

PRESERVATION
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OF PALM BEACH

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FOUNDATION SPRING 2020 NEWS

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DINNER DANCE

Image by Capehart Photography



Earl E. T. Smith Preservation Park Rededication

On January 15th, the Preservation Foundation marked the official incorporation of the organization forty years earlier with the rededication of Earl E. T. Smith Preservation Park. The dedication ceremony included remarks by Smith's widow, former Mayor Lesly S. Smith, who recalled Earl E. T. Smith's efforts to further the cause of historic preservation as the first Chairman of the Preservation Foundation. She also noted that her husband saw the park when it first opened in 1989 and would have been "very, very proud" of the park's refreshed appearance.

Revitalization of the park was generously underwritten by Samuel Lehrman, who spoke about his love of Palm Beach and his desire to give back to the community. Thanks to his generosity, the green space now features a central, carved limestone fountain and two additional fountains at the park's entrance. Additional enhancements include lush landscaping that complements existing plantings and the installation of elegant ball finials on the pedestals connecting the benches that ring the central fountain.

Located directly west of Town Hall in the Town Hall Historic District at the corner of Chilean Avenue and South County Road, the park site was home to a gas station when the Preservation Foundation purchased the land in 1987. Earl E. T. Smith Preservation Park is one of two green spaces owned and maintained by the Preservation Foundation for the enjoyment of the community.



Town Council Member Danielle Moore, Former Mayor Lesly Smith, Samuel Lehrman, and Earl E. T. Smith, Jr. Image by Capehart Photography.



Circle Room at the Breakers. Image by Capehart Photography.

Schultze and Weaver Dinner

On January 29th, the Preservation Foundation welcomed its most generous supporters for a special dinner in the Circle Room at The Breakers to honor the organization's 40th anniversary. The evening recognized this important milestone by placing in context one of Palm Beach's most significant landmarks, The Breakers, through a talk exploring the work of the architectural firm Schultze & Weaver, which designed the hotel in 1925.

The evening's program highlighted the Foundation's exhibition, *Schultze & Weaver: Architects of the Resort*, and featured authors of *Grand Hotels of the Jazz Age*, Marianne Lamonaca and Jonathan Mogul, in conversation with National Trust for Historic Preservation Chief Preservation Officer Katherine Malone-France.

The exhibition was made possible through a new partnership with the The Wolfsonian-FIU, which loaned selected works from their collection to the Foundation to display at their headquarters. An exhibition catalogue exploring the commissions of Schultze & Weaver can be found at palmbeachpreservation.org.

In addition to Foundation members and supporters of The Wolfsonian, National Trust for Historic Preservation President Paul Edmondson and members from the National Trust Council were also in attendance. The evening was underwritten, in part, by the National Trust Council and the William H. Pitt Foundation.

1878 Series

On February 19th, a cocktail party honoring the Preservation Foundation's 1878 Series for young supporters took place at the Estate Section residence of Kenn Karakul and Jim Held. The home received the Elizabeth L. and John H. Schuler Award in 2019. Karakul and Held have long dedicated themselves to the cause of historic preservation and in 2009 received the Robert I. Ballinger Award for the restoration of El Castillo.

At the event, architect Daniel Kahan of Smith & Moore explained how the International style of '30s and '40s provided inspiration for the home's rectilinear forms and lack of ornamentation. He noted many of the home's unique features including the custom-designed 12-foot-tall French doors, central open-air courtyard, and rooftop garden with integrated solar panels.



Rooftop garden at sunset.



Homeowner Kenn Karakul welcomes guests.



View from the guest house.



Architect Daniel Kahan explains the award-winning design.

