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CHARLOTTE'S ONLY MIDCENTURY MODERN HOME TOUR RETURNS

Tour kicks off with The Mod Experience event at history museum on Sept. 23

CHARLOTTE, N.C., Aug. 19, 2021 – Charlotte's only midcentury modern home tour is back for its tenth year starting Thursday, Sept. 23. For the second year in a row, the tour will be virtual. Ticket holders get exclusive online access to 360° tours of the five featured homes, plus a digital guidebook highlighting the homes' significant modernist features. Attendees also can purchase tickets to a kickoff event that takes place Sept. 23 in person at The Charlotte Museum of History, which presents the tour.

"The *Mad About Modern* home tour will be virtual again this year so that we can share the best of Charlotte's midcentury and modern architecture with as many people as possible, as safely as possible," said Adria Focht, president and CEO of The Charlotte Museum of History. "This format lets us expand the tour geographically and delve deeper into the stories of these incredible homes. We look forward to returning to an in-person tour in the future. For those who want to explore the midmod era in person, we're hosting a special kickoff event, The Mod Experience, at the museum."

The 2021 tour features virtual tours of five midcentury and modern homes across Charlotte, from east and south Charlotte to Myers Park and the Catawba River. The houses showcase key elements of midcentury modern design, including open floor plans, asymmetrical exteriors with expansive windows and living areas that blur the line between indoor and outdoor.

The tour is a major fundraiser for the history museum, with all proceeds supporting its mission of saving and sharing Charlotte's history. The *Mad About Modern* home tour received Charlotte Magazine's "Best of the Best" award for Best Home Tour in 2019.

The Mod Experience at the History Museum on Sept. 23

The museum will host a kickoff party and fundraiser on Sept 23. The Mod Experience event takes place outdoors and inside the museum and features a midcentury modern pop-up exhibit, midcentury-themed activities and a costume contest for best midmod attire. The pop-up exhibit includes iconic midcentury modern furniture and accessories, including an original Eames chair, from Fos Restoration Co.

2021 TOUR HOMES

- **Amos Smith Road**

Catawba River. Built in 1958. Three bedrooms, one bath.

This classic midcentury modern ranch home offers a peaceful retreat. Designed by notable Charlotte architect Murray Whisnant, the 1,400-square-foot house's expansive windows and outdoor living space give picturesque views of the Catawba River beyond. A key feature of Whisnant's design is the low-pitched, hipped roof with overhanging eaves that efficiently shade the floor-to-ceiling windows below. In the main living space, the preserved interior ceiling panels are pierced by a row of striking skylights.

- **Carlanda Circle**

Selwyn Park neighborhood. Built in 1964. Four bedrooms, two baths.

More commonly found in mountainside vacation spots, this 2,600-square-foot, midcentury A-Frame is a rare treat in the Queen City. The original owners hired Charlotte architect Friedrich Schmidt to design their home after seeing his church designs in The Charlotte Observer. The architect's previous work clearly influenced the double-height living space, which includes an impressive cathedral ceiling, plenty of natural light and an original metal fireplace that Schmidt also designed.

- **Coatbridge Lane**

Wynwood neighborhood. Built in 1970. Three bedrooms, two baths.

More than 50 years after its construction, this post-and-beam ranch remains in near-perfect condition, giving a rare glimpse into midcentury modern living. The

designer and original owner worked as a professor of philosophy at UNC Charlotte, where he taught, among other things, a course on utopian communities. Perhaps this design was an attempt to build his own personal utopia. The 1,959-square-foot house wraps around a serene courtyard. Large picture windows and skylights offer natural light and views of the wooded lot.

- **Colchester Place**

Spring Valley neighborhood. Built in 1964. Three bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths.

Surprisingly, this 1,895-square-foot house began as a standard model home. The only house on the tour with a single owner, the couple slowly built their dream home by adding several angular additions with unique skylights and windows to the basic structure. The wife is an accomplished painter, sculptor and architect. Her husband was a principal architect at the prolific Charlotte firm Hawkins-Kibler Associates. This beautiful and distinct house, along with its furnishings, is a testament to their creative talents.

- **East Providence Road**

East Providence Estates neighborhood. Built in 1980. Three bedrooms, three-and-a-half baths.

By far the largest home on this year's tour at 3,864 square feet, this late-period ranch is like a museum. The current owners are avid collectors of a wide variety of midcentury artifacts, including Eames furniture, Nelson lamps and vintage cameras. Throughout the day these carefully collected objects are illuminated by daylight from picture windows and a prominent clerestory, the row of windows that rise above the flat roofline. The design features an open floor plan that flows into a continuous outdoor deck.

Sponsorship opportunities for the 2021 *Mad About Modern* home tour are still available. Contact the museum at info@charlottemuseum.org for details or visit madaboutmodern.com/sponsors.



WHEN

- Ticket holders can view the virtual tour from 6 p.m. on Sept. 23 through Oct. 22.
- The Mod Experience event happens on Thursday, Sept. 23, at 6 p.m. at The Charlotte Museum of History.

HOW TO GO

Tickets go on sale Sept. 1 at madaboutmodern.com.

- Tickets for the 360° virtual home tour are \$25.
- Tickets for The Mod Experience kickoff party and fundraiser are \$75.
- For a \$100 tax-deductible donation, attendees can help sponsor the tour as a Friend of Modernism and will be listed on the *Mad about Modern* tour website.

For questions, visit the [FAQ page at madaboutmodern.com](#) or contact The Charlotte Museum of History at 704.568.1774 or info@charlottemuseum.org.

About The Charlotte Museum of History

The Charlotte Museum of History engages a broad audience in the history of the Charlotte region through the stories of its people, places and events to promote dialogue and historical perspective. The museum is the steward of the Hezekiah Alexander House (ca. 1774) and home site, a site listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the oldest home in Mecklenburg County. To learn more, visit charlottemuseum.org and follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#). The museum is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

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