

reened her neighborhood then greened the city

ms, a mid-century modern in the San Fernando Valley almer & Krisel, grew up in s around its school, Calvert ut 50 years later, one neighbor yard had become a "big old " it was fenced off and

orbin Palms homeowner decided to turn the waste- into a community park, with nd gardens. She enlisted ped raise \$500,000, and he Los Angeles Unified t. Soon, 180 tons of asphalt d 60 trees had been planted. he school to be the community's center where everyone can " Bartley says.

icials were impressed. They to be one of two sustainable mbudsmen for the immense , helping do for the rest of she did in Corbin Palms.

mid-century design the veral upcoming exhibits

d-century modernism have unities to take in work by ornia's greatest masters. can Museum of Ceramic opens in a new space with und: Ceramics in Southern 5-1975,' November 12 n 31.

t, part of the Getty Founda- tive series 'Pacific Standard A. 1945-1980,' includes work McIntosh, Gertrud and Otto her art potters. AMOCA will -page catalog. 340 South , Pomona. ceramicmuseum.org of 'Pacific Standard Time' t the Los Angeles County rt, 'California Design, 1930- in a Modern Way,' October 5. The exhibit surveys the d-century design, from architecture through jewelry, on—even the occasional pieces include art from e state. 5905 Wilshire Boule- eles. lacma.org

street from LACMA, the Craft useum focuses on modern 'The Golden State of Craft: 0s-1980s,' September 25 814 Wilshire Boulevard, Los n.org e, fans of the idiosyncratic Lautner (1911-1994) ns, talks, and more, through onored by the John Lautner conjunction with several John Lautner Turns 100' series ough the fall. Events include a ymposium co-sponsored by es Conservancy, and a tour of

the Lautner archive at the Getty Research Institute. johnlautner.org

Eichler historian honored for promoting mid-century modern

Paul Adamson, a San Francisco architect and author of the book *Eichler: Modernism Rebuilds the American Dream*, has been named a fellow of the American Institute of Architects.



HONORS. Architect Paul Adamson: AIA fellowship.

Adamson, FAIA, was given the honor because of his work educating people about mid-century modern tract homes and helping preserve modern architecture. Adamson writes about architecture and urban planning in journals and books.

He's a founder and board member of the Northern California chapter of DOCO-MOMO, which seeks to preserve modern architecture.

Palm Springs preservationists keep up the fight for modernism

Efforts to preserve Palm Springs' modernist legacy are progressing. In the fall Royal Hawaiian Estates, a tiki-themed apartment complex designed by Wexler and Harrison, became the first residential neighborhood in town to be designated a historic district. The Palm Springs Preservation Foundation donated funds to restore some tiki detailing.

"We're always fighting about something being torn down," Ron Marshall, the foundation's president, says. "It's good to have something put back."

And in March, the 1947 home designed for Frank Sinatra by E. Stewart Williams was named a historic site by the city.

Perhaps the biggest battle on the modernist front, however, remains hard fought—the Town & Country Center, a once-lovely and now largely derelict shopping center designed by Paul R. Williams and A. Quincy Jones in 1948. Plans to demolish the center remain alive despite a city survey identifying it as "a rare and excellent example of the late Moderne style."

The preservation foundation has hired a firm to provide a 'sustainability study' that could provide alternatives for re-use rather than demolition. Also, the National Organization of Minority Architects has weighed in, focusing on

the legacy of Paul Williams, a pioneering black architect of national importance.

Los Altos' Neutra House returns with big names for lecture series

Some of the state's top architects will take to the podium as part of the Neutra House's fall lecture series. The Neutra House is a restored Los Altos home designed in the 1930s by Richard Neutra. Talks take place in an adjacent auditorium, followed by a reception at the house.

The series runs at 6 p.m. October through March, 97 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos. neutrahouse.org

Among the speakers will be Charles Davis (October 13), senior partner at the San Francisco firm EHDD. Among Davis's projects was the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

Craig Hartman (February 9), design partner at Skidmore, Owings and Merrill's San Francisco office, designed Oakland's remarkable Christ the Light Cathedral, among other projects.

Southern Californian Ray Kappe (March 8), a leading designer of modern residences who was profiled in our spring issue, pioneered 'green' building before the term existed.

Architect Rob Steinberg (January 12) will talk about his late father Goodwin Steinberg, an important modernist designer based on the Peninsula. Architectural historian Thomas Hines (November 10) will discuss Neutra. And on December 8 the speaker will be Steve Glenn, founder of LivingHomes, which builds prefabricated homes designed by, among others, Ray Kappe.

Kappe is making another appearance in Los Altos—in the form of three rental units he designed for LivingHomes. Two are three-bedroom apartments, one a compact studio. Check out livinghomes.net.

Eichler swim club takes on AT&T

Efforts by AT&T and the Eichler Swim and Tennis Club in Palo Alto to erect a 75-foot-tall cell phone tower disguised as an evergreen tree were stymied in November, when AT&T pulled out, citing the need for taller towers than permitted by the city's height limit.

But many suspect a well organized 'Stop the Fake Tree' campaign, run by homeowners in Eichler's Palo Verde neighborhood, and their non-Eichler neighbors, played a part in the decision.

The swim club hoped to use income from the tower for improvements. But many homeowners were concerned about radiation and aesthetics.

"Joseph Eichler would turn over in his grave," neighbor Michael Jaret wrote, "and would never permit this non-profit club to create an eyesore in the neighborhood."

A similar battle erupted in 2003 at San Mateo Highlands, an Eichler neighborhood, when PG&E proposed increasing the height of power lines—also dressed as trees. That plan died following neighborhood uproar.