

## TOURS . EVENTS . MODERNISM

### LARGE UPDATE MADE TO MID-CENTURY BUILDING INVENTORY



It's been a year since we intercepted a copy of the mid-century building inventory from the city's Planning Department, and we're pleased to announce that 54 additional properties have been added to it. Pictured above is one of the buildings in the city's northwest quadrant, built as the Indian Youth Center for the Church of Latter Day Saints in 1961. These additions aren't our work alone; the inventory is a living document shared with the city across a network of contributing researchers, all active in the preservation of Albuquerque's architectural resources. It also includes tips from readers like you. These additions brings the total number of known, extant modernist properties built between 1945 and 1975 to 350; three properties were demolished after the original 2013 survey.

Details entered into the inventory include the whereabouts of the properties, date of construction, and any known information about past occupants, builder/architect, additions or renovations, and sources. For some of the new entries, we anticipate adding more details as they're revealed in our research. Among the buildings newly entered are the only known Pereira & Luckman designed structure in the city,

### INDIEGOGO CAMPAIGN EXTENDED UNTIL JUNE 30th!



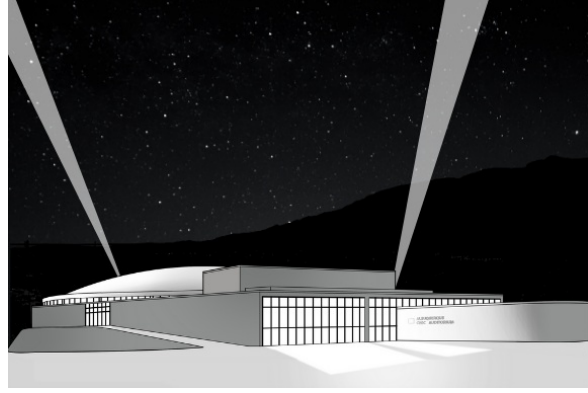
We need your help to meet our minimum goal for *The Perfect Building*, a short documentary about the lost Albuquerque Civic Auditorium. Praised by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1956, visited by Nixon in 1965, and where Jimi Hendrix performed only three months before his death in 1970, the Civic Auditorium (seen in the above postcard care of the Nancy Tucker collection) was a hub of unfolding history, community, and culture before it was torn down in 1986.

\$5,000 in funding would enable us to record a full review of the plans with **SMPC Architects** at the University of New Mexico's Center for Southwest Research. With the building gone, plans, photographs, and footage are all we have left to inform us about the structure itself, which once boasted the largest thin-shelled dome in the nation. If funded, the project is set to be posted to the streaming service YouTube and donated to local institutions. For more information, please visit the [campaign's page on Indiegogo](#) before Sunday, June 30th.

Albuquerque's singular Horizon Home, perhaps the first butterfly-roofed residence in Albuquerque, and architect William Burk Jr.'s personal home (which appeared on the ABQ Mid Mod Home Tour).



Also added to the inventory was this downtown law office designed by the firm of Garcia, Pogue & Associates in 1967. Many more photos of modern buildings with identifying information are posted to our [Instagram account](#).



A preview of the illustrated postcard offered as a perk. A detailed breakdown of the \$5,000 minimum is shared in the project's updates.

**PLEASE DONATE TODAY!**



## IS NEW MEXICO'S MODERN ARCHITECTURE ONLY IN ALBUQUERQUE?



With our focus on Albuquerque's modern architecture, it'd be easy to imagine that it's concentrated in the Duke City. But that's not the case. Readers have informed us of enclaves of modern homes in Santa Fe and Farmington, a **domed bank in Clovis**, the **abandoned Paolo Soleri amphitheater** in Santa Fe, the **Bien Mur Indian Market Center** operated by the Pueblo of Sandia, the **Bruno Leon homes of Las Cruces**, and a courthouse in Valencia County. The First Presbyterian Church of Tucumcari seen here we stumbled onto on our way home from Dallas.

