

OPPOSE Baristo Lofts on this site
SUPPORT Class 1 Historic Designation of the Santa Fe Bank Building



SAVE THIS BUILDING

Santa Fe Federal Savings & Loan (now Wessman Office Building)
300 S. Palm Canyon Drive
(Designed by E. Stewart Williams, 1957, built 1960)

This building is important: "The simplicity and purity of form makes this building a favorite among visitors and the city's architecture cognoscenti. Despite the use of "cold" modern materials such as steel, glass and concrete, the human-scale of the building makes it warm and welcoming. The architect used a five-foot dimensional module to scale all other aspects of the building. The building's columns and walls are disengaged from each other, allowing the wall plane to flow uninterrupted by the structural columns. Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the building is the linear, cantilevered concrete base which allows the floor slab to "float" when viewed from the north and west sides. Other notable features of the building include free-standing steel columns which gracefully narrow at the top and bottom and sliding aluminum sunscreens."

**On Wednesday, February 18th at 6PM in Council Chambers at City Hall
(3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way)
the Palm Springs City Council will decide the fate of this building.**

Contact the city council members and tell them:

*"I oppose the proposed Baristo Lofts project and support the immediate designation
of the Santa Fe bank building as a Class 1 historic site."*

Mayor Steve Pougnet
Ginny Foat
Rick Hutcheson
Chris Mills
Lee Weigel

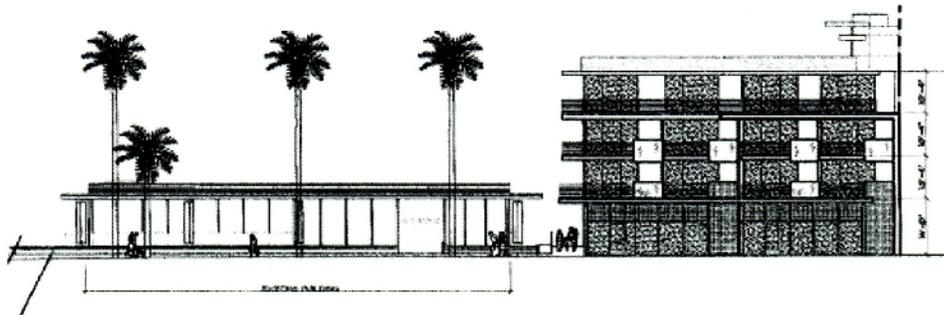
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The below graphic is excerpted from a recent city report on the Baristo Lofts project. The proposed Baristo development (on the right) looms over the historic Santa Fe bank building (to the left). This “visual intrusion” compromises the siting of the historic bank building and shoehorns the Baristo Lofts into an already developed lot.

The eastern portion of the four story building is constructed over two levels of structured off-street parking. The west half of the first floor of the proposed new building is a 5,000 square foot retail space. The existing driveway onto South Palm Canyon would be eliminated. The building and parking essentially fill the site; however there are landscape planters, walkways, and other usable outdoor open spaces created at the ground or first floor level.



West Elevation showing proximity of the proposed new building to the existing

The proposed new high-rise building is oriented in an east-west manner, thereby preserving view-corridors along Baristo Road. The new building is approximately sixteen (16) feet from the south wall of the existing building and twelve (12) feet from the south edge of the roof of the existing building. Balconies proposed on the north side of the proposed new building would be approximately four feet from the leading edge of the roof of the existing building. (These balconies were recommended by the AAC to be removed to provide more space between the buildings but the applicant has elected not to do so).

For additional information visit the Palm Springs Preservation Foundation’s website and under “Preservation Actions” click “Initiatives” then “Baristo Lofts”



Visit www.pspreservationfoundation.org

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