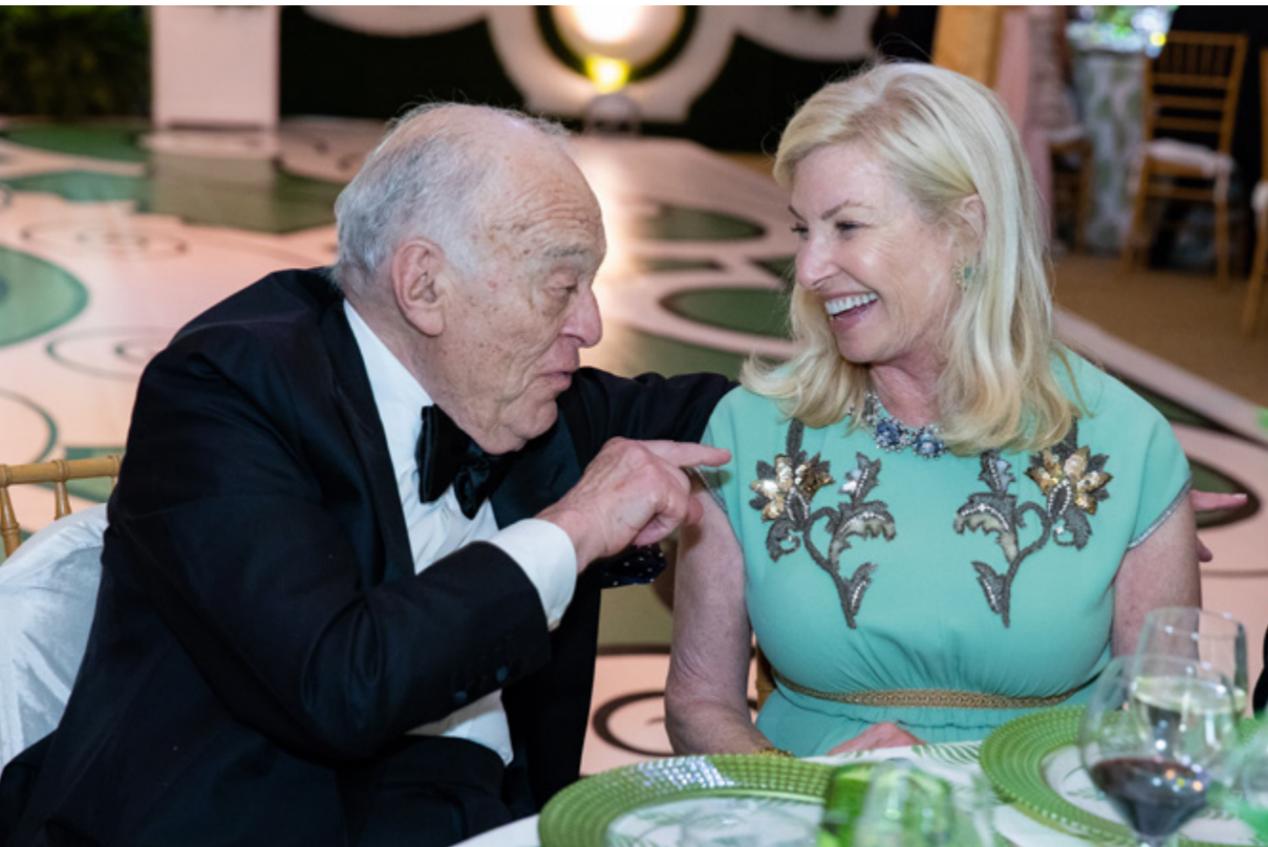
The party was the culminating event of the fourth season for the 1878 Series, which focused on the evolution of modern architecture and its influence on the development of Palm Beach. For the first event in November, the Honorable Mary Dawkins and Brig. General Peter Dawkins opened their Ballinger Award-winning home designed by Clarence Mack in 1958. Located in the Regents Park Historic District, the neighborhood was the first subdivision of its kind in Palm Beach to be entirely envisioned and constructed by one architect in the same architectural style.

A second event held in January at the 400 Building highlighted the architectural and cultural significance of the building, designed by Edward Durell Stone in 1962, as the first condominium to be built in Palm Beach. The evening featured a lecture by Hicks Stone, AIA on his father's work that connected the 400 Building to his other commissions including the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

2020 Dinner Dance

On March 6th, the Preservation Foundation held its 38th Annual Dinner Dance at Bradley Park. Foundation Chairman, Pauline Pitt, served as the 2020 Dinner Dance Chairman and invited past Chairmen of the Dinner Dance to participate as honorary Chairmen in recognition of the momentous occasion. This distinguished group of women included: Diana Ecclestone, Raysa Fanjul, Audrey Gruss, Darlene Jordan, Michele Kessler, Karin Luter, Hillie Mahoney, Talbott Maxey, Kit Pannill, Hilary Ross, Liz Schuler, and the Honorable Lesly Smith.

During her comments, Pitt remarked, “Over the last four decades, we have undertaken significant projects throughout the island that protect the heritage and enhance the beauty of Palm Beach. I am truly delighted to have you all here at Bradley Park to see in-person the impact of our most recent project. A little over two years ago, we completed a \$2.7 million beautification project here and we are already seeing its economic impact on the area. To take part in the revitalization of the Town’s historic Main Street is truly exciting and meaningful.”



Leonard Lauder and Pauline Pitt



Betsy Shiverick and Tim Malloy



Susan Lloyd and Jason Laskey



Jerry and Darlene Jordan



Amanda Skier and Mish Tworkowski



Howard and Michele Kessler and Secretary Wilbur L. Ross, Jr.



