

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

**E. Stewart & Mari Williams Residence
[Architecture of E. Stewart Williams MPS]****THIS NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NOMINATION CONTAINS RESTRICTED INFORMATION**

Where disclosure to the public may cause a significant invasion of privacy or risk harm to the historic resources, locations and ownership information can be considered confidential and public access to such information can be restricted by law (Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act). The following summary of the description and significance of the above-named resource is available for public access.

The goal for the E. Stewart and Mari Williams Residence was to integrate as much of the natural environment into the modern design as possible. The 2,380 square foot house is of wood frame, post and beam construction with stucco and board-and-batten sheathing. With his own home Williams was able to fully realize his design philosophy of bringing the natural environment into the living space. To this end, Williams designed a butterfly roof cantilevered out over three rows of side beams. This eliminated walls so that the landscape could flow through floor-to-ceiling glazing in each room. The house is essentially a roof over a garden, a shelter for a very hard climate. The Williams Residence retains a high level of integrity, perfectly exhibiting Williams' philosophy of architecture as environmental expression.

The E. Stewart and Mari Williams 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, 1955.