

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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.

DRAFT

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Edris Residence

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:
The Architecture of E. Stewart Williams

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

2. Location

Street & number: 1030 West Cielo Drive

City or town: Palm Springs State: CA County: Riverside

Not For Publication: Vicinity: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 local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

<p>_____</p> <p>Signature of certifying official/Title:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>Date</p>
---	---------------------------------

<p>In my opinion, the property <u>meets</u> <u>does not meet</u> the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>_____</p> <p>Signature of commenting official:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Title :</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>Date</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

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

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD, STONE: Granite, METAL: Steel, GLASS

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing 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.)

Summary Paragraph

The Edris Residence, designed in 1953 for William and Marjorie Edris, was set amidst a boulder-strewn alluvial fan of Mt. San Jacinto in Palm Springs. The goal was to integrate as much of the natural environment into the modern design as possible. Although of steel frame construction, the exterior of the modest sized house was clad in native rock and board-and-batten Douglas fir siding. Williams employed a triangular steel truss so that the living room roof would slope upward to celebrate the magnificent view. The Edris Residence retains an exceptionally high level of integrity, perfectly exhibiting Williams' philosophy that modern design should express the natural environment in which it is located.

Narrative Description

The Edris House exhibits many elements that appeared in Williams' residential commissions throughout his career: a steel structural frame, shed roof, deep overhangs, large expanses of fixed glazing, sliding glass doors, and, most importantly, the integration of natural materials such as wood cladding and native rock into his modern designs. The site in Palm Springs' Tuscany Hills was chosen specifically for its rugged natural setting. Williams' goal was to move as few boulders as possible so that the 2,700 square foot, L-shaped house would appear to grow out of the desert landscape. Williams framed the house in steel, utilizing a triangular truss to allow the

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

roof to rise so that panoramic views of the vast Coachella Valley were visible from the elevated site. The steel frame also supported the natural wood cladding used throughout the house. On the exterior, board-and-batten Douglas fir siding covered most surfaces; on the interior, wood paneling was used for walls and ceilings, the latter of which continued past walls of glass or wood to form extended eaves. Native rock veneer on south and west elevations provided a striking contrast to smooth wood and glass surfaces. The natural rock chimney that visually anchors the house to the site extends past the living room's floor-to-ceiling windows, dissolving the barrier between indoors and outdoors.

The interior consists of a large open public area with a bedroom on opposite ends. The open kitchen merges with a seating area that flows into the dining space and living room. An indoor planter features a row of steel rods topped by lights with small Dixie Cup-inspired metal shades. Another indoor planter is to the right of the front door as one enters. The master bedroom occupying the north wing eschews interior barriers such that the bedroom merges with the dressing and bathroom areas, and a small office space. The mosaic wall tiles and fixtures of the washroom, lavatory, shower, and bathtub are all original. Enormous plate glass windows fill the area with light. Beautiful wood paneled closet doors run the length of one wall with a built-in combination sink, medicine cabinet, vanity, and dresser centering the room. Throughout the house are Williams-designed built-in cabinets, shelving, storage spaces, and a wet bar hidden behind folding wood doors. Interior and exterior sculptural metal sconces are also custom-designed by Williams.

The bedroom on the south end of the house differs from the master bedroom in that its west wall is of sturdy native rock topped by clerestory windows. The room's south wall consists of fixed windows, sliding glass doors, and a pair of built-in dressers. Like the master bedroom, this bathroom features original cabinets, mosaic tiles, and fixtures.

Walkways and patio decks feature Arizona flagstone that merge with boulders embedded in concrete. A flagstone path descends from the rear patio to the irregularly shaped swimming pool that Williams nestled into a small arroyo. A gravel driveway leads to an enclosed garage and the sheltered main entrance.

