



PALM SPRINGS
ART MUSEUM

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**PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM'S ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN CENTER
ANNOUNCES DISCOVERY OF HISTORIC HUGH M. KAPTUR HOMES**

Archive Yields Famed Modernist Architect's Original 'Tamarisk Village' Plans

PALM SPRINGS, CA (October 17, 2016) – The Palm Springs Art Museum's Architecture and Design Center has announced the discovery of four previously unknown home designs by famed modernist architect Hugh M. Kaptur.

The residences, located on or in the vicinity of Mott Circle in Rancho Mirage, were built between 1962-'63 as prototypes for the planned "Tamarisk Village." One of the homes – the Don Baker residence – previously received "Architectural Merit" recognition from the City of Rancho Mirage's Historic Preservation Commission.

The Kaptur designs were identified by A+D Center Archivist Frank Lopez, who pored over an archive of more than 5,000 drawings, renderings, photographs and other documents that were recently donated to the museum by the architect himself. Local architectural historian Melissa Riche also contributed to the research.

"While perhaps not as widely known as some of his contemporaries, Kaptur's status as a first-tier modernist is unquestioned," said Lopez. "The discovery of these designs is exciting on several levels, primarily because it's not every day that you come across unknown early works by an architect of his stature."

The Kaptur collection resides in the A+D Center's Lorraine Boccardo Archive Study Center. Located on the lower level, the archive also includes the work of such renowned mid-century modern architects as Albert Frey, E. Stewart Williams, Patrick McGrew and Arthur Elrod/Harold Broderick. It is available for public review by appointment only.

"For museum members, visitors and donors, the modernist era is of supreme

importance and infinite fascination,” said Elizabeth Armstrong, Palm Springs Art Museum’s JoAnn McGrath Executive Director. “The source materials in this collection allow us to learn more, and share our discoveries with the public.”

Born in 1931, Kaptur is recognized as one of the pre-eminent modernist architects, alongside contemporaries such as William Cody, Donald Wexler, Richard Harrison and Howard Lapham. Beginning in 1956, Kaptur has designed more than 200 noteworthy buildings in the Palm Springs area, including homes for actors Steve McQueen and William Holden, Fire Stations #3 and #4, Tahquitz Plaza and Casa Blanca (now the Musicland Hotel). He was inducted onto the Palm Springs Walk of Stars in 2014.

On Friday, Oct. 21, Kaptur is scheduled to appear from 1 to 3 p.m. at an event celebrating his work at the Modernism Week Shop at Destination PSP. For ticket information, please visit www.modernsimweek.com.

For information about Palm Springs Art Museum hours, admission prices, membership opportunities and ongoing exhibitions please visit <https://www.psmuseum.org> or call (760) 322-4800.

About Palm Springs Art Museum

Palm Springs Art Museum is the largest cultural institution in the Coachella Valley and includes three locations in Palm Springs and Palm Desert. The flagship building is located in downtown Palm Springs and features compelling art exhibitions, a vast permanent collection, and the 433-seat Annenberg Theater, all in a 150,000 square foot, architecturally-significant building. Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion, features exhibitions and programming that explore the rich topics of architecture and design. Admission to the A+D Center is free. Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert is an 8,400 square foot, Silver LEED-certified building named The Galen that presents rotating exhibitions and special collections. It is surrounded by the four-acre Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden featuring important sculpture works. Admission to the Palm Desert location is free, generously underwritten by Helene V. Galen. For more information, call 760-322-4800, visit psmuseum.org, and follow the museum on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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