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Terrible Fire at Class One Historic Site

Dear PS ModCom Members,

Once again a suspicious fire has severely damaged a historic building in Palm Springs. The Community Church of Palm Springs by Charles Tanner was erected in 1935 in the City's Tennis Club neighborhood. Designated a Class One Historic Site, the building is an unusual example of utilitarian concrete block construction blended with traditional Gothic elements.

This terrible fire is one of many assaults on historic buildings in the last few years: Albert Frey's Premiere Apartments, Ken Kellogg's Charthouse Restaurant, the Carnell Building on Palm Canyon Drive.

Our great fear is that the vacant Town & Country Center could be the next arson target. It has been empty and vulnerable for far too long.

There is talk that the City Council might require property owners of long-vacant buildings to pay a fee for added police patrols. That would be a good start. But there must be additional ways of preventing these outrageous acts. Let's work together on generating new ideas to bring to the City.

Let us know your thoughts by contacting PS ModCom Advocacy Chair Peter Moruzzi at petermoruzzi@gmail.com.



Church Interior, following the fire



Community Church, prior to fire

Visit [The Desert Sun's website](#) for additional photos of the fire damaged building.

Read [Robert Imber's recent blog](#) about the architect, Charles Tanner.

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