The original building permits dated 1953 reveal that the seven-room dwelling cost approximately \$50,000 to construct, a large sum for a house at that time. The foundation alone was another \$4,500 and the swimming pool cost \$6,000. The only other building permit is dated 2003 and is for a spa that was constructed at the rear of the house, shielded by a wood fence. Remarkably, the house has had only two owners and there have been no alterations to its original design. The property retains the essential physical features associated with the residential work of E. Stewart Williams, melding the natural environment with modern design that was the essence of Williams' architectural philosophy. The Edris Residence remains the most original, best-preserved example of a Williams-designed residence in Palm Springs retaining all aspects of integrity and fully conveying its architectural significance.

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1954

Significant Dates

1954

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Williams, E. Stewart

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Edris Residence is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C at the local level of significance in the area of Architecture. The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of mid-century residential architecture as interpreted by E. Stewart Williams. In addition, the property meets *The Architecture of E. Stewart Williams* Multiple Property Submission registration requirements for residential buildings in association with the historic context “Architecture as environmental expression in the greater Coachella Valley, 1946-1976.” The period of significance corresponds with the building’s date of construction, 1954.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Edris Residence exhibits the distinctive characteristics of dwellings Williams designed from 1947 through the 1960s. Specifically, a shed roof, deep overhangs, large expanses of glazing with sliding glass doors for indoor-outdoor flow, and an open floor plan. As important, natural materials are integrated into the design with native rock used for walls and its prominent chimney; wood finishes for interior cabinets, doors, walls and ceilings; and Douglas fir board-and-batten siding for exterior surfaces.

The Edris Residence is significant within the oeuvre of E. Stewart Williams and fits within the historic context presented in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, “Architecture as environmental expression in the greater Coachella Valley, 1946-1976.” The Edris Residence retains an exceptionally high level of integrity, exemplifying Williams’ philosophy that modern design should express the natural environment in which it is located. As a result it is readily identifiable as the work of E. Stewart Williams, meeting National Register Criterion C because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of residential buildings associated with the master architect.

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

As indicated in *The Architecture of E. Stewart Williams* Multiple Property Documentation Form.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University of California, Santa Barbara
- Other

Name of repository: Palm Springs Art Museum, Architecture and Design Center

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 33.845996 Longitude: -116.561184

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Property is located at 1030 West Cielo Drive, Palm Springs, Riverside County, California near West Panorama Road. The property fronts a portion (450 feet) of West Cielo Drive. Its legal description is LOT 6 MB 022/087 LITTLE TUSCANY 6. APN 504-201-009

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Edris Residence.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Peter Moruzzi/Architectural Historian
organization: _____
street & number: 2018 Griffith Park Blvd., #114
city or town: Los Angeles state: CA zip code: 90039
e-mail petermoruzzi@gmail.com
telephone: (213) 706-0151
date: February, 2016

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Edris Residence
City or Vicinity: Palm Springs
County: Riverside
State: CA
Photographer: Peter Moruzzi
Date Photographed: January 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 14 South and east elevations, camera facing northwest

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

- 2 of 14 South and west elevations, camera facing northeast
- 3 of 14 West elevation, camera facing east
- 4 of 14 East elevation, camera facing southwest
- 5 of 14 East elevation, camera facing northwest
- 6 of 14 East and north elevations, camera facing south
- 7 of 14 North elevation, camera facing southwest
- 8 of 14 Living room, camera facing south
- 9 of 14 Family room, camera facing southeast
- 10 of 14 Kitchen, camera facing southwest
- 11 of 14 Main entrance, camera facing west
- 12 of 14 Master bedroom hallway, camera facing south
- 13 of 14 Master bedroom, camera facing northwest
- 14 of 14 Guest bedroom, camera facing northwest

Index of Figures; Photos by Julius Shulman, 1954

- Figure 1 South and east elevations, looking northwest
- Figure 2 South and east elevations, looking northwest
- Figure 3 West and south elevations, looking northeast
- Figure 4 East elevation, looking west
- Figure 5 North elevation, looking south
- Figure 6 Swimming pool, looking southeast
- Figure 7 Living room, looking southeast

