LANDMARKS OF THE CITY OF PALM DESERT

1. **HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PALM DESERT** (72-861 El Paseo) Designed by Walter White in the style of Ranch Vernacular, the fire station was completed in 1951. Contractor Bill Lord used rustic concrete masonry units furnished by the County Prison farm brick yard in Banning.

2. **SHADOW MOUNTAIN GOLF CLUB** (73-800 IRONWOOD) Located in the heart of the Coachella Valley surrounded by the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains, Shadow Mountain Golf Course was incorporated on January 24, 1958. Designed by the famed and legendary golfer, Gene Sarazen. It was the first golf course in Palm Desert.
3. **PORTOLA COMMUNITY CENTER** *(45-480 PORTOLA AVE)* The building located at 45-480 Portola Avenue is significant as the first Community Library in the City of Palm Desert. The building was constructed in 1962 on land donated by Randall and Cyria Henderson.

4. **SANDPIPER CONDOMINIUMS, CIRCLES 5 - 12** *(EL PASEO)* Sandpiper Condominiums Circles 5 through 12, completed in 1958 through 1965 by the Los Angeles-based architectural firm of Palmer & Krisel, exhibit numerous stylistic markers that place them directly in the historic context of Palm Desert’s Modern Period. Further, Circles 5 through 12 are an excellent example of multi-family residential development in Palm Desert in the mid-1960s. The 128 units and 64 buildings that comprise Circles 5 through 12 reflect a coherent vision of modernist architecture rarely found anywhere else in the United States. The siting of the buildings in Circles 5 through 12, and the landscape architecture further reinforce a coherent modernist architectural vision that successfully created a leisure lifestyle of “carefree desert living.”
5. **Palm Desert Community Church (Center for Spiritual Living, Palm Desert)** – (45-630 Portola Ave) The building is significant as the City of Palm Desert’s first Community Church. A ground-breaking ceremony was held at the Portola Ave site on February 6, 1950. Architect Barry Frost’s plans were approved by the congregation on March 12, 1950, with Clarence Beck of Indio, the builder. Carl Henderson became the chairman of the building committee, and the congregation set to work in earnest to provide a roof for “the house that Mac would build.”

6. **Schindler House for Maryon Toole (44-870 Cabrillo Ave)**  
From 1946-48 Schindler built this home for Maryon Toole in what was then known as Palm Village. The home was built in the later years of Schindler’s career, which ended prematurely with his death in 1953 at the age of 65. In *The Architecture of R. M. Schindler*, Michael Darling of The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles said “The richness of the Toole house shows an architect in full command of his medium, orchestrating a range of architectural concerns toward a fully integrated whole.”
7. Randall Henderson House - (74-135 Larrea Street)
The residence at 74-135 Larrea Street is significant as the home of Randall Henderson, founder of *Desert Magazine* and early pioneer in the city of Palm Desert. It is further significant for its contribution to the development of the south side of Highway 111. Construction on the home began in approximately 1950 and was completed in 1952.

8. Miles C. Bates House – (73-697 Santa Rosa Way)
Miles C. Bates house, located at 73-697 Santa Rosa Way was designed by Walter S. White. Walter White was an American modernist architect and industrial designer who worked in the Coachella Valley in the 1950s. Although White patented the innovative wood roof system that alternated the use of wooden dowels with complementary biconcave elements to achieve the unique wave shape, the Bates house is believed to be the only home in existence that used this system.
9. The Owl House – (47-869 Sun Corral Trail)

The property located at 47869 Sun Corral Trail is directly related with the beginnings of the Palm Desert development that came to be known as “Silver Spur Ranch”. It can be comfortably argued that since it was the first occupied house on Sun Corral Trail it played the largest cumulative visual role in impacting future owners of Silver Spur Properties.