

HOWARD P. LAPHAM COLLECTION

Finding Aid

PALM SPRINGS
ART MUSEUM



101 Museum Drive
Palm Springs, California 92263
760.322.4833

Prepared by Frank Lopez, August 2024.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Title:

Howard P. Lapham Collection

Date (inclusive):

1946-2004 (Bulk 1960-1970)

Creators:

Howard P. Lapham

Extent:

6 Flat File Drawers

Repository:

Palm Springs Art Museum, The Lorraine Boccardo Archive Study Center, Palm Springs, California 92263

Conditions Governing Access/Restrictions:

The collection is open to qualified researchers by appointment only.

Literary Copyright/Publication Rights:

No interpretive restriction is placed on the material. Separate permissions are to be obtained for publishing material. Property rights to the physical object belong to the Palm Springs Art Museum. Literary rights, including copyright, are retained by the creators and heirs. The researcher must determine who holds the copyright and pursue the copyright owner or heirs for permission to publish where Palm Springs Art Museum does not have the copyright.

Contact the Palm Springs Art Museum for permission. Credit line for use in exhibition or publishing should read: Howard P. Lapham Collection, Palm Springs Art Museum.

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of Item], Howard P. Lapham Collection, Palm Springs Art Museum, S2024.1.

Name of Cataloger/Date Completed:

Frank Lopez, August 2024.

Biographical Note:

Howard P. Lapham was born in Oklahoma City, OK on May 11, 1914, and died on April 16, 2008, at 93. He was a developer, carpenter, draftsman, contractor, land planner, and architect. Lapham, a registered designer, arrived in the Coachella Valley from Stamford, Connecticut in 1954 at age 40. Initially intending to become a builder in his new desert home, Lapham soon was designing residences for wealthy and influential members of the Thunderbird Country Club along the Club's fairways and up the slopes of what became known as Thunderbird Heights. Several of Lapham's buildings appeared in *Architectural Digest*, including the Hyatt Robert von Dehn Residence (1960, Thunderbird Heights), the Peter Kiewit Residence (1960, Thunderbird Country Club), the Clarke Swanson Residence (1961, Thunderbird Country Club), the Bill Morrow Residence (1961, Silver Spur Ranch, Palm Desert), and the 1961 remodel of the Thunderbird Country Club clubhouse.

He remodeled the famous Chi Chi Club in 1959, giving it an ultra-modern new façade. Lapham also designed Lord Fletcher's English Pub in 1966 on what became known as 'Restaurant Row' on Highway 111 in Rancho Mirage. One of Lapham's largest residential projects was the Mayan-themed Cook House, known as Ichpa Mayapan, built atop Thunderbird Heights in 1970. Between 1959 and 1963 some of Lapham's Palm Springs buildings were designed with assistance from Haralamb H. Georgescu, a Romanian-born architect.

Scope and Content Note:

The materials were donated in July 2024 by the Palm Springs Historical Society (S2024.1). The collection is represented by one series: Series I – Architectural Drawings.

SERIES I – Architectural Drawings by Project Name

SITE/CLIENT	CITY	YEAR(S)
Aerials	Unknown	Undated
Affordable Basic Cottage	Unknown	Undated
Alternate Layout Plans for Area A & B	Unknown	Undated
Annenberg, Walter H. Concept Exclusive Estates	Rancho Mirage	1973
Arthur and David Lyons Restaurant [Lindy Lou's]	Palm Springs	1967
Artisan Village/Pueblo Viejo	Palm Springs	Undated
Bathroom Interior and Furniture	Unknown	Undated
Beverly Hills Terraces	Omaha, NE	Undated
Café Gardens with Teatro Del Mercado	Unknown	Undated
Carl Company (Floor Plans - John F. Hyde Architect)	Omaha, NE	1963
Commercial Building for Irwin Schuman [Thrifty Stores]	Palm Springs	Undated
Convention Center Village	Palm Springs	Undated
Cook, Howard and Maxine [Ichpa Mayapan - Thunderbird Heights]	Rancho Mirage	1972
Corporate Club Conference Center	Palm Springs	Undated
Crosby, Bing Bedroom Furniture	Unknown	Undated
Dawson, John Mr. and Mrs. Thunderbird Country Club Estates (William F. Cody)	Palm Springs [Rancho Mirage]	1951
Desert Fashion Plaza Redevelopment Proposal (Wessman Development Company)	Palm Springs	2000, 2003
Designer Outlets	Unknown	Undated
Development Property Master Plan Section 14	Palm Springs	Undated
Downtown Employee Parking and Housing Section 14	Palm Springs	2000
East of Airport Concept Land Use Study	Palm Springs	1988
ECONOMODULAR	Unknown	Undated
Eisenhower Atrium and Interim Administration Offices	Rancho Mirage	1968
Eldorado Isles Mobile Homes for W.A. Darwin	Palm Springs/Indio	1964
Fallout Shelter for Atomic Barrier Research Company	Unknown	1961
Garnet Hill R.V. Park	Palm Springs	Undated

