "go-to" architectural guide, [Robert Imber](#), we'll enjoy a veritable hit parade covering dozens of award-winning structures, plus a few interiors tours as available. See works from the likes of William Krisel, E. Stewart Williams, Hugh Kaptur, Richard Neutra, and more.

12:45pm-2:15pm

Group Lunch

Private reception for our group at the home of Joan and Gary Gand - a one-of-a-kind Alexander residence customized by architect Hal Levitt, built in 1960, and located in the historic mid-century modern neighborhood of Vista Las Palmas.

2:15pm-5:00pm

AAO Members Meeting (Palm Springs Art Museum)

Guest Lecture: Sidney Williams, Associate Curator, Architecture & Design, Palm Springs Art Museum

(101 Museum Drive, Palm Springs CA 92262)

An open forum arranged by the AAO Board of Directors – a prime chance to share your input and ideas and help shape the future of AAO's programs. Sidney Williams kicks off our meeting, as she shares perspectives on the changing face of architecture in Palm Springs and the community's preservation challenges, as well as progress toward establishing a dedicated [architecture center](#).

SPECIAL NOTE: From 2:30pm-4:10pm, guests of AAO Members will be treated to an architecture walking tour courtesy of the Palm Springs Historical Society. Group will then meet up with AAO Members at the Art Museum for the Guest Lecture.

5:00pm-

Free Evening / Optional Small Group Dinners (Dutch Treat)

Lots of options abound right in the downtown area; an easy walk from the hotel. Here's a convenient [dining guide](#).

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

8:00am-10:00am

AAO Board Meeting

(Hyatt Hotel (First Floor) – Tahquitz Board Room – 285 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262)

Working session for the AAO Directors. (Free morning for the AAO Members.)

SATURDAY, MARCH 15 (cont'd.)

10:15am-11:45am

Walking Tours: Palm Springs Historical Society

(Tour departure details TBD)

Tour Option A: Architectural Icons of Fashion and Finance

Get a taste of Palm Springs history, as you hear about the movers and shakers who shaped the community's growth and development. See why Palm Springs captured the imagination of modern architects and, in particular, how mid-century design was applied to commercial buildings – structures that blend well into the local landscape while still creating impressive homes for the merchants and financial institutions that occupied them.

Tour Option B: Celebrity Homes in Vista Las Palmas

Vista Las Palmas is one of Palm Springs's premier mid-century neighborhoods and home to Richard Neutra's iconic Kaufmann House. On this tour, you'll see many examples of houses designed by renowned architect William Krisel for developers Robert and George Alexander – modernist gems with trademark butterfly, flat, or folded rooflines. Once referred to as "The Beverly Hills of Palm Springs," when you see these buildings, you'll understand why Vista Las Palmas became a mecca for the stars.

Tour Option C: The Tennis Club Neighborhood

See close up and in person the inns and resorts that were designed and built after WWII reflecting America's appetite for modern mid-century design; it was "The Atomic Age" and Palm Springs captured the modernistic mood like no other place. End the tour at the famed Palm Springs Tennis Club, nestled into the foothills of the San Joaquin Mountains, where stars and celebrities played in the spectacular beauty of its desert surroundings.

12:00pm-1:00pm

Lunch On Your Own

1:30pm-4:30pm

Tour of [Sunnylands](#)

Host: James Burnett, The Office of James Burnett

(37977 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270)

The famed modernist estate of Walter and Leonore Annenberg is popularly referred to as a West Coast "Camp David," and, indeed, just last year it served as the site for talks between Presidents Obama and Jinping. A critical part of the complex includes the recently completed [Sunnylands Center and Gardens](#), an educational pavilion amid nine acres of spectacular grounds designed by top landscape architect (and former chairman of AAO Member, the Rice Design Alliance) [James Burnett](#). We will join Jim and select Sunnylands staff on a highlights tour.

