

# VAL J. POWELSON COLLECTION

## Finding Aid

PALM SPRINGS  
ART MUSEUM



101 Museum Drive  
Palm Springs, California 92263  
760.322.4833

Prepared by Frank Lopez, June 2018.

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

**Title:**

Val J. Powelson Collection

**Date (inclusive):**

Bulk 1956-1965

**Creators:**

Val J. Powelson

**Extent:**

.5 liner feet

**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:**

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**Preferred Citation:**

[Identification of Item], Val J. Powelson Collection, Palm Springs Art Museum, S2018.1.

**Name of Cataloger/Date Completed:**

Frank Lopez, June 2018.

**Biographical Note:**

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.

**Scope and Content Note:**

The collection of materials was donated by Aud Powelson in 2018 (S2018.1). The collection contains one series – Architecture Projects. Some photographic images were done Marvin Rand and Julius Shulman and contain photographs of projects and renderings as well as postcards and other images.

**Series I: Architecture Projects – (50 items, 1 box).**



**This collection has been digitized.**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
1	Val Powelson Project List, 1959-1971, 3 pages
2	Photograph - Val Powelson portrait
3-5	Photographs (3) – Indian Wells Country Club House construction, b/w
6-12	Photographs (6) – Indian Wells Country Club House completed, Julius Shulman photographer, Job # 2817, b/w #3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 15, 17
13-15	Postcards (3) – Indian Wells Country Club House, color
16	Photograph – Rendering of Indian Wells Country Club House, color by Stan Repp
17-19	Drawings (3) – Indian Wells Country Club House, b/w
20-21	Photographs (2)– Oser Residence , Richard Fish photographer, b/w
22-28	Photographs (7) – Oser Residence, Marvin Rand photographer, Job # 2434 #unknown, 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11
29-31	Photographs (3) – Renderings of Quinn Martin residence, color
32-33	Photographs (2) – Renderings of Arctus Office Facility, color
34	Photograph – Rendering of Eastman Office - Warehouse, by Siegfried Knop, color
35-38	Photographs (4) – Renderings of La Costa Condominiums, color
39	Photograph – Rendering of Signal Hill City Hall addition by Siegfried Knop, color
40-41	Photographs (2) – Renderings of Signal Hill Library by Siegfried

	Knop, color; b/w drawing
42-47	Photographs (6)– Shingled houses in Berkeley (1974-1979) – b/w Henry Bowles, Jr. photographer job #252601-1; color snapshots
48-49	Photographs (2)– Unidentified b/w Marvin Rand photographer; Unidentified color
50	Photograph – Rendering unidentified residence by Stan Repp, color

### **Indexing – Names**

Powelson, Val J. (1924-1997) - Archives

### **Indexing – Subjects**

Architects – California – Los Angeles  
 Architects – California – Rancho Mirage  
 Architecture – California – Los Angeles  
 Architecture – California – Rancho Mirage  
 Los Angeles – Buildings, structures, etc.  
 Rancho Mirage – Buildings, structures, etc.

### **Indexing – Geographical**

Los Angeles, California  
 Rancho Mirage, California