Val J. Powelson Collection

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Palm Springs Art Museum
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2018
Descriptive Summary
Title: Val J. Powelson Collection
Dates: Bulk 1956-1965
Collection Number: S2018.1
Creator/Collector: Val J. Powelson
Extent: .5 linear feet (1 box), 50 items
Repository: Palm Springs Art Museum
Palm Springs, California 92263

Abstract: Valentine Joseph Powelson, Jr. or more commonly known as Val Powelson, AIA was born in Los Angeles (1924) and died in Oslo, Norway (1997) at the age of 73. He maintained his practice in Los Angeles during the mid-1950’s to mid-1960’s and was a member of American Institute of Architects (AIA) beginning in 1988 when his office was located in Albany, California. Powelson started his career as a licensed general building contractor, designer, and then became a licensed architect in California (1986). He designed primarily residential properties mainly in the Los Angeles and Palm Springs areas. Powelson’s projects listed on the Register of Historic Places in Rancho Mirage, California include the Da Vaal Estates (1960), Maranz Residence (1960), and Morris Residence aka Weisbard (1961). Another Rancho Mirage project is the Gummo Marx Residence (1957). He also designed the Indian Wells Country Club House (1959) which was photographed by Julius Shulman. He is noted as a contributor to the Palm Springs School of Architecture for his unique hyperbolic paraboloid rooflines especially the Maranz Residence.

Language of Material: English

Access
The collection is open to qualified researchers by appointment only.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
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Acquisition Information
Gift of Aud Powelson in 2018.

Scope and Content of Collection
The collection contains one series – Architecture Projects. Some photographic images were done by Marvin Rand and Julius Shulman. Includes photographs of projects and renderings as well as postcards and other images of Powelson’s work.

Indexing Terms
Rancho Mirage, California - Buildings, structures, etc.
Los Angeles, California - Buildings, structures, etc.
Architecture - California - Rancho Mirage
Architecture - California - Los Angeles
Powelson, Val J. (1924-1997) - Archives
Los Angeles, California
Rancho Mirage, California
Architects - California - Los Angeles
Architects - California - Rancho Mirage

Val J. Powelson Collection : Finding Aid