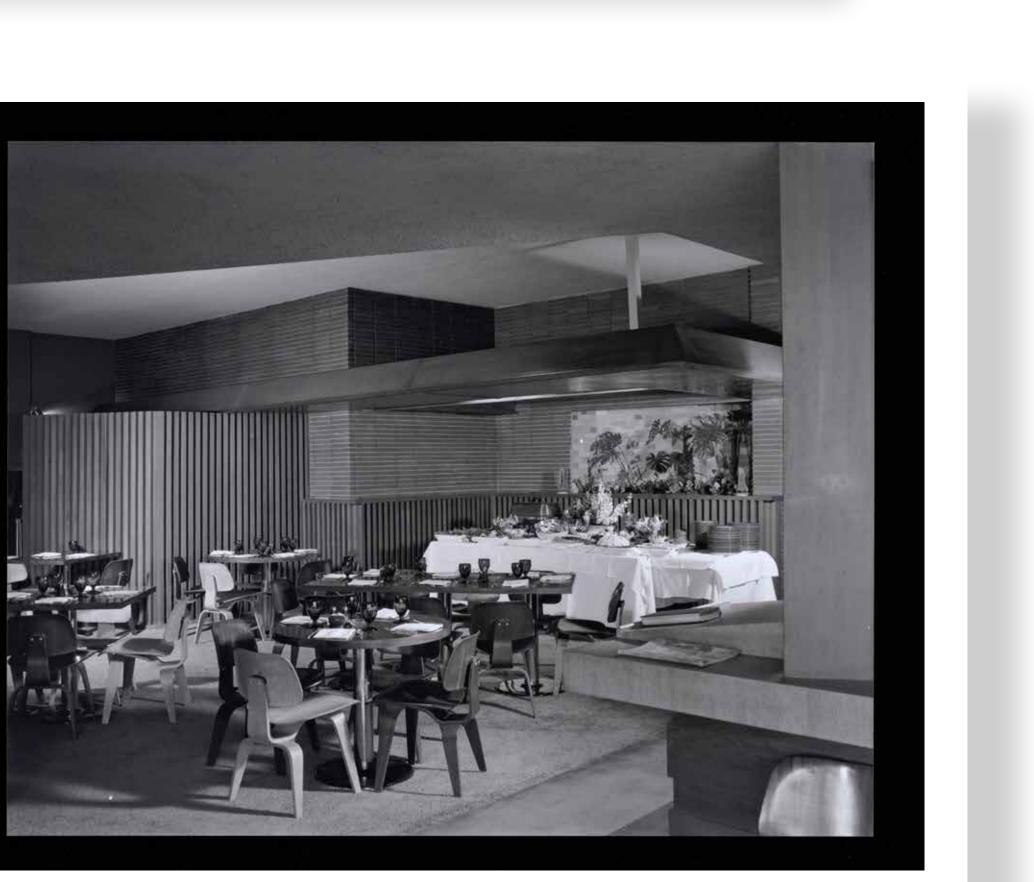
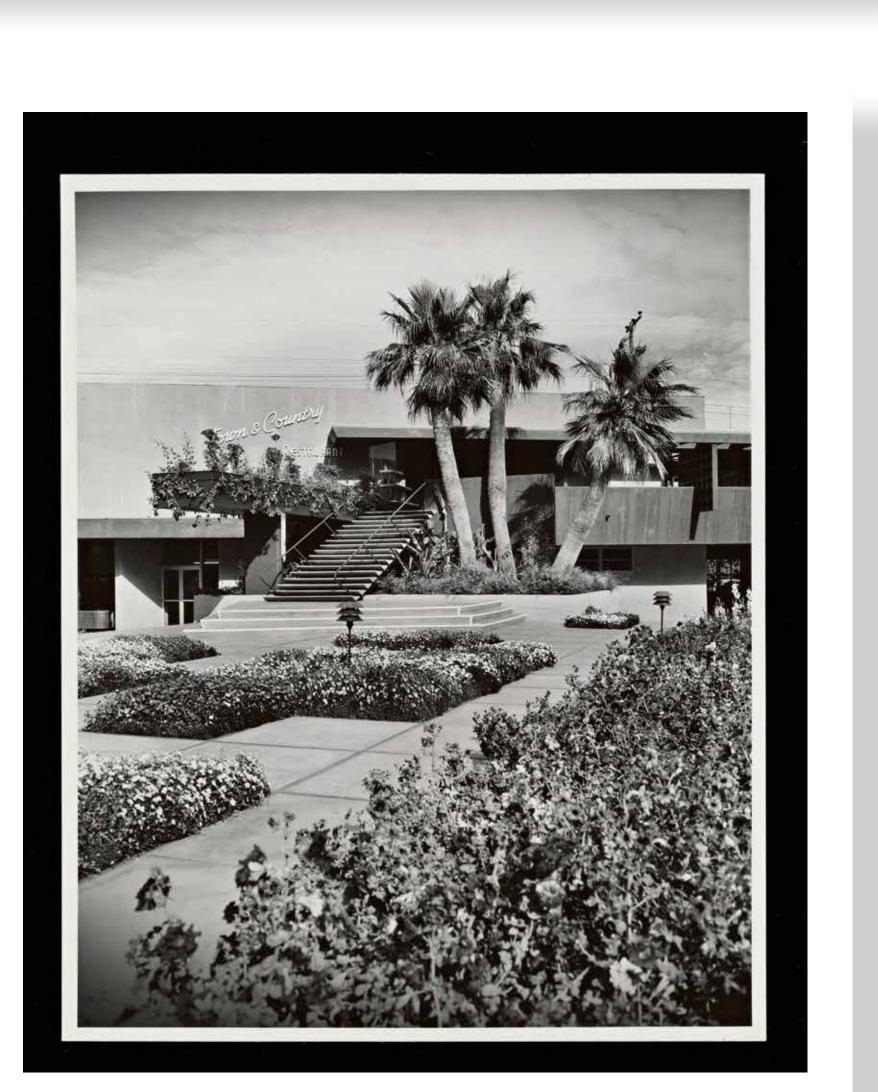
Town & Chanty Resum







