



PARK MODERNE FOUNTAIN

Blackbird Way at the Bird Path
Calabasas Historic Landmark No. 5

Date Built: 1920s

Designer: Jock Peters

Designated: June 8, 2011



Above: Front of the Park Moderne Fountain

The Park Moderne Fountain is part of the original Park Moderne housing development. Park Moderne was subdivided into 174 lots in 1927. The proposed development was organized along narrow streets named for birds and was envisioned as an artist colony featuring footpaths, pools, fountains and a pump house. Many of the features and several buildings were designed by prominent architects including Rudolph Schindler and Jock Peters. The existing Park Moderne Fountain is the only remaining fountain constructed as part of the planned development.

The Park Moderne Fountain is a 96" tall, Art Deco obelisk sitting in a rectangular basin. The basin is 64" long and 96" wide. On two sides of the obelisk, chevrons step out and up on the structure. The third side consists of an undulating panel inset containing colored glass.

The Park Moderne Fountain was designed by Jock Peters, one of the avant-garde architects involved in the original design of the community. Peters' most prominent designs were the interiors of Bullocks Wilshire. Because the fountain is essentially the same as when originally built, it is one of the only physical landmarks remaining in pristine condition within the Park Moderne development.

In the late 1970s, the Calabasas Historical Society was founded largely due to interest in the history of Park Moderne and fear of its potential demise caused by encroaching development. The Historical Society was able to preserve the Park Moderne Fountain. Because of the Historical Society's efforts, the Park Moderne Fountain serves as an important landmark within Calabasas and as a reminder of its past as a rural community.



Above: Rear of Park Moderne Fountain

Below Left: Rear of Fountain
Below Right: Side of Fountain



The City of Calabasas' Historic Preservation Program was created in January 2008 to safeguard Calabasas' heritage by protecting our unique historic places for the education and enjoyment of the people of Calabasas. The City of Calabasas is currently identifying properties such as the Mason Residence that are worthy of preservation and demonstrate Calabasas' unique character and heritage.



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