



May 25, 2018

David Petersen, AICP Senior Planner Planning Division
Pima County Development Services Department
(520) 724-9000

Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission Plans Review Subcommittee
% Roger Randolph
City of Tucson Clerk

**Re: Historic Landmark Zone for 6450 North Calle De Estevan, Tucson, Arizona 85718
Harrenstein House, Dr. Howard Paul Tax ID: 108-06-0600; Legal description: SANTA
CATALINA ESTATES LOT 60**

On behalf of owner Bernard G. Ofenloch the Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation is pleased to submit the second Pima County Historic Landmark Zone application for the Harrenstein House.

This historic property and home meet the Pima County Historic Landmark Zone (Ch. 18.63) Application Criteria. The historic house, guest house/garage and pool are a collection of historic resources within a human-made landscapes or spaces, which are individually determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance (individually listening anticipated Fall 2018) and and meet all nine application criteria: 1. It is authenticated as dating from a particular significant period in Pima County's history (1962-1963). 2. Is associated with the lives of outstanding historical personages Dr. Howard Paul Harrenstein. 3. Is associated with significant events or occurrences: Expressionist subtype of Architecture of the Modern Movement in Tucson and the Atomic Era and Cold War. 4. is a good example of the architectural period in which it was built and have distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style, method of construction: is a rare surviving example of a thin-shell concrete single-family residential building utilizing hyperbolic paraboloid construction. 5. Is the notable work of civil and architectural engineer Howard Paul Harrenstein. 6.

Contributes information of historical, cultural, and social importance relating to the heritage of the community. 6. Relates to the personages and architectural styles which are at least fifty years old. 7 Is in its original setting which contribute to an understanding of the heritage of the community and provides the area with a sense of uniqueness. 8. Is readily distinguishable from other areas of the community. 9. Possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, thus constituting a recognizable entity.

In addition to meeting the application criteria the submission packet include the following seven requirements:

A. Legal description of the property: SANTA CATALINA ESTATES LOT 60

B. *A list by name and title, of all ownership interests in the property:* Bernard G. Ofenloch, owner.

C. Letter of authorization for an agent: See Attached.

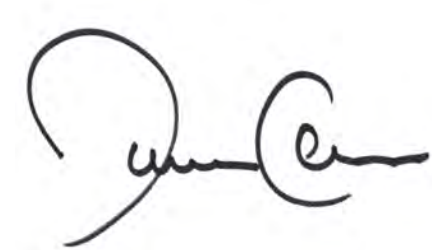
D. Site plan: See Attached.

E. *A completed National Register of Historic Places form:* See Attached.

F. *Other supporting evidence:* See the completed National Register of Historic Places form.

G. *Most recent (available) aerial and elevation photos:* See Attached.

We look forward to working with your committee and office on the successful designation of this important property as the first Pima County Historic Landmark.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Demion Clinco', with a large, stylized initial 'D' and a cursive 'C'.

Demion Clinco
Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation
PO Box 40008
Tucson, Arizona 85717
demion.clinco@gmail.com
cell 520-247-8969



Building & Site Development

201 N. Stone Avenue, 1st Floor

Tucson, AZ 85701-1207

LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION

As required by Arizona Revised Statutes I hereby certify that I am the owner of the property referenced below and that the party whose name is listed below is authorized to take out Development Services permits in my name:

6450 North Calle De Estevan, Tucson, Arizona, 85718

Historic Harrenstein House. Dr. Howard Paul

Property Address

Historic Landmark Zone

Type of Permit Applied for: *(SFR/MF/Remodel/Addition/Fence or Wall/Home Occupation/Child Care/Secondary Dwelling/Assisted Living Home/Group Home)*



Signature of Applicant

May 25, 2018

Date

Demion Clinco for Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation

AUTHORIZED BY:



Signature of Property Owner

May 25, 2018

Date

Per Board of Technical Registration and Registrar of Contractors regulation, Registrants and Licensed Contractors may apply for building permits without use of this form.



Doug Ducey
Governor

ARIZONA STATE PARKS & TRAILS

Celebrating 60 Years!

