THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES



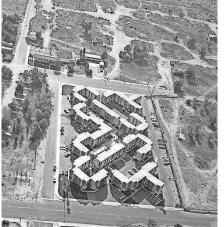
The Springs Hotel & Apartments at 449 E. Arenas in Palm Springs. PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE PALM SPRINGS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Palm Springs has struggled to provide affordable housing

Tracy Conrad Special to The Desert Sun

dry, a pupyrouna and a mee, pool. No one seemed particularly sur-prised when a mere 9 months later, Seminole Gardens was finished and ready for tenants. "Owner and sponsor of the complex is Joseph F. Sanson Investment Co. of Las Vegas which contracted the Baron Construction Co. of the same city to do the work The complex includes 30 the work. The complex includes 30 units each of two and three bedrooms. units each of two and three bedrooms. The two-bedroom units rent for \$107 a month and are limited to families of not more than four persons. The three-bed-room apartments, limited to families of not more than six persons, rent for \$127 Still a month. Gardens was an important mile-stone for Palm Springs. The city had previously tried to create a housing de-velopment for working folks on an even grander scale.

grander scale.



The Springs Hotel & Apartments at 449 E. Arenas in Palm Sp rinas

In August 1961, the paper featured huge banner headline in all capital left test: %25. RhILLION APARTMENT PROJECT SLATED FOR SECTION 14 FAM. The Desert State of the 'emergency' the free of Palm and a subhead that read 'Wolf-Newman To Construct 8-Area in alled the developers to tell them their application had been approved. The Desert Sun reported on Aug. 18, the free of Palm Springs City Lints Eight acres of land has been purchased by the refeared Humits. Eight acres of land has been purchased by the magnet patter wills the site of the unit: million dollar project and a subhead martments. This will not only be the first media the site of the desert area (and) will have a bomb abelier built for each unit: "With the first mode for partment specifications, and where a bomb abelier built for each unit: "With the first mode area (and) will have a bomb abelier built for each unit: "With the first mode for the desert area (and) will have a bomb abelier built for each unit: "With the developer store and have a bomb abelier built for each unit: "With the first mode for the moders of the scores of people who are residing on the developer store and have a bomb abelier built for each unit: "With the first mode in the first mode in the desert for the moders to make way for a full scale india and section 14, who are presently on notice that they must move for milting the desert area (and) will have a bomb abelier built for each unit: "With the first mode in the first mode in the first mode in the first mode in the scores will start actual construction of the desert area (and) will have a bomb abelier built for each unit: "With the first mode in the desert in the scores will be the scores of a bout the desert and in the scores will be the scores of a bout the desert and the in application the first mode in the scores will be the scores of a bout the desert and the scores will be the scores of a bout the desert and the scores will be the desert area (and) will have a bomb abeliet whill the east the work in the scores will be t

months of studying for a solution (for the problem) which was only worsening with time." "Residents of the southwest quarter

With time. Tesidents of the southwest quarter of Section 14 have fought relentlessly to save their homes because we have no-where else to go. The Indian landownersy of Section 14 have served notice on their tenants that they must vacate the land. The court and Indian conservators have worked to clear the ever more valuable ind-downtown slum section.⁸ But the gigantic project and the nuch-sought housing for working peo-ple was not to be. It wasn't util seven pars later in November 1966 that the city da a project actually under con-struction, the more modest Seminole Gardens. The newspaper looked back at the

tion 14. Despite the speedy escrow and as-tonishingly quick approval by the FHA, the project sadly never came to fruition. The paper explained, "financier New-man subsequently succumbed, and that man subsequently succumbed, and that was followed by a period of "tight mon-ey' when for several years, the entire country was enveloped in a recession which set back many major housing and building development projects every-where. And the period was particularly harmful to the city's plans for the imme-diate solution to the problems of Section H^* . 14.

In August 1970, the paper reported, "City officials were jubilant today over news that Washington officials had approved a low-cost loan application by a Beverly Hills builder for construction of

units for families of medium to low in-comes." Tronically, located on Section 14 on 2.5 acres of Indian-owned land bound-ed by Calle Encilia and El Segundo, south of Arenas road, the Springs apart-ments were developed by Stanley S. Leeds, who was also the recipient of as-sistance funds from the FHA. When it came to fruition, it was the second such apartment complex in Palm Springs. Seminole Gardens was already fully occupied, and Planning Director Rich-ard Smith said he understood there was "quite a waiting list." Tracy Corrad is president of the Palm Springs Historical Society. The Thanks for the Memories column appears Sun-days in The Desert Sun. Write to her at psishtracy@gmail.com.

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Spring via sounder for construction of \$1,150,000 apartment complex in Sec-tion 14 near the downtown area of Palm Springs. The structure will provide 76 units for families of medium to low in-comes."