Julius Shulman © J. Paul Getty Trust. Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles (2004.R.10)

Designed in 1948 by internationally-famous architects, Paul R. Williams and A. Quincy Jones, the T&CC is one of the best examples of the international-style of architecture in southern California and is an important early "mixed-use" development. Williams was the AIA's first African-American architect (1923) and first African-American AIA Fellow (1957).

Advocacy Timeline

- In April of 2009 the Class 1 Historic Site nomination for the T&CC, authored by Palm Springs Preservation Foundation board member Patrick McGrew, is submitted to the city of Palm Springs.
- On June 24, 2009 the city council votes unanimously against the Class 1 designation of the T&CC implicitly endorsing its demolition. This action is the low-point in hopes for the preservation of the T&CC.
- On March 20, 2011 PSPF and the Palm Springs Modern Committee meet to discuss and develop various advocacy strategies for the T&CC.
- An April 5, 2011 *Desert Sun* editorial by PSPF board member Erik Rosenow points out that Las Vegas (known for its building demolitions) has saved its Paul R. Williams-designed La Concha Motel.
- In April of 2011 PSPF brings the president of the National Organization of Minority Architects to Palm Springs to raise awareness about the plight of the T&CC.
- On June 9, 2011 a PSPF-commissioned "sustainability study" is presented to the city.
- A June 12, 2011 *Desert Sun* editorial by PSPF board member Gary Johns describes the benefits of historic preservation and how the rehabilitation of the T&CC could benefit the community.
- A June 26, 2011 *Desert Sun* editorial by PSPF board member Patrick McGrew describes how a restored T&CC could aid in the "de-malling" of the downtown.

Master Architects Jones and Williams, based in Los Angeles, designed the original Town & Country Center, then collaborated with local architects Clark, Frey, and Wexler to further develop the mixed-use center. The success of the Town & Country Center was due largely to a scale that is both pedestrian-friendly and in harmony with its desert and mountain surroundings.