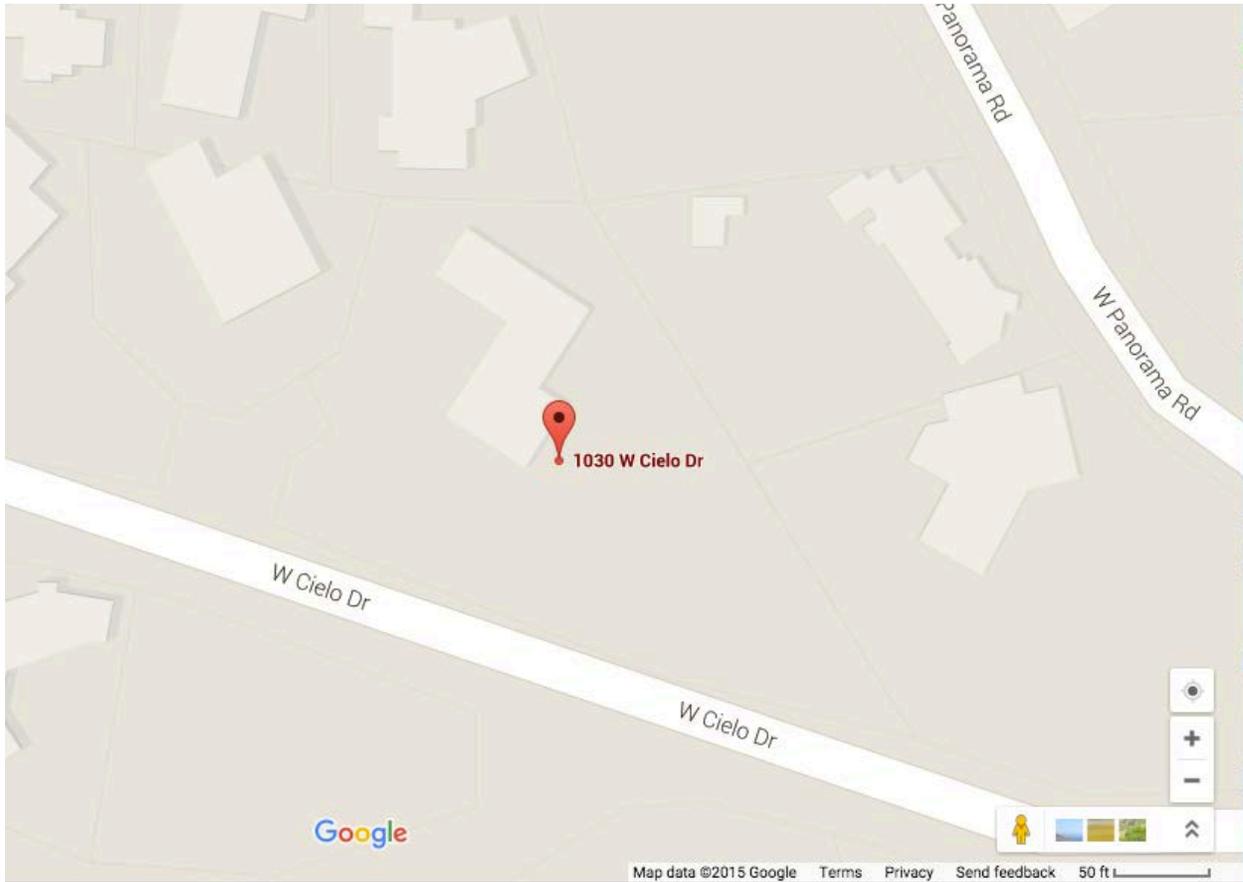
Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Location Map

