

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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June 23, 2009

The Honorable Steve Pougnet
Mayor of Palm Springs
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Sent Via E-mail, hard copy to follow via US Postal Service

Subject: Town and Country Center Class 1 Palm Springs Historic Site

Dear Mayor Pougnet:

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) supports the nomination of the Town and Country Center as a Class 1 Palm Springs Historic Site. Designed by A. Quincy Jones, the Town and Country Center's clean, simple lines, flat roofs, and dynamic intersection of geometric shapes with minimal decoration, are evocative of the Modern Architectural Movement and reflect Palm Springs' heritage of Modernism and popular culture.

OHP recognizes, as others have said, that tragic remodeling and wanton demolition of many of our great Modern buildings has already taken place. The few remaining examples of this period are often endangered by new development. OHP readily encourages local jurisdictions to support and preserve their cultural and historic heritage through local, state, and federal designation processes.

OHP Unit has witnessed an increased interest in preserving architecture of the Modern Era. We always welcome applications to place these resources on the National Register of Historic Places as well as the California Register of Historic Resources.

Thank you for this opportunity to support the preservation of resources of the recent past. You now have the opportunity to preserve a significant Palm Springs historic and architectural landmark for future generations.

Sincerely,

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Members of the Palm Springs City Council