

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PALM DESERT

THE ROBERT COATES HOUSE 1959

73535 Pinyon Street, Palm Desert, CA



Photos: moncheriefotography.com

Sitting on a .46 -acre property, this "tennis estate" was extensively remodelled in 2008. While retaining the original Outcault footprint, the house now has 3 Bedrooms, 5 Bathrooms in 3,181 square feet.

The original construction permit valued the house at \$37,936 as reported in the Desert Sun February 26, 1958.

ARCHITECT:
JOHN OUTCAULT, AIA

BUILDER:
CHARLES WHITE

ORIGINAL OWNER:
ROBERT COATES



Official Modernism Week Event



The House



Photos: zillow.com

John Outcalt was born in 1927 in Chicago, Illinois. His parents moved to Palm Springs in 1936. They owned and operated the Townhouse Hotel (now the Avalon). He graduated from Palm Springs High School in 1945 and served in the U.S. Navy in 1946.

Outcalt attended the University of Southern California School of Architecture in 1946-1952, graduating with a Bachelor of Architecture. While he was a student he apprenticed in the offices of Clark and Frey in Palm Springs. Outcalt worked in several different offices before opening his own practice including the State of California Division of Architecture (1952-1953), in New York (1953-1956) and Clark, Frey & Chambers of Palm Springs in 1956. In that same year he opened his architecture office in Palm Desert. Outcalt received his California license in 1957.

John Outcalt, AIA

Between 1957 and 1998 Outcalt designed many commercial, public, and residential buildings, most of them located in the Coachella Valley. He was very prolific. Not only did he design many custom homes, he also was responsible for the many commercial buildings along El Paseo where he had his offices on the corner of San Luis Rey and El Paseo. He also designed several small condominium projects mainly in the Shadow Mountain area.

As well, he was often contracted to do additions or remodels of existing buildings. In particular, among others, he did many Walter Whites

In the early days of Palm Desert, he served on the Board of Trustees of the College of the Desert, was active in the development of the Living Desert Reserve, and involved in the growth and incorporation of the City of Palm Desert.

More than any other, one might say that Outcalt shaped the look of Palm Desert.

John Outcalt died in 1998.

(Overview based on the Archives at UC Santa Barbara)

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coates

While there are numerous references to the Mr and Mrs Robert Coates in the Desert Sun's coverage of social activities at Shadow Mountain Resort (1954 - 1962), there is no biographical information available.

Historical Society of Palm Desert
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