Latitude: 33.845996

Longitude: -116.561184



Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Sketch Map/Photo Key



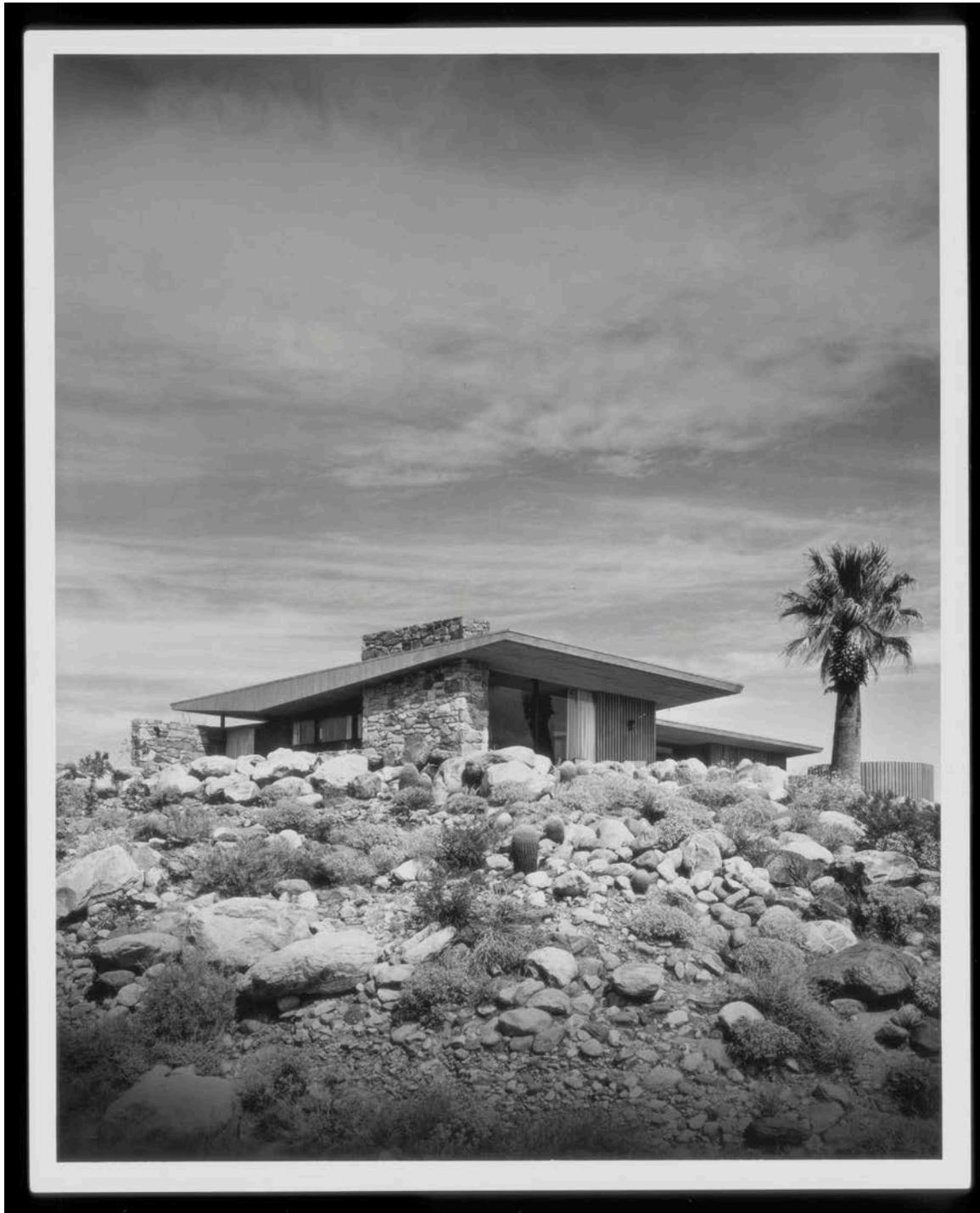
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Figure 1. South and east elevations, looking northwest, 1954



© J. Paul Getty Trust. Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles (2004.R.10).

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Figure 2. South and east elevations, looking northwest, 1954



© J. Paul Getty Trust. Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles (2004.R.10).

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Figure 3 West and south elevations, looking northeast, 1954



© J. Paul Getty Trust. Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles (2004.R.10).