Gene Autry and Vista Chino (20 Acres)	Palm Springs	Undated
Gloria Homes Proposed Apartments	Unknown	1961
Golden Triangle Drug Store Building	Indio	1962
Golden Triangle Stores Building C	Indio	1962
Hacienda Springs Country Club Clubhouse	Rancho Mirage	1973
Haciendas del Racquet Club	Palm Springs	2000
Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. (Lot 69, Thunderbird Country Club)	Palm Springs [Rancho Mirage]	Undated
Harvest Haciendas Concept Master Development Plan Section 6	Palm Springs	Undated
Harvest Haciendas Estates	Palm Springs	Undated
Hawaiian Village Shopping and Hotel Center	Palm Springs	1955
Haystack Ranch for Palm Desert Sales (Albert A. Webb Associates)	Palm Desert	1964
Howard Johnson Plot Plan (Neste, Brudin & Stone Engineers)	Indio	1964
Interior of Mall Schematic Concept	Unknown	1986
Job Process Chart	Unknown	Undated
Kiewit, Peter Mr. and Mrs. (Thunderbird Country Club)	Rancho Mirage	Undated
Kiewit, Peter Mr. and Mrs. (Kiewit Plaza)	Omaha, NE	Undated
Kiewit, Peter Mr. and Mrs. (Kiewit Plaza) Kitchen (Nebraska Custom Kitchen)	Omaha, NE	1960-61
Kokopelli Vacation Village/Otani/Palm Springs Vacation Village	Palm Springs	2000-01, 2003
Manseau Units Building No. 1 Thunderbird Country Club (William F. Cody)	Palm Springs [Rancho Mirage]	1954
Manseau, Lou Residence Bedroom Addition (Thunderbird Ranch)	Palm Springs [Rancho Mirage]	Undated
Master Plan for Development Property	Palm Springs	1968
Medical Science Complex	Palm Springs	1968
Mee, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Jr.	Oklahoma City, OK	Undated
Mee, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Jr. (Noftsgger and Lawrence Architects)	Oklahoma City, OK	1956
Moller Estate Helicopter View "Fantasy Island" (Thunderbird Heights)	Rancho Mirage	1983
Oberndorf, Jay Mr. and Mrs. (Chino Mesa Estates Lot 21)	Palm Springs	Undated
Old Town Palm Springs Phase Two	Palm Springs	1982
Palm Springs Aerial View of Street Names	Palm Springs	1983
Palm Springs International Franchise Corporate Park	Palm Springs	Undated
Palm Springs Vacation Village Section 14	Palm Springs	2000
Pepper Ridge Farms Basic Concept for Industrialized Housing, Farming, Agri-Business	Unknown	Undated

Peterson, J. N. Mr. and Mrs. Residence (Lot 35, Thunderbird Ranch)	Palm Springs [Rancho Mirage]	1956
Plat of Survey Palm Springs Tract 5297	Palm Springs	1993
Plaza Mercado	Palm Springs	1996
Point Happy Oasis	La Quinta	1981
Preliminary Map	Palm Springs	Undated
Pueblo del Sol	Palm Springs	2004
Pueblo Viejo "Old Town"	Palm Springs	1998
Pueblo Viejo with Las Casitas	Rancho Mirage	Undated
Ramon Office Park	Palm Springs	Undated
Ramon Village Center & Las Haciendas	Palm Springs	2001
Resort Port Industrial Park	Palm Springs	Undated
Sizzler Restaurants (Cuckler Steel Span Dealer)	Culver City	1964-65
Smoke Tree Desert Inn and Corporate Park	Palm Springs	Undated
Smoke Tree Ranch and Corporate Park site	Palm Springs	Undated
Smoke Tree Vacation Village with Smoke Tree Inn and Las Casitas	Palm Springs	Undated
Smoke Tree Village Aerial	Palm Springs	1978
Snideman, Richard L. and Helen (Cabinets)	Pebble Beach	1962
Swanson Terraces Floor Plan	Omaha, NE	Undated
Swanson Towers Penthouse Apts	Omaha, NE	1962
Technology Village	Palm Springs	2001
TEKTON Inc Floor Plans	Unknown	1976
Thunderbird Country Club - Administration & Pro-Shop	Palm Springs [Rancho Mirage]	Undated
Thunderbird Country Club - Employees Building	Palm Springs [Rancho Mirage]	1960
Thunderbird Country Club - Men's Locker Room	Palm Springs [Rancho Mirage]	1960
Thunderbird Country Club - Ramada, Transformer, Caddy Building	Palm Springs [Rancho Mirage]	1960
Thunderbird Ranch [Kaufmann, Lippincott and Eggers]	Palm Springs [Rancho Mirage]	1946
Typical Gallery Schematic Concept	Unknown	1986
Unidentified Residential Floor Plan	Unknown	Undated
Vision for Revitalizing Village Core of Palm Springs	Palm Springs	Undated
Yellowstone National Park Fishing Bridge Area [National Park Service]	Yellowstone, WY	1959

Indexing – Names

Lapham, Howard P., 1914-2008 -- Archives

Indexing – Subjects

Architects -- California --Palm Springs

Architects -- California -- Rancho Mirage

Architecture – California – Palm Springs

Architecture – California – Rancho Mirage

Palm Springs -- Buildings, structures, etc.

Rancho Mirage -- Buildings, structures, etc.

Indexing – Geographical

Palm Springs, California

Rancho Mirage, California