Susan Secoy Jensen





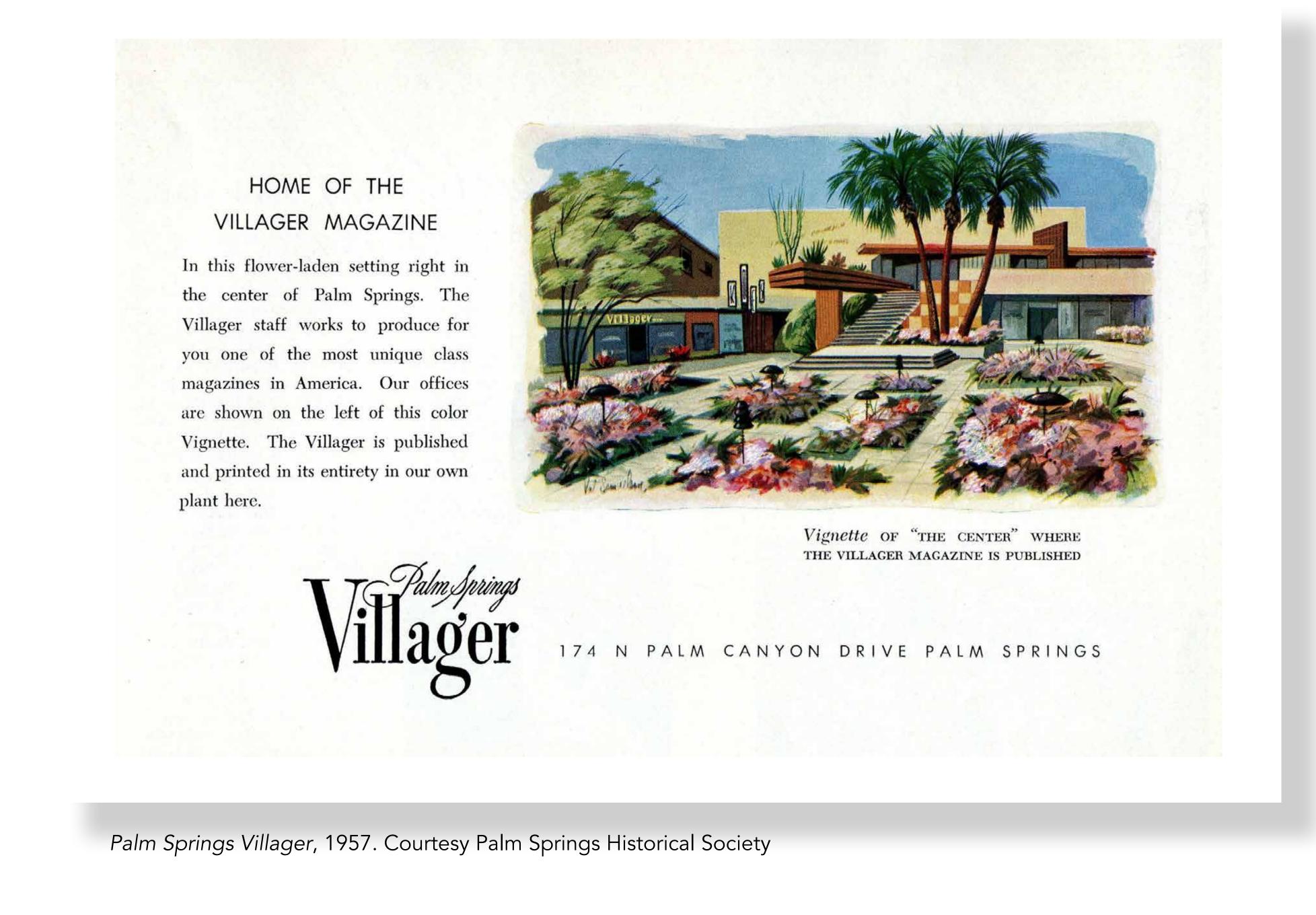
ourtesy Babs Marshall

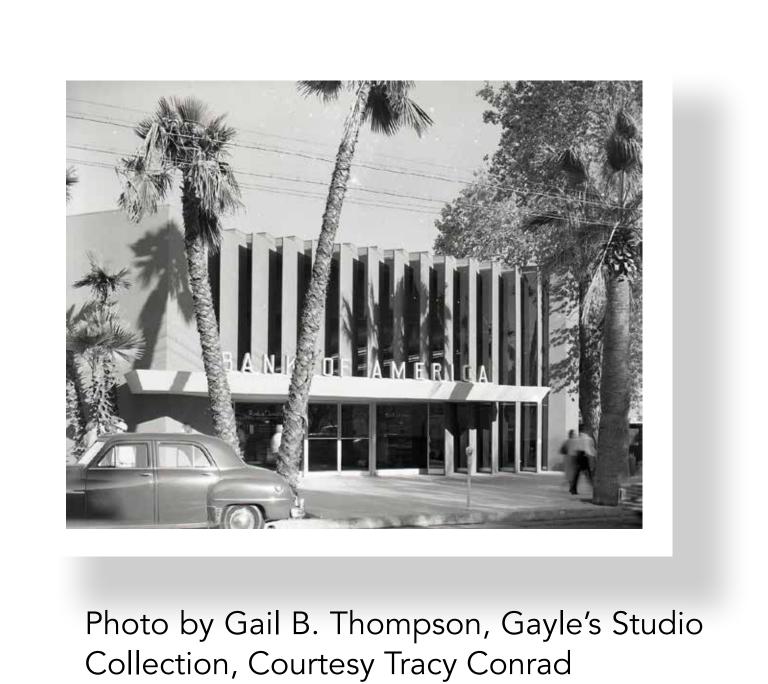
- Courtesy John Lewis Marshall
- On October 21, 2012 PSPF sends a letter to the city manager stating, "For the past decade we have watched the historic T&CC...slowly deteriorate through neglect under the current owner. We are now at the point where a decade of deferred maintenance is starting to take a serious physical toll on the structure."
- An October 2, 2013 *Desert Sun* editorial by PSPF President Erik Rosenow warns that the T&CC could fall victim to a suspicious fire like other Palm Springs landmarks.
- In the January 2014 issue of *Desert Magazine*, PSPF board advisor Tracy Conrad writes an article describing how the T&CC dramatically influenced the course of desert modernism.
- On December 31, 2014 PSPF asks the California

