

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PALM DESERT

THE PAUL DIGGLE HOUSE 1962

73300 Fiddleneck Lane, Palm Desert, CA



Photo Courtesy of Zillow.com

Completed March 14, 1962, this 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom 3,800 square foot home, sits on a .44-acre lot.

The home was designed by Ross Patten of Patten and Wild.

ARCHITECT:
ROSS PATTEN
PATTEN AND WILD

CONTRACTOR:
ALBERT "DUKE" WILD

ORIGINAL OWNERS:
PAUL WARD & BEVERLY
DIGGLE



Photo: Linda Holden Clode

 **modernism week**
Official Modernism Week Event



The House



Photos: Linda Holden Clode

Paul & Beverly Diggle

Diggle was an engineer, a developer, and the President of the Viking Automatic Sprinkler Company of San Francisco. He and his wife Beverly spent 30 years wintering in Palm Desert before his death December 29, 1988.

The Diggles were both active members of Shadow Mountain Golf Club. Many Desert Sun articles highlight their involvement in the Shadow Mountain community. Mr. Diggle was President of Palm Desert Improvement Association and a member of the committee that led the incorporation of Palm Desert, the 1966 Scope and Purpose Committee. He also served as a director for Shadow Mountain Golf Club, while Beverly was a member of Palm Desert Women's Club.





Desert Sun, May 19, 1966

The Diggles were socially active in the Shadow Mountain neighborhood and numerous newspaper articles mentioned their parties. A typical event was a "Hard Times" Party hosted by the Paul Diggles and Hap Ballards at the Diggles home on Fiddleneck Lane.

"With wigs, painted teeth, trick glasses and other disguises, many of the guests were hardly recognizable as they arrived for the fete. Greeting couples at the door, the hostesses were dressed in matching sugar sacks, and their husbands wore matching shirts, suspenders, and top hats." (Thirza Williams, Desert Sun, May 19, 1966)



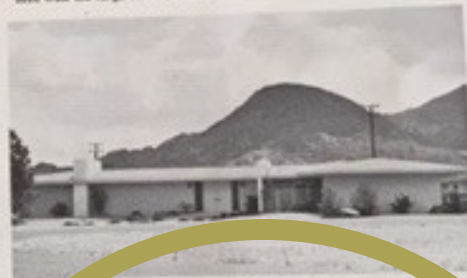
Builders of Excellence



The beautiful La Muir Terrace home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Tashman served President Lyndon B. Johnson as his Desert White House recently. The 10,000 sq. ft. house has a total roof area of 18,000 sq. ft. Wide expanses of glass allow the Tashmans' uninterrupted views of a wide segment of the desert. Other features of the house are the generous use of carefully selected Ponce Verde stone laid without mortar, 16' ceilings and the beautiful hand carved front door.



The Thomas Grilling hilltop residence in Southridge designed and built by Patten-Wild, Inc. Perlette marble was used throughout the large entry hall and dining area in this fine home. Views of the golf courses below and wide swaths of the desert as far as the lower end of the valley can be seen from the large curved window at the dining room.



The Palm Desert home of the Charles E. Evans features a master bedroom completely separated from the master wing affording complete privacy to the family and the parents.



Since 1958 Ross Patten and Albert "Duke" Wild have been building quality homes on the desert. Here Wild, left and Patten are discussing the plans for Thunderbird Heights home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Peurich. Landscape will include a series of jets that spray 18 feet high; nine different reflecting pools; and the built metal gates are heavily plated a dull bronze. Three hundred tons of white stucco was used on the exterior. Exotic woods and imported marble is used throughout the house.



The Paul Diggle residence is on Fiddleneck Lane in Palm Desert. This house features a terraced patio of native stone, special golf cart storage, oriental roof lines and mortarless stone walls and fireplace. The home contains two bedrooms and a den plus three bathrooms.



PATTEN & WILD, Inc.

BUILDERS

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Ross Patten and Albert "Duke" Wild were a Palm Desert design and build firm. Both men served in WWII and were from well-known Los Angeles building families and started their business in Palm Desert around 1958.

In the Palm Springs neighborhood of Southridge, they built a home for Max Stoffel (a Swiss Textile manufacturer), as well as one for Tom Griffing as well as the Taubman house where President Johnson and Lady Bird Johnson resided while visiting the desert.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Penrith commissioned the team to build their new home in Thunderbird Heights using 300 tons of white onyx and black marble in their 20' x 40' swimming pool. The pool also featured a fountain with jets that sprayed 18 feet into the air!

Patten & Wild

Patten & Wild also built commercial properties, (including the Canon Building in which their offices were located), as well as many homes in South Palm Desert. Frank Sinatra's sprawling estate, "Villa Maggio", in Pinyon Crest off Highway 74, was completed in 1970.

Patten was president of Palm Desert Rotary Club, secretary of Palm Desert's Architecture Committee and a member of Shadow Mountain Country Club architecture and tennis committees. For a time, he also served as a director of the Palm Desert Chamber of Commerce.

Historical Society of Palm Desert
www.hspd.org