5:00pm-

Group Reception/Dinner

TRIO Restaurant

(707 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262)

A lively eatery in the heart of the Uptown Design District; a short walk from the hotel. Prix fixe menu includes choice of appetizers, entrees, deserts, wine/beer (two drinks complimentary; cash bar thereafter).

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

9:00am-11:00am

Breakfast Reception

Guest Lecture: Lance O'Donnell, Principal o2 Architecture, Palm Springs, CA
(Details TBD)

One last group gathering, this time at the home of Lance O'Donnell and Regina Basterrechea. We'll be treated to a personal tour of the residence, investigating how this new design honors the Palm Springs modern legacy while pushing ahead to emphasize economic, cultural, and environmental sustainability.

11:00am

Conclusion of AAO Members Weekend

OPTIONAL TRIP EXTENSION TO BORREGO SPRINGS

Registrants:

Lawrence (guide)

Batailler Brown

Gand, G Gand, J

Glassman Grist

Hansson Hoffman

Osmond Rice

Robertson Rynd

Sears Torretto

Wood

Already in Palm Springs? Why not make a long weekend of it all. That's what we thought, too! And so comes the inspiration to drive down the Coachella Valley and spend an afternoon and early evening touring another town where mid-century design took root, Borrego Springs. Once again, we've tapped a knowledgeable local (and founder of Borrego Modern), Bill Lawrence, to show us around.

Transportation will be provided to/from Palm Springs, returning everyone back to the Palm Springs International Airport in time for flights departing at noon or later on Monday, March 17.

12:00pm

Group departs from Hyatt Hotel

(285 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262)

Group transit will be arranged by AAO. Travel time to Borrego Springs is approximately ninety minutes.

1:45pm-2:15pm

Check-in at Hotel - La Casa del Zorro

(3845 Yaqui Pass Rd, Borrego Springs, CA 92004)

2:15pm-4:30pm

Tour Part I: Borrego Springs Highlights

University of California, Irvine, Steele - Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center

1949 - William Kesling

Host: Desert Research Center - Jim Dice

Designed and built by La Jolla modernist, William Kesling, this building originally served as The Desert Club - the first amenity for homeowners in the development of modern Borrego Springs. The Desert Club was the social center of the resort community and is constructed of steel and glass and sited with expansive views of the valley. **Tour Part I (cont'd.)**

The Desert Club was eclipsed by the development of the first successful golf course in the valley and later operated as an art studio and private home. In 2011, the building was purchased by the heir of Borrego Springs founder A.A. Burnand and donated to the University of California Irvine. Through adaptive reuse, it now hosts researchers from around the world studying the desert. This will be a hardhat tour as phase II of renovation is underway, adding additional laboratory and living space for researchers.

Borrego Business Building/Borrego Art Institute

1949 - William Kesling

Host: Borrego Art Institute - Jim Wermer, BAI Board/Richard Orne, architect

Also designed by William Kesling, the Borrego Business Building was the first commercial building in the community and has a prominent position on Christmas Circle. The building operated for decades as the community's market. In the mid-2000's, the building was purchased by a developer who ended up closing the market and the building sat vacant for years. In 2011, the building was purchased by a local businessman/philanthropist and donated to the Borrego Art Institute. The building has been renovated using the original Kesling plans (previously unknown, the plans were found in the archive of a local architect/builder who has done a renovation in the 1950's.) The building now showcases the work of local artists that is available for sale.

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitors Center

Host: Anza Borrego Foundation, Paige Rogowski, Executive Director

1972 - Robert Ferris, FAIA

The desert is the star in this building that serves tens of thousands of visitors to the State Park each year. Its purpose is to educate and orient visitors of the largest state park in the contiguous United States. The building offers commanding views of the Santa Rosa Mountains. The building is sensitive to the fluctuating temperatures of the desert and is partly recessed into the ground. The native vegetation that was on site was carefully removed prior to construction and was reinstalled on a roof outlook that allows visitors a panoramic view of the Valley. This building was honored for its design by the AIA and is largely the result of the vision of Harry Daniel, one of the founding members of the Anza Borrego Desert Natural History Association.