 State Historic Preservation Office to consider adding the T&CC to the California

 State Register (and by extension the National Register) of Historic Places. The application is authored by PSPF board member and architect Susan Secoy Jensen.

 The owner strongly objects to the designation.
- On Friday, August 7, 2015 the California State Historical Resources Commission votes unanimously to make the T&CC "eligible" for listing on both state and national registers. Notably, the nomination receives 13 letters of support.
- On October 13, 2015 the Palm Springs Historic Site Preservation Board recommends that the city council amend the city's "Specific Plan" to retain the T&CC pointing out its eligibility for the state and national registers.
- On January 11, 2016 PSPF submits a new T&CC Class 1Historic Site nomination, prepared by PSPF advisor Susan Secoy Jensen, to the city.





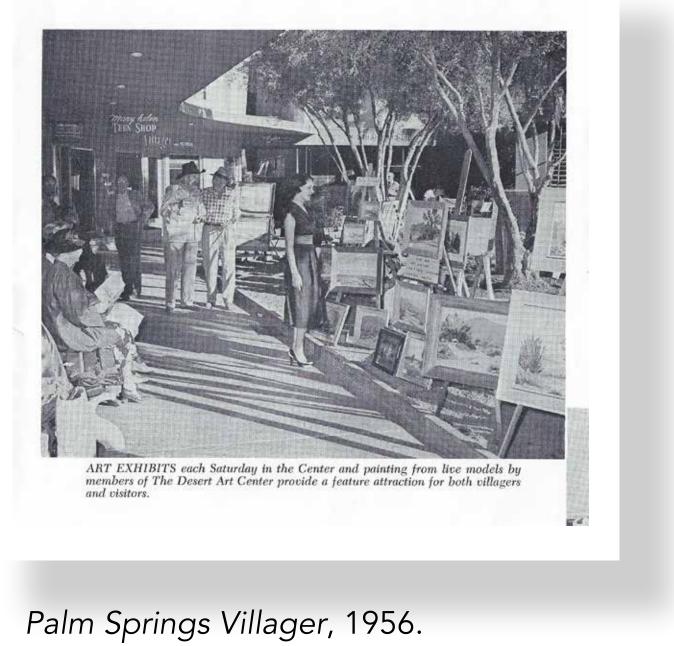




Photo by Gail B. Thompson, Gayle's Stu Collection, Courtesy Tracy Conrad torical Society

- On March 8, 2016 the HSPB votes unanimously to recommend approval of the T&CC Class 1 nomination.
- On April 20, 2016 the Class 1 nomination for the T&CC is approved by the city council. PSPF and PSModCom board members speak eloquently in support of the designation. In an email to its members PSPF states, "Although many hurdles still remain...[we] should be strongly encouraged by this major preservation success."
- On February 27, 2017 the city council holds a "Study Session to Discuss Moving Forward Palm Springs Development Projects, Including the Downtown Revitalization." Many speak in support of a restored T&CC.
- A February 28, 2017 *Desert Sun* article quotes PSPF board member Ron Marshall's assertion that "The best-case scenario would be that the T&CC will be sold to another developer, hopefully one that specializes in historic preservation."
- A March 12, 2017 *Desert Sun* editorial by PSPF board member Barbara Marshall challenges the city leadership to take specific actions to ensure the future of the T&CC.
- A March 20, 2017 *Desert Sun* editorial quotes PSPF vice president Gary Johns as saying a restored T&CC would "connect the downtown and the tribe's burgeoning projects; not with a street, but with heart and soul."

The Future

Although there have been some rather unsympathetic plans to demolish historic fabric proposed by the current owner, the T&CC's recent historic designation, and the continued commitment of citizens, elected leaders, and preservationists, bode well for its future. In short, all the pieces are in place to help make the rehabilitation of the T&CC a sympathetic one.

Text courtesy Palm Springs Preservation Foundation

pspreservationfoundation.org