Of course, this isn't everything. However, there isn't a comprehensive inventory of the state's modern architecture. These important cultural resources are at this time still woefully under-documented. Does this make a case for a broader effort? **What do you think?**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Remember the Civic & 'Led Zeppelin Played Here'

**AUGUST 2ND:** On the 50th anniversary of **Led Zeppelin's August 2, 1969 concert** at the Albuquerque Civic Auditorium, we celebrate the venue and the band with a one-

night only program held at the Hiland Theater. The Hiland, which opened in 1950, closed as a movie theater in 1995.

*Led Zeppelin Played Here* explores the start of the modern rock concert industry, focusing on Led Zeppelin's first month in the US, and a concert mystery: did they play on January 20, 1969 in a suburban Maryland gymnasium, in front of 50 confused teenagers, while President Richard Nixon was celebrating his first inauguration nearby? Many swear the concert took place, but just as many cast doubt. Did it really happen? Or over fifty years later, is it some sort of a 'Rock-and-Roll Rashomon' re-imagining of history? Featuring interviews with rock writers, musicians, and fans, and several who claim they were there witnessing history that night.



*"The music doc that gave me the most sheer viewing pleasure this year? Led Zeppelin Played Here. If it comes to your town, go meet it."* – Andy Markowitz, musicfilmweb.com

Tickets are \$20 and like all our tours and events, support Modern Albuquerque's efforts. Doors open at 6:30 PM; the program begins at 7:00. *Advance ticket sales include a copy of an illustrated postcard of the Civic Auditorium; all ticket holders will receive a commemorative program.*

## BUY YOUR TICKETS

**SEPTEMBER 21:** We're also working to bring you our first mid-century Albuquerque bus tour. From butterfly roofs, to storybook neighborhoods, we're designing the tour around the projects of builder and developer Dale Bellamah - and what we have to share may surprise you. Want to attend? Click the button below to let us know you're interested. It's our way of conducting an informal poll; there's no obligation to purchase a ticket when they're released.

## YES, I'M INTERESTED!

## DENVER MODERNISM WEEK CELEBRATES ITS SECOND YEAR



Denver Modernism Week 2019

Like Albuquerque, Denver is a mile-high city not widely thought of as 'modern'. However, the team behind Denver Modernism Week aims to change that through a 10-day August event series, **Denver Modernism Week**, now in its second year.

Much as how Albuquerque experienced a post-war population boom, in the mid-1950s Denver grew at four times the national average. In a practical sense, this meant that the rising population quickly outgrew the available housing inventory. All-modern neighborhoods sprung up across the metro area to fill the need, neighborhoods such as Arapahoe Acres, Krisana Park, Arapaho Hills, and Alta Vista - a rare phenomenon outside of California. And though influenced by Californian developers like Eichler, local talent was responsible for many of them. The team at Denver Modernism Week is working to expand awareness and appreciation of the region's modern architecture and to turn the spotlight onto local architects like Eugene Sternberg, Charles Deaton, William Muchow, Joseph & Louis Marlow, and more.

Denver Modernism Week's co-founders **Adrian Kinney** and Atom Stevens have built a database of the region's modern architecture from their extensive knowledge of neighborhoods, drives through the city, Google Maps, submissions by homeowners, and scouring the real-estate market's multiple listing service daily for any and all mid-century modern homes. This carefully cultivated record now recognizes almost 7,000 properties! Last year, Kinney went on **US Modernist's podcast** to talk about their mission.

Those who attend the event August 16th-25th can expect to see modernist principles in action! In a series of 'open house' style tours, visitors will amble through neighborhoods dense with historic properties, then pop into select homes to experience mid-century modern living first hand. There are also walking tours, talks, a bus tour, even a tiki night! For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit **Denver Modernism Week**.

*Denver Modernism Week was a generous sponsor of the ABQ Mid Mod Home Tour. Thanks to Denver Modernism Week's Jenny Clawson for consulting on this article.*

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