E. Stewart Williams Collection

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Palm Springs Art Museum
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2020
Descriptive Summary

Title: E. Stewart Williams Collection

Dates: Bulk 1950-1990

Collection Number: 2002; S2015.4-5; S2016.2-4; S2016.11

Creator/Collector: Williams, E. