M News: Fallingwater Trip / 20 Yr Holiday Party / Matching Gift / Lautner Goff Gores Ellwood Schindler Houses
From: "George Smart, Executive Director" <george@usmodernist.org>
Date: Monday, November 2, 2026

US Modernist

Modernist House Archives: 35,000+ Houses	Architecture Media Library: 6M+ Pages	USModernist Radio Podcast: 485 Shows

Monday, November 2, 2026

Welcome, Modernist architecture fans, to the USModernist newsletter, sharing Modernist news and events since 2008. USModernist is an award-winning nonprofit 501C3 educational archive for the documentation, preservation, and promotion of Modernist architecture.

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Editor: **Ron Gallagher** Newsletter Staff: **Virginia Faust, George Smart**
Got Modernist News? Contact **Ron Gallagher** at rpg.modernist@gmail.com

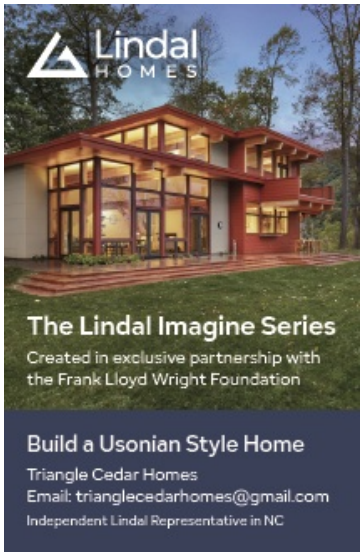
Newsletter Sponsorship: Connect your product, service, or organization to USModernist's 103,000 Modernist fans, architects, real estate agents, preservationists, and builders. Reach out to **Caroline Francis,** USModernist's Chief Development Officer, at **caroline@usmodernist.org.**

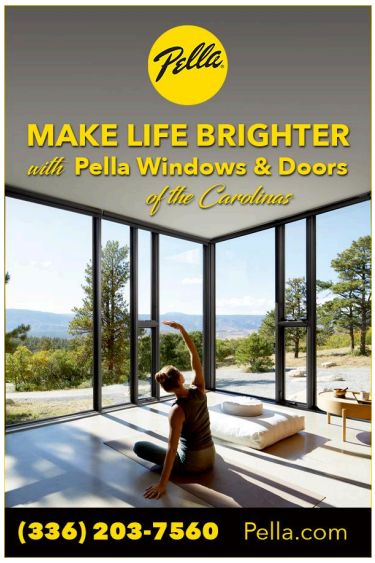
Meet the USModernist Team

Check out the NEW NCModernist For Sale/Rent Database. Real estate agents and owners can list their North Carolina Modernist houses for sale or rent for

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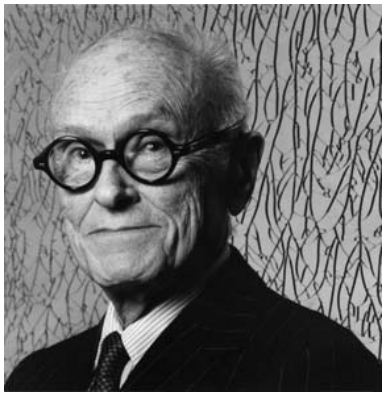






To Celebrate 250 years of America, we are offering 2 tickets to tour Petra Island in 2027 for $250. Limited time offer. www.wrightoverwater.com

Featured Upcoming Events



Tomorrow, Tuesday, November 3, 7pm: NCModernist Architecture Movie Series at the Rialto in Raleigh NC. *The Harvard Five* tells the story of five architects - Philip Johnson (photo), John Johansen, Landis Gores, Eliot Noyes, and Marcel Breuer - visionaries who ignited a modernist design revolution in New Canaan CT after WWII. Their designs challenged local traditions and ultimately redefined and inspired Modernism. Remote Q&A afterwards with the director **Devon Chivvis**.

Plus, it's **NCModernist Bingo Night!** Free cards for everyone, with prizes. Details.



This Friday, November 6, 5:30pm. USModernist's George Smart is the keynote speaker for **Tucson Modernism Week**, November 5-8, at the Tucson Creative Dance Center. Other events during the event include the film *Schindler Space Architect*, with producer **Valentina Ganeva**; Miracle Mile Vintage Bus Tour with **Ken Scoville**; Sunshine Mile Vintage Bus Tour with **Demion Clinco**; Judith Chafee lecture by **Christopher Domin**; Tucson Modernism Week 2026 Cocktail Party; Vintage Trailer Show; Tucson Modernism Week 2026 Home Tour. Details and tickets.



NEW: Thursday, December 10, 7–9 PM. Oh, What a Night! The NCModernist Holiday Party, celebrating 20 Years of NCModernist. Sparkle, style, cocktails, and delicious appetizers inside one of Durham's most successful Modernist restorations. Come for the cocktails. Stay for the world class jazz, the door prizes, the amazing architecture, and if you wish, a little dancing. Signature cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and live music by **Peter Lamb and the Wolves**, in a hotel beautifully dressed for the holidays. Raise a glass to 20 years of documenting, preserving, and promoting Modernist houses, inside a 1968 savings and loan that Durham decided was too good to lose. Details and tickets.

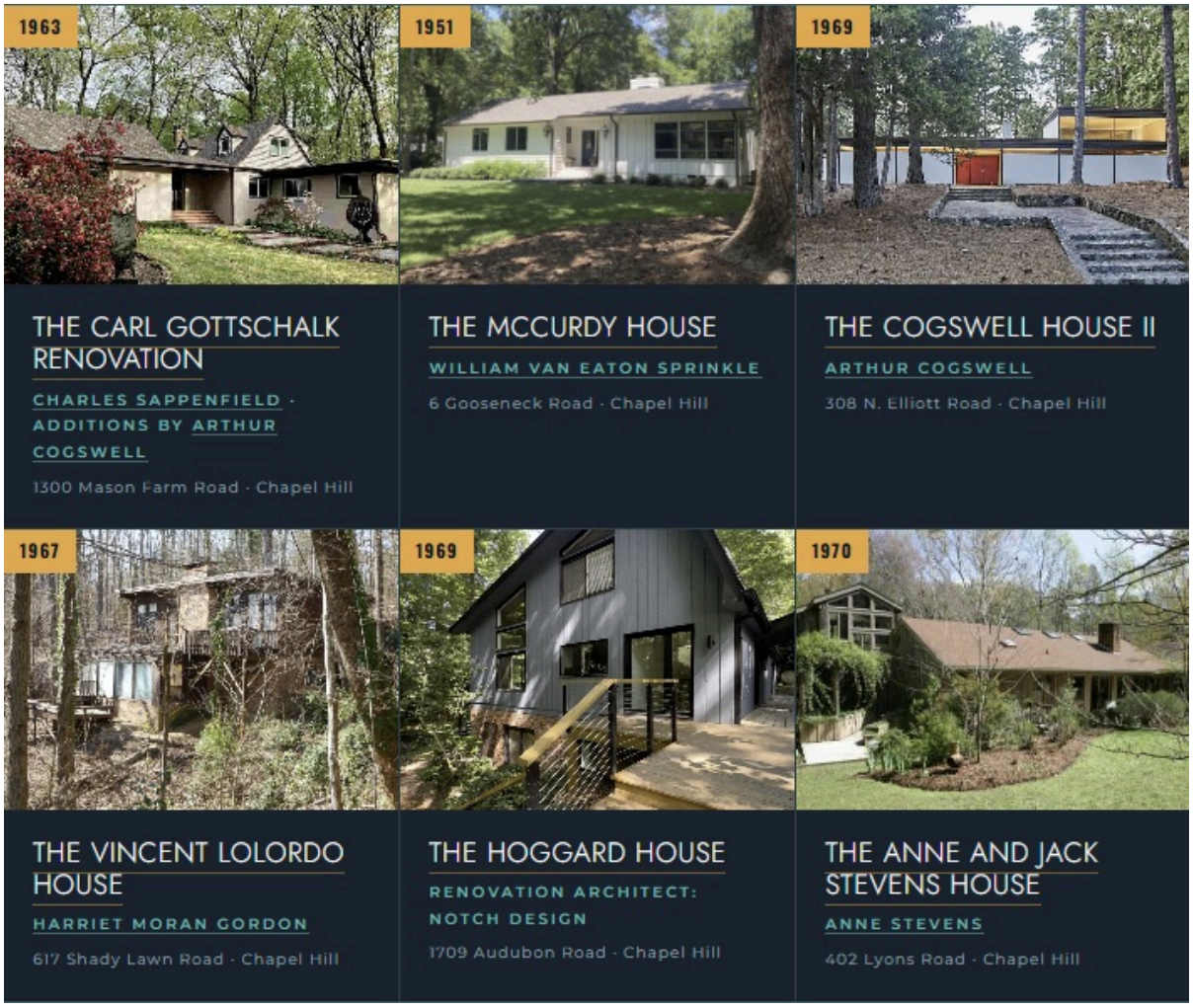


NEW: Saturday-Sunday, April 10-11: It's the bucket list trip you've been waiting for - USModernist goes to Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater, Kentuck Knob, Polymath Park, and the Andy Warhol Museum. Fallingwater is a masterpiece of organic architecture designed by Wright in 1935. Nestled in the rural forests of southwestern Pennsylvania, this iconic residence was built as a weekend retreat for the Kaufmann family, who later commissioned a house by Richard Neutra in Palm Springs. Instead of placing the home across from the property's waterfall, Wright anchored the structure directly above it. The house features dramatic concrete terraces that mimic natural rock ledges. Only ~~24~~ 20 places available. Tickets and details.

Windows & Doors

Thursday, November 19, 6-8pm: NCModernist Thirst4Architecture Happy Hour at the exciting PELLA Windows and Doors Showroom, 3252 South Miami Blvd, Suite 107, Durham NC.

Free, registration required. Enter PELLA on the form.



Friday, November 20, 6pm. Ackland Art Museum, Chapel Hill NC. **Mayberry Modernism: Chapel Hill's Modernist Legacy.** Preservation Chapel Hill and NCModernist present **George Smart** on the history of Modernism in Chapel Hill. Cash bar, with lite bites. Just $10/person. Details and tickets.

Saturday, November 21, 9am to 1pm. Open Doors: Chapel Hill Modernism. Preservation Chapel Hill and NCModernist team up for a compact morning of Modernist architecture by Anne Stevens, Harriet Gordon, Sprinkle and Stanley, Charles Sappenfield, and Arthur Cogswell in three Chapel Hill neighborhoods, including Coker Hills. Just $35/person. Details and tickets.



May 12-22: Join USModernist in Paris, Brussels, and Amsterdam! Eleven days across three countries, tracing Modernism from the house that started it to the house that redrew it. You'll stand on the ramp at Villa Savoye, walk under Zaha Hadid's Port House, and step into the small red-blue-and-yellow room in Utrecht that Gerrit Rietveld built in 1924 and the world has been arguing about ever since. Le Corbusier's famous Villa Savoye. Renzo Piano's and Richard Rogers's

Pompidou. Tadao Ando inside the Bourse de Commerce. Experience the great Atomium on the grounds of Expo 1958 in Brussels. MVRDV's Valley on the Zuidas. Details and tickets. *Only 9 places left!*

USModernist Annual Fund



The USModernist/NCModernist Annual Fund launches today with a $20,000 Matching Challenge!

As we enter our 20th year of documentation and preservation, a generous supporter has offered a **$20,000 dollar-for-dollar challenge gift.** Your donation will powerfully advance USModernist's archival work documenting, preserving, and promoting Modernist architecture. Your gift supports two essential priorities:

- * Architecture Library: Acquiring, processing, and digitizing the final 3,000 missing issues, unlocking 130 years of design history for researchers, students, owners, buyers, agents, architects, historians, and architecture enthusiasts.
- * Architect Archives: Adding hundreds of significant Modernist houses to the archive, sourcing new materials and adding search tools to the website.

Meeting the match helps USModernist plan and carry out 2027 preservation work with greater confidence — bringing magazine documentation and architect archives closer to completion while keeping these resources free.

To get the match, make your gift before December 31. Together, we can grow the unrivalled USModernist and NCModernist archives and keep them freely available to students, scholars, professionals, preservationists, and architecture fans around the world. Give securely online. Thank you for helping preserve Modernist architecture and its history for generations to come.



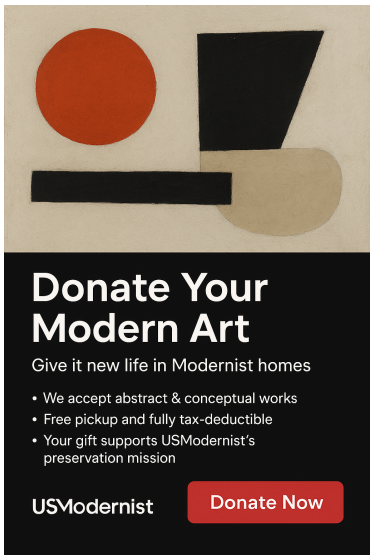
Giving to any nonprofit can be as simple as a check, but what about appreciated securities, real estate, life insurance, tax-deferred accounts (IRA, 401K, 403B), charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, charitable remainder annuity trusts, charitable lead trusts, will bequests, donor-advised funds, crypto, and IRA qualified charitable distributions? The choices can be dizzying.

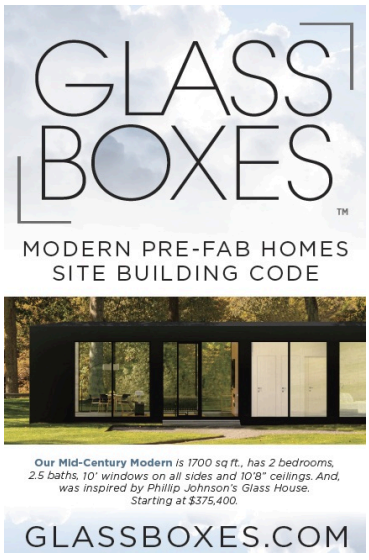
Join **Caroline Francis,** USModernist's Chief Development Officer, for an informative, resourceful 30-minute Zoom call at **7pm ET Monday, November 23**, as she gives an overview of these giving methods applicable to any nonprofit, at any stage in your life or tax bracket. To learn

more contact her at (919) 696-2114 or email caroline@usmodernist.org. Free, registration required. Enter CAROLINE on the form.

Endangered Watch LIst









Know an endangered Modernist building? Through our preservation alert program, **Modernism In Danger,** USModernist calls attention to the Modernist buildings around the country at risk for deterioration, demolition, lowball auction, or inappropriate renovation (like turning your Modernist house into an Italianate villa). Tell us.



Endangered: From a town known as Oyster Bay, Long Island, NY made famous in song by **Billy Joel**, there's is the rare, long-neglected Burke House at 144 Center Island Road for sale on 17 acres for $6.75M. **Benjamin Thompson** of TAC was the project architect. TAC leader Walter Gropius was friends with the Burkes.



Endangered: The 1954 Jobe House, **2205 Garden Place**, Raleigh NC, was designed by Glenn Buff and the builder was **E. H. Roberts**. Now the house is surrounded by development and is a prime teardown target. The inside is in good shape but the outside needs a lot of work. For sale at $840,000.

Endangered: Bad news on the Sturges House in Los Angeles, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. The Los Angeles Conservancy put the decaying house on



its 2026 Watch List. The house is owned by All Right Now Foundation, a nonprofit set up by a group interested in preserving the home that includes Robert Brisco, CEO of Internet Brands. Foundation lawyer **Wendy Giberti** says the claims are untrue and that the house is being appropriately maintained, but so far the Foundation has not let outside parties inside, which would bring an easy resolution to the controversy.

News









The national coalition fighting the Trump administration's proposed changes to Section 106, the US guidelines that allow for public comment on changes to historical buildings, has a website. Ask organizations in your network to join the open letter and coalition. Individuals can join the mailing list. Pitch your local or regional media using the coalition's press materials. Give to the 106 Strong Fund to keep powering the movement. Watch the short film to learn why Congress passed the National Historic Preservation Act, and what is at stake if Congress dismantles it this session.

- * Thursday, November 5 at 2:00pm ET - 106 Strong All Hands meeting: Election debrief and strategic adjustments; final rally-planning. Zoom link.
- * Monday, November 9 - The 106 Strong Rally at the U.S. Capitol. Come to Washington. Bring the stories of the places you love and gather peacefully and patriotically to call on Congress to reject legislation that

weakens protections for America's historic and cultural places. Register interest in attending.

- * Wednesday, November 12 at 1:00pm ET. 106 Strong All Hands meeting: Senate vote debrief and strategic adjustments, discussion. Zoom link.



Endangered: Mel's Drive-In, one of Santa Monica's great Googie coffee shops at the end of historic Route 66, is in trouble. Previously the 1959 Penguin Coffee Shop designed by **Armet and Davis**, the lease runs out in June 2029. Property owner ValueRock Realty filed paperwork to replace the iconic structure with a 138 unit multi-story residential building. Though a compromise involving a replica ground-floor café has been discussed, the Santa Monica Conservancy and the Los Angeles Conservancy filed a landmark application to protect the site. A public hearing by the Santa Monica Landmarks Commission is December 14.



Endangered: The HUD headquarters at 451 7th Street SW, Washington DC, is under threat, yet again. It is a designated DC landmark and one of Washington's finest Brutalist buildings. An October 12 Washington Post article cast it as obsolete and prized mainly for its location, "some of the best real estate in the capital city." Marcel Breuer designed it with Herbert Beckhard for the nation's housing agency. An excellent building for re-use, there are proposals to convert it to supportive housing under the McKinney-Vento Act, following public review. GSA abruptly ended that review and hasn't explained why. DOCOMOMO-US and other organizations are lobbying to save the building.



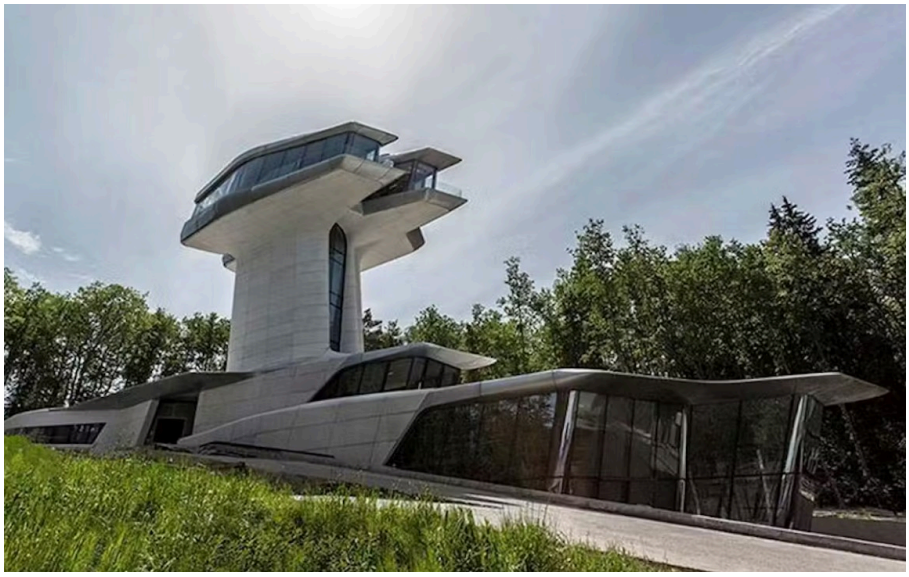
The National Capital Planning Commission is scheduled to vote Thursday on plans for Donald Trump's proposed 250 foot tall arch, now a military project complete with snipers and drones. There is a lawsuit brought by Vietnam-era veterans who say the arch would negatively impact their experience while visiting Arlington National Cemetery. Washington DC and Virginia officials have asked a judge to block construction. The public can submit written comments by Wednesday and watch the Commission live on November 5. **Details.**



Taliesin West, Frank Lloyd Wright's Arizona home and school outside Phoenix, has reopened to the public after closing following the death of a

Brazilian university leader killed by windblown roofing material during a tour. The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation said an ons-te weather station will help to "further inform the daily practice of opening our site to the public."

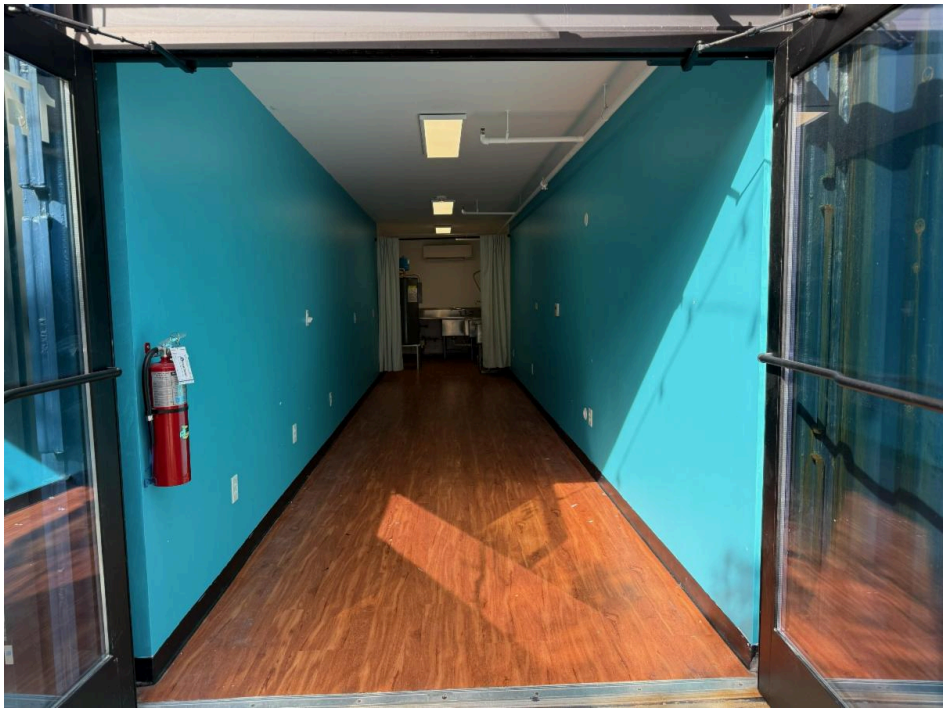
In other Wright news, the exhibition **Ocatilla: Frank Lloyd Wright's Lost Desert Masterpiece** officially opened to the public on October 27 at the Chandler Museum in Chandler AZ. This exciting new exhibition brings one of Wright's most fascinating and unconventional architectural experiments back to life. Built in 1929 in the Arizona desert, Ocatilla was an extraordinary collection of angular, wood-framed structures with canvas roofs that served as Wright's home, studio, and creative laboratory.



To mark what would have been Zaha Hadid's 76th birthday on October 31, *DWELL* assembled an album of 18 projects — including her only private house. Hadid was the first woman to win the Pritzker Prize and the first to win the Royal Gold Medal of the Royal Institute of British Architects. The house is the 2011 Vladislav Doronin House, aka Capital Hill Residence, in Moscow.



Robert Burley, who began his 60-year architecture career working for Eero Saarinen on the US Embassy in London and the St. Louis Arch, died in September at the age of 98. He established his own firm in Vermont in 1964.



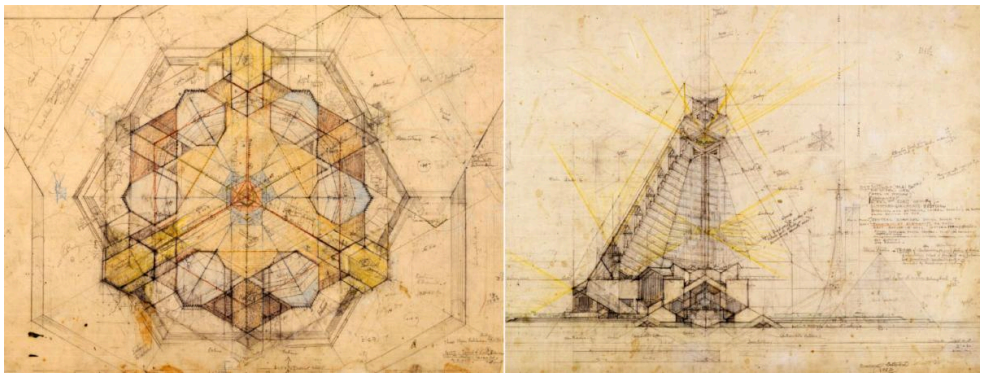
NCModernist's huge architecture book popup store concluded at 2pm last Saturday with 1700 books in the hands of excited new owners. Many thanks to the Research Triangle Foundation, store manager **Angela Roehl,** our dedicated volunteers, and one very generous donor. 300 unsold books were given to architecture programs at NC State and NC Central universities.



The government of Abu Dhabi has released plans to build a hall for a youth orchestra designed by the late Frank Gehry.



Norman Foster's UK firm, working with the US firm **Manica**, has designed a new fütbol facility for Milan Generali Stadium. It will be built next to the San Siro stadium and will be home to both the AC Milan and Inter Milan clubs. San Siro will then be demolished.



The Guggenheim Museum is considered the greatest work Frank Lloyd Wright did in New York City, but it might be less revered if two other projects had come to pass. In 1926, he envisioned "Steel Church for a Million People," with a bell tower over 750 feet tall, for St. Mark's Church-in-the-Bowery in lower Manhattan. The next year, he envisioned an 18-story residential tower using new techniques for skyscrapers and later four such buildings.



Bjarke Ingels has proposed a multi-use building for space above Rinia Park in central Tirana, Albania, where white disks creates the illusion of being up in a cloud.



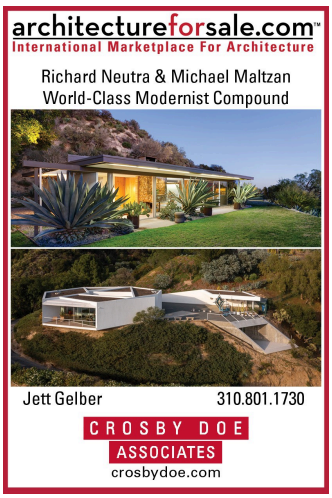
Available November 17: *A Concise Atlas of Es Devlin* distills the British artist's celebrated 2023 monograph into a compact, cube-shaped volume of 942 pages and 1,000 color illustrations. Tracing more than three decades of work, it follows Devlin's practice from sketches in the margins of poems, libretti and climate reports to cardboard models and monumental creations: stage sculptures for Beyoncé, U2 and The Weeknd, sets for the Metropolitan Opera, the 2012 Olympic closing ceremony and the 2022 Super Bowl halftime show. Thirty new projects join Devlin's personal commentary on each work and interviews with collaborators.

Coming next week: USModernist's Book of the Year!

Modernist Houses for Sale/Rent







NCModernist has a new, easier, faster Houses for Sale/Rent feature. Check it out! Real estate agents and owners can list their North Carolina Modernist houses for for free. Submissions subject to approval: the architect or designer can be from anywhere, but the house must be in North Carolina. Sponsored by:

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The Turetsky House, designed by Norman Jaffe, is on the market at 15 Horseshoe Road in Old Westbury NY, at $4.25M. From the moment you enter, Jaffe's architectural vision is unmistakable. Details. Hat tip to **Timothy Godbold.**



Up for auction November 20: The 1946 Frayser Bauhaus in Memphis TN is an Art Moderne house, one of the few surviving examples scattered throughout

the country. Maxwell McCall Millstead built it, and the architect is unknown. Opening bid: $75,000. Details.



John Lautner's 1955 Rosemary and Joseph Baldwin Residence in Los Angeles is for sale for the first time since it was built, priced at $2.1M.



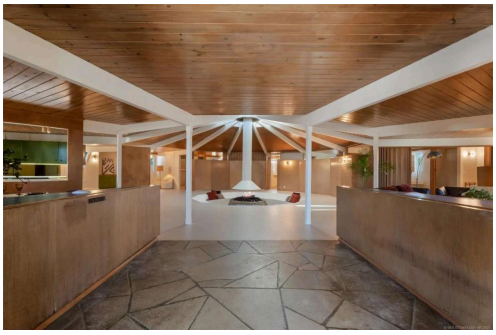
Work finished in 1926 on a wildly Modernist beach house that young architect Rudolph Schindler designed working for Frank Lloyd Wright. The Newport Beach CA house for well-known naturopath Philip Lovell and his wife, Leah, stayed in the Lovell family until listed for sale for $18.8M. Watch a new video on the house by OpenSpace.



The 1965 Don and Sally Kubly House that Craig Ellwood designed in Pasadena CA has just come up for sale at $3.25M.



In New Canaan CT, the 1946 Landis Gores House that architect Gores designed for his family is on the market for $3M, covered by a preservation easement the Gores family granted to the National Trust for Historic Preservation.





Two Oklahoma houses by Bruce Goff are on the market. One is the 1961 John Quincy Adams House, aka the Round House, in Vinita, at left. at $395,000. The other is the 1960 Howard and Lucille Jones House in Bartlesville, priced at $425,000.



A new house by Woods Dangaran in Hurricane UT, nestles up to Zion National Park, is for sale for $12M. Known as Moccasin Flats, aka Oculta Roca Residences, it comprises five buildings on about 15 acres. Photo by William Jess Laird.



A 1987 waterfront house in Wilmington NC designed by Haywood Newkirk has turned up on the market priced at $8.8M.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, November 14, 1-4pm. Mumford Restoration *Generations of Craftsmanship* show, Raleigh NC, featuring short seminars by **George Smart, Bernard Mumford, and Michael Ortiz.** Plus the unveiling of a 1907 Franklin car, carefully restored. Refreshments, raffles, demonstrations, and your restoration questions answered. Free. Details.

November 14, 10am–12: Docomomo US/Northern California tours Paffard Keatinge-Clay's SFSU Student Center in San Francisco. Celebrate the architect's centennial with a building that's part student hub, part walkable sculpture. Details.

November 28: Visit John Lautner's Pearlman Cabin in Idyllwild CA. Contact Nancy Pearlman at nancsuepearlman@aol.com. Vegetarian lunch and talk at 11:30 AM.

December 1, 5pm: Onera Foundation, New Canaan CT. Following the devastating 2025 Los Angeles wildfires, artist **Evan Hall** set out to rescue an extraordinary part of Southern California's architectural heritage: surviving chimneys from destroyed homes, including those designed by modernist architects **Richard Neutra, Ray Kappe, and Eric Lloyd Wright**. In conversation with Glass House curator **Cole Akers**, Hall will explore the intersection of art, modern architecture, and preservation—and how fragments of the past can anticipate the future. Free. Details.

Wednesday, December 2, 7pm: NCModernist Architecture Movie Series at the Rialto in Raleigh NC. Featuring ***Arthur Erickson: Beauty Between the Lines***. Canada's greatest architect designed buildings that feel inevitable — as if the landscape itself demanded them. Simon Fraser University, Robson Square, the Canadian Embassy in Washington: Erickson made landscape inseparable from structure and brutalism genuinely poetic. This gorgeous portrait reveals the philosophy behind a career of breathtaking spatial invention. Plus, it's Golf Night: line up the putt of your life for an exciting prize! Details.

Thursday, December 10, 7pm: NCModernist Spectacular Modernist Holiday Party, Durham NC. Details and tickets.

Tuesday, January 5, 7pm: NCModernist Architecture Movie Series at the Rialto in Raleigh NC, featuring ***Sitting Still***, an original documentary directed by **Gina Angelone** that explores the visionary work of **Laurie Olin** FASLA, one of the world's most influential landscape architects. It highlights his profoundly social vision, emphasizing humanity, urbanization, nature, and the creation of democratic, egalitarian public spaces. Plus, it's Star Trek Night with a trivia and Scotty impression contest! Details.

January 22-24: Florida Design Conference, Gainesville FL. A new biennial gathering. Details.

February 11-21: Modernism Week, Palm Springs CA. Details.

Through March 15: AIA Center for Architecture, New York. *Humanist Modernity* showcases the work of Stanisława (Siasia) Sandecka-Nowicka and Maciej (Matthew) Nowicki, two significant figures in American and Polish architecture.

Through July, the Getty, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and USC Fisher Museum of Art present a coordinated series of exhibitions celebrating the life and work of Paul R. Williams, the most prominent Black American architect of his generation who shaped Los Angeles from the 1920s through the early 1970s. Details.