Vera and Julio Serrano



Thomas Peterffy and Lynne Wheat

Upon arriving, guests entered the park from the Town’s historic main street, known as Royal Poinciana Way, through 15-foot-tall wrought iron gates. The cocktail tent featured historic images of Colonel E. R. Bradley’s Beach Club, once located at the park, and Bradley’s Algomac Hotel across the street, which was recently restored as White Elephant Palm Beach. The historic tea house and Artemis fountain—original to the site and restored as part of the Foundation’s Bradley Park project—provided a scenic backdrop to the cocktail hour.

White Elephant Palm Beach served as the Grand Corporate Benefactor and Mish New York as the Corporate Benefactor.

The 2020 Dinner Dance raised \$1.3 million with 100% of the proceeds from the event benefitting the Foundation’s education programs and advocacy efforts.

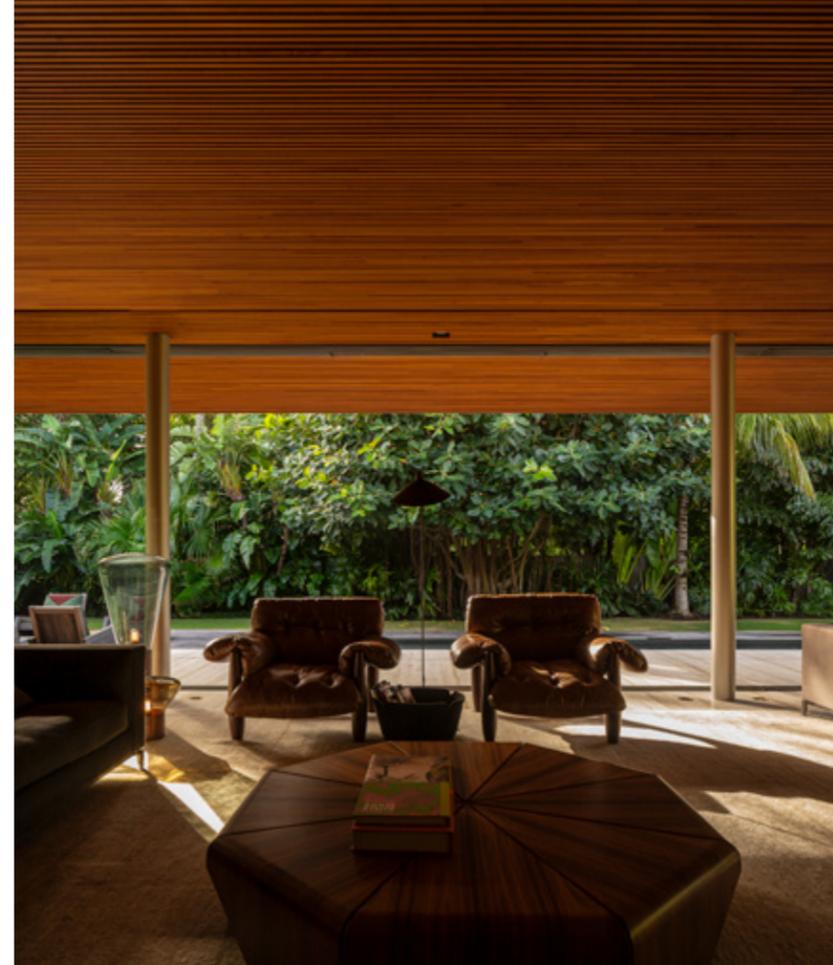
The Elizabeth L. and John H. Schuler Award

On March 11th, the Preservation Foundation presented the 2020 Elizabeth L. and John H. Schuler Award to homeowners Jill and Avie Glazer for their Palm Beach residence. Designed by Brazilian architect Marcio Kogan of Studio MK27, the home represents the architect's first private commission to be built in the United States. Kogan is the first international architect to receive the Schuler Award since its founding in 2005.

