

HERE AND THERE

Groovy beauties

➤ Midcentury landmarks from Seattle to Palm Springs recall the era of beehives and tiki bars.

Midcentury modernism—an architectural movement built on wide-open spaces—has thrived here in the West. The style, in vogue from the 1930s to the 1960s, emphasizes simple materials and design that invites the outside in. Today, you can tour, eat, and even sleep in vintage gems across the West.

- With its exuberant bank buildings and dazzling movie star homes, Palm Springs, Calif., is the de facto capital of modernism. In 2006, locals launched a celebration of the city's architecture, **Modernism Week**. It has since grown from a few design history lectures and home tours into an extravaganza complete with period-dress cocktail parties and synchronized swimming demos. This year's event (Feb. 14–24) will honor designer Arthur Elrod.

- The respectfully restored **Hotel Valley Ho** oozes *Mad Men*-era style, from the colorful breeze blocks on

the balconies to the sculptural fireplace in the lobby. Dive into the Scottsdale icon's Hollywood past—and see other historic buildings—on the hotel's new midcentury tour of the city.

- With its Piet Mondrian-inspired facade, featuring a grid of glass, steel, and primary colors, the **Eames House** makes a dramatic appearance in the hills of coastal Los Angeles. Built by Charles and Ray Eames, the designers behind the ubiquitous plywood-and-leather lounge chair, the home is open to ticketed visitors.

- Clinging to a cliffside above Seattle's Lake Union, **Canlis** dates to 1950. Inside, diners walk past a low-slung bar to tables with views of the water and of chef Brady Williams as he puts the finishing touches on brown butter dashi with crab in what was, when built, one of the first open restaurant kitchens in the United States. —ALEC SCOTT



Scottsdale's Hotel Valley Ho retains its retro glam.