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Figure 4. East elevation, looking west, 1954

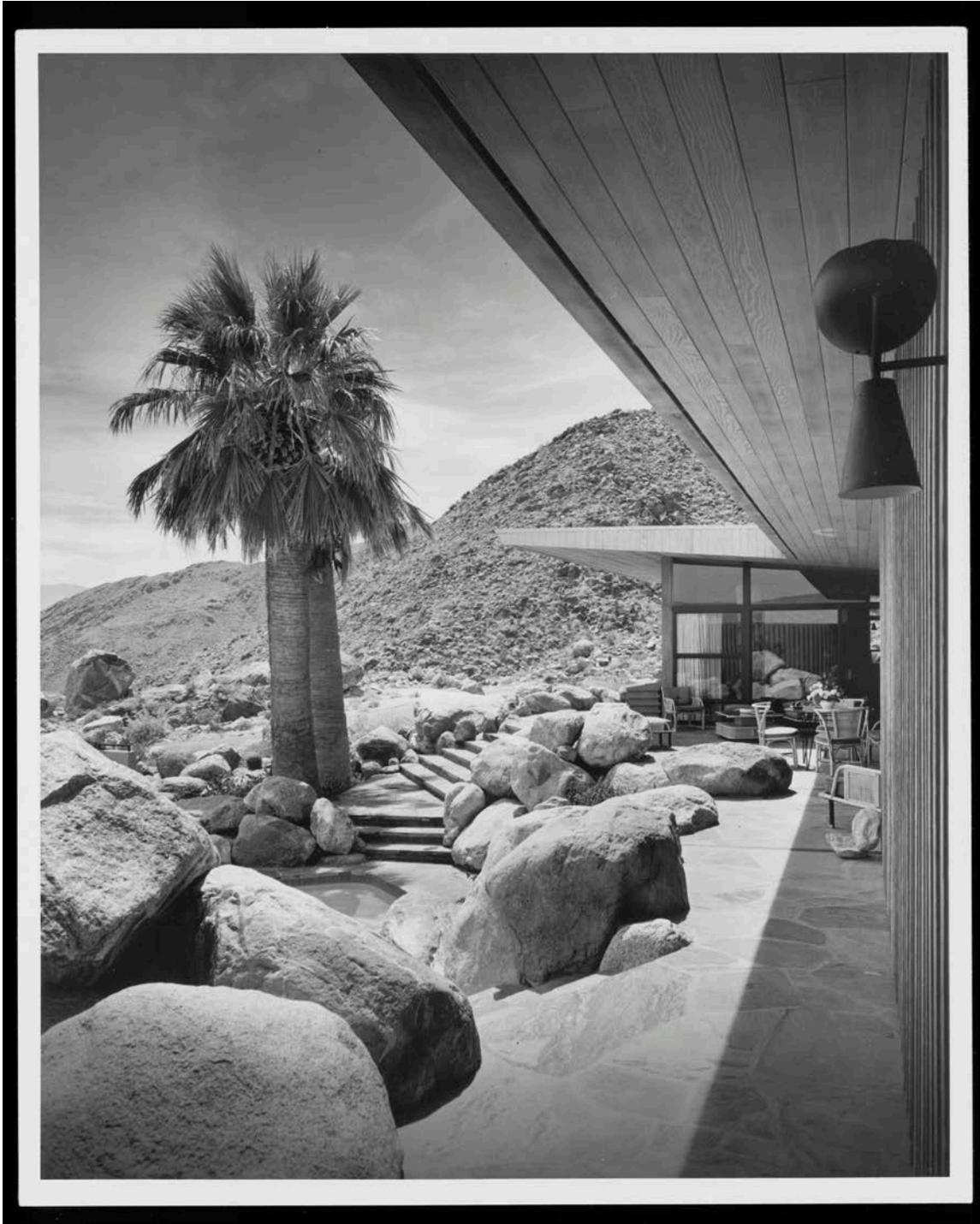


© J. Paul Getty Trust. Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles (2004.R.10).

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Figure 5. North elevation, looking south, 1954



© J. Paul Getty Trust. Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles (2004.R.10).

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Figure 6. Swimming pool, looking southeast, 1954



© J. Paul Getty Trust. Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles (2004.R.10).

Edris Residence
Name of Property

Riverside, California
County and State

Figure 7. Living room, looking southeast, 1954



© J. Paul Getty Trust. Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles (2004.R.10).