4:30pm-8:00pm (*times approximate*)

Tour Part II: Progressive Cocktail Party/Tour of Homes

Host: **Bill Lawrence**, [Borrego Modern](#)

Bill Lawrence takes our group on an insiders' tour of a handful of modernist residences, as the homeowners open their doors to us and share stories of living amid great design. Food and drinks round out the experience.

Givler Residence

1958 – Henry Hester, AIA

Host: Trace Wilson

Progressive Cocktail Reception: Course 1

Perhaps one of the most simplistic, yet striking examples of mid-century modern architecture in Borrego Springs, the Givler Residence is the work of San Diego modernist, Henry Hester. Designed for Illinois attorney David Givler and his family as a second winter home, and is part of the pivotal de Anza Country

Club development that set the stage for modern Borrego Springs. The home is currently owned by the grandson of the original owner, and its design and construction proved instrumental in shaping his career as an architect.

McKensie Residence

1980 - Maurice "Maurie" McKensie
Host: Stacey Chapman-Paton and Doug Paton

Progressive Cocktail Reception: Course 2

This home was designed by its owner, Maurie McKensie who studied architecture at UCLA prior to World War II, but following the war, took over his family's office machine business. The home is stark from the street, but opens to an inviting private courtyard and features walls of glass that expand the view to the golf course. The home is furnished in mid-century furnishings and has been in Dwell Magazine.

Chambers/Dax Residence

2008 - Walter Chambers
Host: Walt Chambers and Jim Dax

Progressive Cocktail Reception: Course 3

Spectacular contemporary architecture that is sympathetic to the desert and the mid-century nature of de Anza Country Club.

Orne/Hancock Residence

2013 - Richard Orne
Host: Richard Orne and Susan Hancock

Newly completed home that is modular in design, yet fully captures the raw beauty of the surrounding landscape. The home was designed to be simple, yet cost effective and to take advantage of the site.

MONDAY, MARCH 17

8:00am

Return Trip to Palm Springs, CA

Early departure for the drive back to Palm Springs International Airport. Limited room may be available to shuttle some participants back to Los Angeles International Airport.

11:00am

Conclusion of AAO Members Weekend/Borrego Springs Trip Extension

REGISTRANTS

ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED

Alejandro Bataille, Guest of Kyle Kiddelke
Greg Brown, Dallas Center for Architecture
James Burnett, Office of James Burnett
John Claypool, Philadelphia Center for Architecture
Nathan Eudaly, Dallas Architecture Forum
Jean Eudaly, Spouse of Nathan Eudaly
Kyle Fiddelke, Office of James Burnett
Stephen Glassman, Design Center Philadelphia
Robert Imber, Palm Springs Modern Tours/Palm Springs Modern Committee
William Lawrence, Borrego Modern
Anne-Marie Lubenau, Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence
Lynn Lucas, Columbus Area Visitors Center
Larry Lucas, Spouse of Lynn Lucas
Klaus Mayer, Alaska Design Forum
Holly McQuinn, Alaska Design Forum
Margaret O'Driscoll, Center for Architecture + Design (San Francisco)
Lynn Osmond, Chicago Architecture Foundation
Chase Rynd, National Building Museum
Penny Shaw, Palm Springs Historical Society
Linda Sylvan, Rice Design Alliance
Sidney Williams, Palm Springs Art Museum

Michael Wood, Association of Architecture Organizations

GUESTS OF AAO MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS (Local Docents, Members, Donors)

Pamela Duke
Susan Ernst
Lena Hansson
Robert Grist
Brent A. Hoffmann
Susan E. Robertson
Linda L. Jenewein
Carol W. King
Barry Sears
Kathy Rice
Polly Sippy
Rod Sippy
Joan Sourapas
Robert Munson
Roseanna F. Torretto
Bonnie Bartlit Vickrey
Ann Smallwood, Guest of Susan Ernst

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