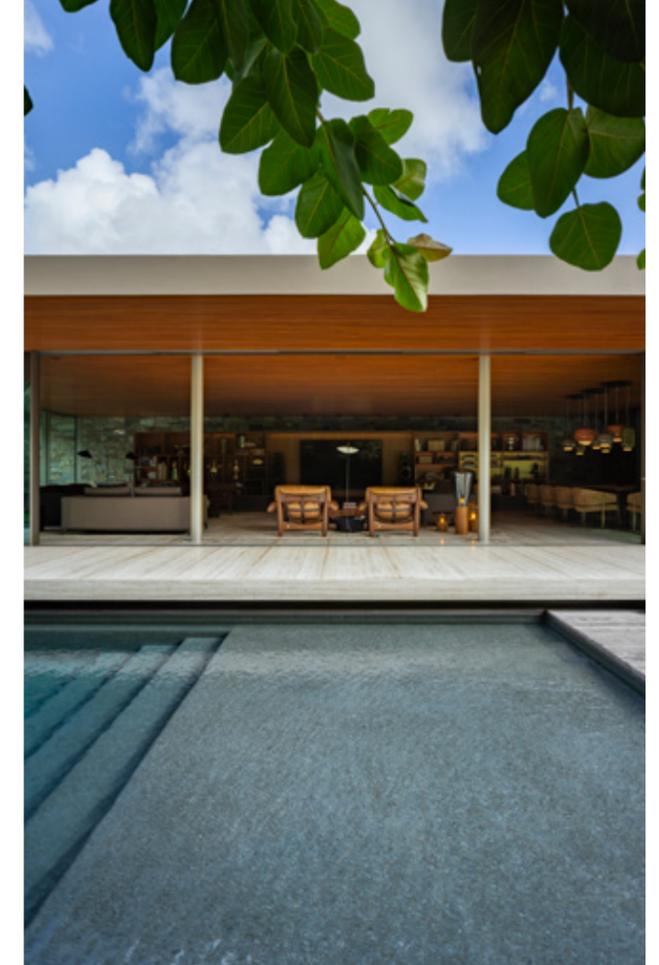
Studio MK27's minimalist design projects warmth through natural materials and illustrates how a beautiful and livable space can be designed without reliance on variances from the local zoning code. By focusing on building out rather than up, the one-story building emphasizes a connection with the surrounding gardens and outdoor spaces created by landscape designer Keith Williams of Nievera Williams.



The stone wall divides the house into two programmatic volumes: The social area in the glass box that opens onto the garden/pool and the private area in the wooden volume.



Living room seen from the interior.



Living and dining rooms seen from the pool.

The residence is a thoughtful departure from the traditional architecture of its Estate Section location—an area defined by Mediterranean Revival-style estates designed by architects Marion Sims Wyeth, Maurice Fatio, and John Volk during the 1920s—that exemplifies how contemporary buildings can coexist with the historic fabric of the community.

Located in the chaotic city of São Paulo, Studio MK27 was founded in the late 70's by architect Marcio Kogan and today is comprised of 30 architects and various collaborators worldwide. The architects of the team, great admirers of the Brazilian modernism generation, seek to fulfil the task of rethinking and giving continuity to this iconic architectural movement. The projects of Studio MK27 place value on formal simplicity and are elaborated with extreme care and attention to details and finishings.

A recording of Studio MK27's presentation in Pan's Garden can be viewed at palmbeachpreservation.org.

Lesly S. Smith Landscape Award

The Lesly S. Smith Landscape Award was created by the Preservation Foundation in 2011 to honor excellence in landscape design. Whereas all previous winning designs were completed within three years of the award date, this year's winner breaks with that tradition in recognition of the exceptional design that can result from the evolution of a garden over time.

Award recipient Kit Pannill has been crafting the landscape of her Lake House, located on the historic Lake Trail, for the past thirty-three years. From what was once an ordinary landscape with two Ficus trees and two Mango trees, she has created an elegant plant-lovers paradise complete with interesting plants and intriguing secret spaces.

The design and flow of the landscape emerged organically as Pannill discovered new plants at the nurseries she visited. And while the landscape design and plant selection are attributed to her, assistance with the design of fences, gates, and other hardscape elements was provided by landscape architect Mario Nievera.



Slat house



Ficus altissima

Images by Susan Lerner



The back terrace of the house opens onto textured green and white planting beds and a sweeping lawn that encircles a stunning Ficus benjamina. Flowering orchids hang from the tree, injecting small bursts of color into the monochromatic landscape.

Another section of the property, acquired three years after the home was purchased, is defined by the use of color. Beneath its majestic Ficus altissima now grows a lush and colorful shade garden. Multicolored garden beds and a grand orchid slat house—inhabited by hundreds of orchids, begonias, cacti, and succulents—fill the northeastern section of the expansive garden.

Members will be invited for an exclusive tour of the garden in the fall. A highlights tour led by Kit Pannill and Director of Horticulture Susan Lerner can be found at palmbeachpreservation.org

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In these challenging times, we recognize the need to be outdoors and the importance of the environment that surrounds us. Social distancing has altered our experience of the world, but we can still feel connected through the architecture and landscapes we share. While the Preservation Foundation may be closed temporarily, we remain dedicated to our mission to inspire you to learn about the historic and natural sites that make Palm Beach special.

Visit our website to find PFPBAnywhere, a locus for content exploring the architectural, cultural, and botanical heritage of Palm Beach. Here you can discover new ways to appreciate our town through walking tours, videos, exhibition catalogues, activities for kids, and virtual events.

Sign up for our weekly highlights email in the footer of any page on our website and follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to be inspired by the wildlife in Pan's Garden, uncover collections from our archives, peek into private homes and gardens, and much more. Use the #PFPBAnywhere to connect with the Preservation Foundation and share your favorite places in Palm Beach.

