

## MID-CENTURY MODERN

Mid-century Modern is a term used to describe a post-World War II iteration of the International Style in both residential and commercial design. The International Style was characterized by geometric forms, smooth wall surfaces, and an absence of exterior decoration. Mid-century Modern represents the adaptation of these elements to the local climate and topography, as well as to the postwar need for efficiently-built, moderately-priced homes and buildings.

The Mid-century Modern building is characterized by its clear expression of structure and materials, large expanses of glass, and open interior plan.

### Character-defining Features

- One or two-story configuration
- Simple geometric forms
- Exposed post-and-beam construction, in wood or steel
- Flat roof with wide overhanging eaves and cantilevered canopies
- Unadorned wall surfaces
- Exterior panels of wood, stucco, brick or stone
- Flush-mounted metal frame full-height and clerestory windows
- Exterior staircases, decks, patios and balconies
- Little or no exterior decorative detailing
- Expressionistic/Organic subtype: sculptural forms and geometric shapes, including butterfly, A-frame, folded plate or barrel vault roofs



2525 Augusta Street, 1951. *Source: Historic Resources Group.*



201 Buena Vista Street, 1964. *Source: Historic Resources Group.*