COTTAGES & GARDENS

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Historic Hay House, LGBT Meeting Place Asks \$1.25M

By Charles Hobbs | Photography Courtesy of Compass









Fittingly announced in the midst of Pride Month, a Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument (No. 981, to be exact) at the center of the early LGBT-rights movement has hit the market for \$1.25 million. The 1939 construction was commissioned by gay rights leader Harry Hay for his mother, Margaret, who allowed for its use as a meeting place for the Mattachine Society, a group her son co-founded. Architect Gregory Ain designed the home, which would shortly join an FBI watchlist for its affiliation with the movement.

Sitting in the Cahuenga Pass neighborhood, the home sits on an 8,000-square-foot lot and contains three bedrooms and two bathrooms. Done in the International Modern style by Ain the 1,751-square foot space is an elegant amalgamation of clean lines and open spaces free of ornamentation. Ain's intention, according to Curbed, was for the Hay House to "[achieve] a fortress-like appearance" with its exteriors evoking defensive architecture; wide, unmarked frontages with narrow windows beneath the eaves.

The remainder of the home is equally unadorned, with a brick fireplace, hardwood floors throughout, and casement windows. A small kitchen and living room sit at the property's rear (street view is guarded by the garage), the former with classic black-and-white tiling. Chase Campen of Compass has the listing.