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Latest Podcast











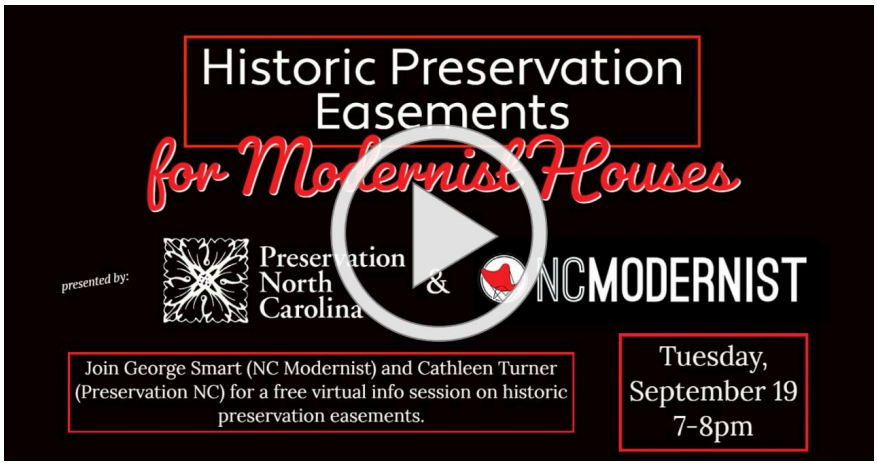
#481/Saving Wrights with Gunny Harboe + Isabel Strauss and Vin Cipolla + Mark Römisch + Musical Guest Rosie Webber

Gunny Harboe is the architect behind decades of Frank Lloyd Wright restorations. Then, the winner of one of the smallest architecture competitions ever, the Bauhaus Bathroom, **Isabel Strauss,** with Historic New England's CEO **Vin Cipolla**. **Mark Römisch** shares his years documenting New England's hidden Bauhaus houses. And closing us out, **Rosie Webber**, the viral vocalist and impressionist turned cabaret headliner.

USModernist Radio is underwritten by The Brent R. Harris Charitable Trust, restorer of Richard Neutra's Kaufmann Desert House in Palm Springs and six other houses in California; by the E. Fay Jones Conservancy, preserving the legacy of Modernist architecture in Northwest Arkansas. Visit efayjonesconservancy.org; and by Diane Bald and The Budman Family, restoring significant architecture in Toronto, Los Angeles, Malibu and Palm Springs.

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NCMODERNIST



The **preservation easement** is one of the only legally enforceable ways to assure a Modernist house does not get destroyed by future owners. National Register status? Meaningless. Famous architect? Nope. Local historic designation? At best, a delay in demolition. And as history shows, there are plenty of smiling buyers who say, "I would never tear this down." Then after closing, it's gone.

The preservation easement is basically a homeowner's association for one house. The easement requires future owners to maintain the house in

current structural condition and state of repair, or better, including necessary work to preserve its integrity. Here's a video featuring Preservation North Carolina and NCModernist, along with **Jane Levy**, who has an easement on her Greensboro Modernist home. Here's a sample preservation easement document.

There is another way, the deed restriction, or "preservation easement lite." When a once-cherished residence falls into the hands of new owners, there is always the risk that it will be destroyed, despite smiling promises to the contrary from those owners. One powerful legal tool families can use to guard against demolition is a **deed restriction**. Knowing that potential buyers can and do lie about destroying houses, a deed restriction is a legally enforceable binding promise attached to the property title. The restriction is usually ten years, and it becomes part of the chain of title. Implementing a deed restriction before putting a house on the market immediately scares off developers (or developers-in-hiding) in an owner-value-friendly way to protect a property.

We're not attorneys, but here's a sample to get you started:

(Insert Owner, Site Address, Legal Description)

This restriction is made a covenant running with the land and shall be binding upon the Grantee, their heirs, successors, and assigns. For a period of ten years from the date of conveyance recorded herein, the Grantee shall not demolish, raze, or cause the removal of the residential Structure located on the property described in this deed, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the Grantor or Grantor's designee. For purposes of this restriction, "demolition" includes any intentional act that renders the Structure uninhabitable or results in the removal of more than 10% of the Structure's exterior walls, roof, or load-bearing elements. This restriction does not prohibit good-faith renovation, repair, or rehabilitation of the Structure, provided such work does not constitute demolition as defined herein. Any violation of this restriction shall entitle the Grantor or their successor to seek injunctive relief, specific performance, and/or damages in a court of competent jurisdiction. This restriction shall be recorded in the land records of the applicable county and shall constitute notice to all subsequent purchasers. Upon expiration of the ten-year period, this restriction shall automatically terminate and be of no further force or effect.

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