Sue Black
Executive Director



May 31, 2018

Demion Clinco
Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation
P.O. Box 40008
Tucson, AZ 85717

**RE: Dr. Howard Paul Harrenstein House
6450 N. Calle De Estevan, Tucson**

Dear Mr. Clinco:

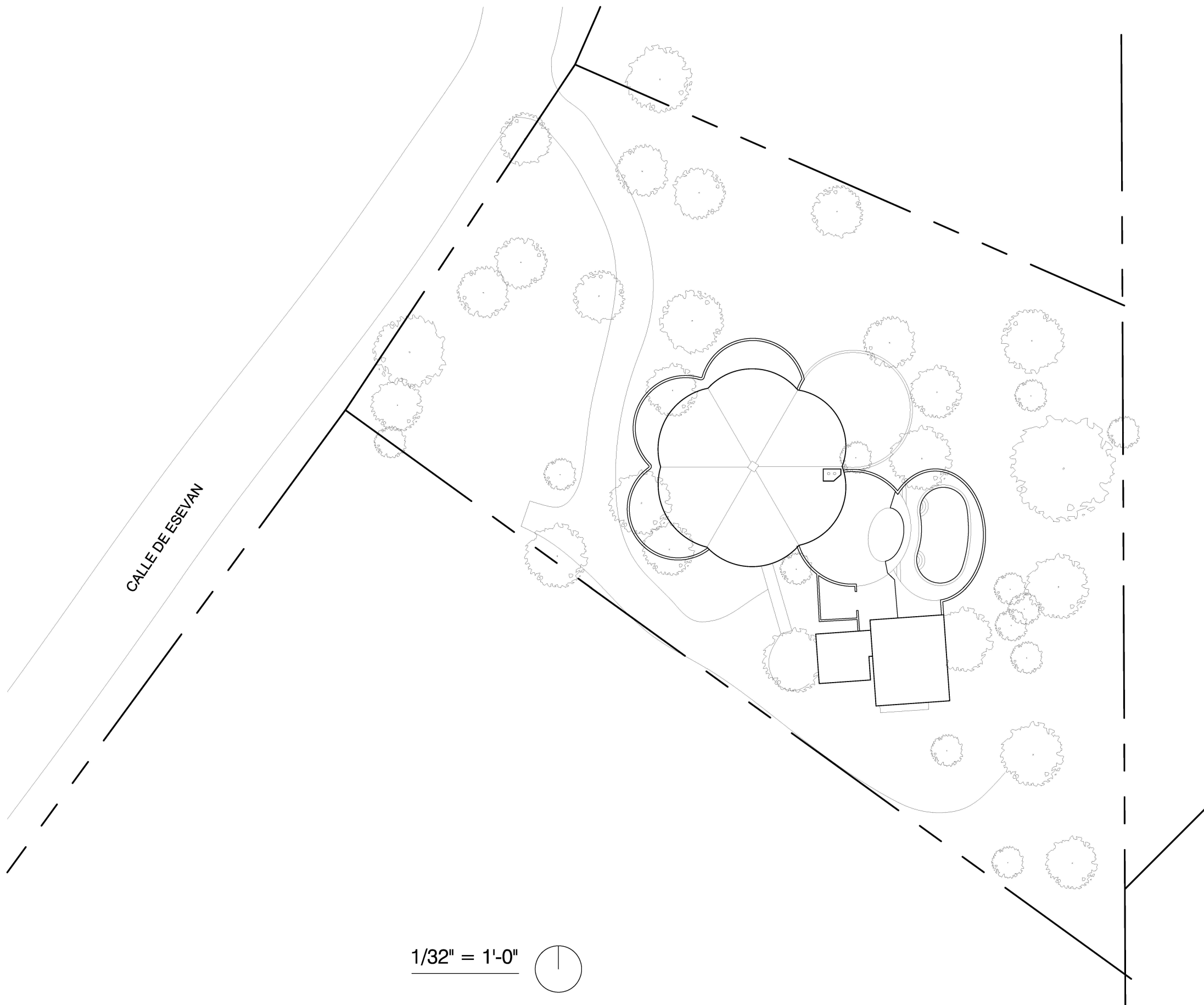
Thank you for providing information on the above referenced property. Staff of the State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the material and recommended that the property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Kathryn Leonard, the State Historic Preservation Officer, concurred with this recommendation on May 30, 2018.

The Harrenstein House is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C in the areas of significance of architecture and engineering. The highly distinctive thin-cast concrete residence is a superb example of Modernist design and innovative construction methods from the early 1960s in Tucson. The draft National Register registration form will be scheduled for review by the Historic Sites Review Committee at its next available meeting on November 2, 2018. Details on the location and agenda will be sent to you ahead of that meeting.

If you have any questions or requests, you may contact me by email at wcollins@azstateparks.gov.

Sincerely,

William S. Collins, Ph.D.
State Historic Preservation Office
Arizona State Parks & Trails



CALE DE ESEVAN

1/32" = 1'-0"



HARRENSTEIN HOUSE

6450 N Calle De Estevan
Tucson, AZ 85718

SITE PLAN

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: **Harrenstein House, Dr. Howard Paul**

Other names/site number:

Name of related multiple property listing: **N/A**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: **6450 North Calle De Estevan**

City or town: **Tucson**

State: **Arizona**

County: **Pima**

Not For Publication: ☐

Vicinity: ☐

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the
documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets
the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend
that this property be considered significant at the following
level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide **x** local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___ **A** ___ **B** **x** **C** ___ **D**

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

—

Signature of commenting official:

Date

—
Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau

Harrenstein House

Name of Property

Pima, Arizona

County and State

or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private: ☒
Public – Local ☐
Public – State ☐
Public – Federal ☐

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s) ☒
District ☐
Site ☐
Structure ☐
Object ☐

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

2

buildings

sites

1

structures

objects

3

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Harrenstein House

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Current Functions: DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification: MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials: Principal exterior materials of the property galss, concrete, burnt adobe:
foundation: concrete; walls: burnt adobe and cast concrete, glass; roof: concrete and
synthetics.

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and non-contributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)



Fig. 1, Harrenstein House, Tucson Citizen Home Section, photo by Bill Sears, 1966

Summary Paragraph

The Harrenstein House is located in the Santa Catalina Estates subdivision northeast of the intersection of First Avenue and Orange Grove Road in the Catalina Foothills north of the Tucson city limits in unincorporated Pima County, Arizona. The single-family residential house, guest house/garage and pool was built in 1962-63 and is an example of a highly expressive residential single-family Modern building. The primary character-defining feature of the Harrenstein House is the thin-shell, concrete, intersecting hyperbolic paraboloid form that creates the structural system and roof. Floor to ceiling glass window walls and burnt adobe enclose the six spaces created by the undulating geometry of the concrete. In addition to the main house, the property

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includes a guest house and garage set into the sloping topography of the site, and a swimming pool that is the focal point of the back yard. There have been almost no modifications to the property since construction; the building retains a high level of integrity.

Narrative Description

Location and Setting

The Harrenstein House is located on the alluvial fan of Santa Catalina Foothills in unincorporated Pima County, north of Tucson, Arizona, at 6450 North Calle De Estevan. The City of Tucson is situated in the southeast portion of the state, 60 miles north of the Mexican border in the Sonoran Desert uplands. The house is located in the suburban 1960 subdivision of Santa Catalina Estates. The subdivision is characterized by large desert lots, native vegetation, and post-1960 construction. The Harrenstein House, guest house/garage, and pool is a single family residence built in 1962-63. The circular plan house is set back in the middle of the lot: east of North Calle De Estevan and north of Orange Grove Road. The lot features native sonoran desert vegetation, and imported plants immediately surrounding the house. A driveway runs from the northwest corner of the lot south snaking around the house to the south facing entrance and down an incline to a parking area in front of the south elevation of the guest house/garage. Almost no modification have been made to the property or building since construction was completed in 1963.



Fig. 2, Harrenstein House, north elevation, photo by Bill Sears, 1966.

Exterior

The primary character-defining feature of the Harrenstein House is the highly sculptural series of three thin-shell concrete intersecting hyperbolic paraboloids which create the physical form of the house and define the interior spatial arrangement. The sculpted rolling idiosyncratic roof form divides the house into six distinct “petals” outspread from a central spoke. The poured-in-place-concrete circular roof is supported by six burnt adobe interior and exterior walls over a hexagonal floor plan.

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A large aluminum frame sliding entry door recessed in one of the hyperbolic walls is a focal point of the front elevation. Aluminum frame windows and window walls infill the space between the floor and the roof allowing light to penetrate into the house but are set deep into the shell creating significant shade from the desert sun. The center of the house is a sunken circular living room that can be seen through the window walls. The bedrooms, dining room, kitchen and entryway are arranged in a circular pattern radiating from the edges of the living room and have a strong relationship with the exterior. The roof was assembled in six pie-shaped sections. A series of curved burnt adobe patio walls form the exterior courtyards and spaces distinct from the native landscape beyond. These patios correspond to the wedges of the house.



Fig. 3, Harrenstein House, southeast elevation, "backyard" with pool in foreground. Photo by Bill Sears, 1966.

The Harrenstein House, a rare example of thin-shell concrete intersecting hyperbolic paraboloids in single family residential style, retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance. The exterior details, fixtures and finishes are distinctively associated with Modern Movement; the detailing captures and showcases a distinctive style. The combination of material, concrete, distinctive engineering, and site utilization highlight architectural and engineering skills.

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The Harrenstein House retains the extraordinary thin-shell concrete intersecting hyperbolic paraboloid design with window walls that frame the outdoor landscape and expansive views of the mountains. All of the original Harrenstein design features, elevations and visual approach to the house remain intact.

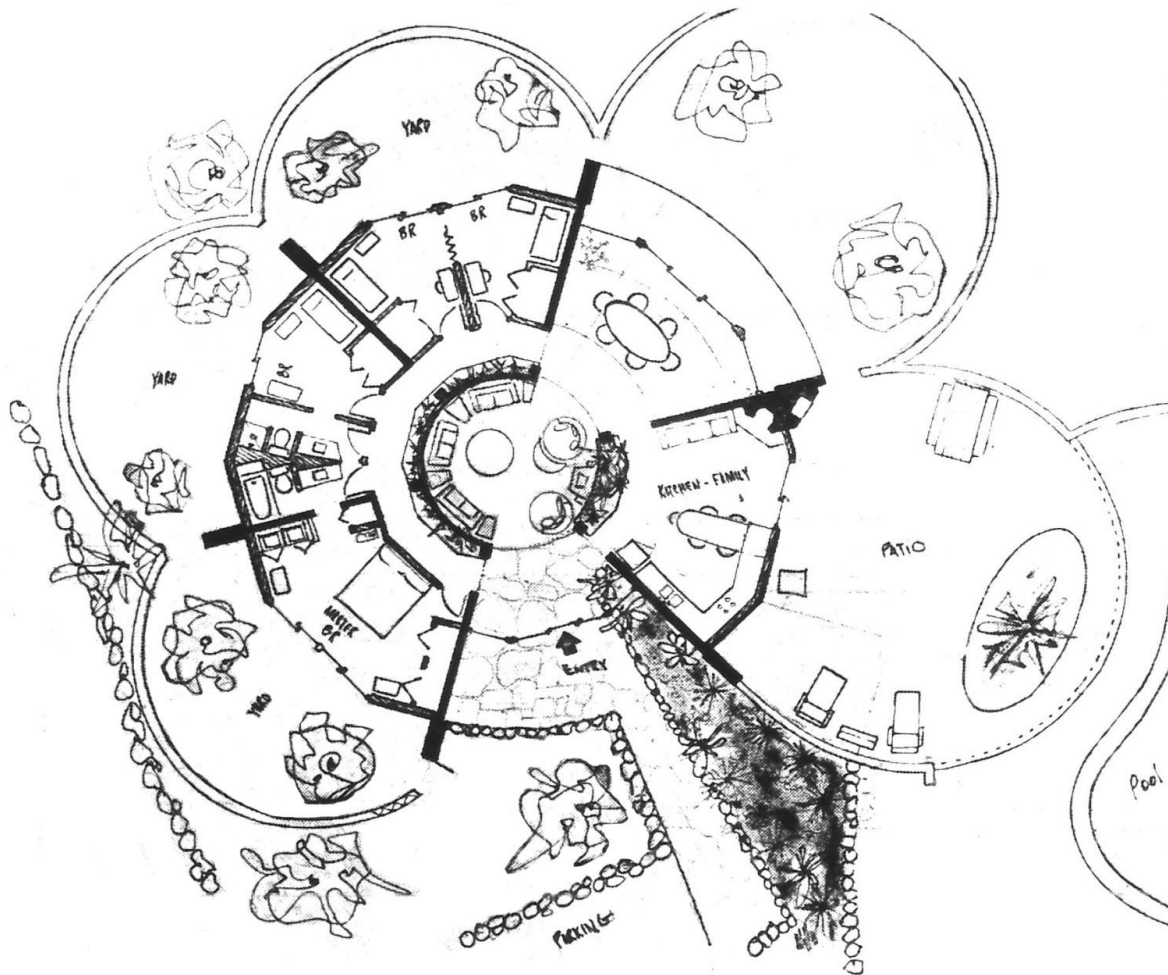


Fig. 4, Harrenstein House Floor Plan, 1963. (drawing by Howard Harrenstein)
Published Tucson Daily Citizen Homes 1966.

The Harrenstein House design elements are key aspects of the modern movement in Tucson, including the cast-in-place concrete roof form, bunt adobe, sculptural building form, and unique interior space created by the structural roof system.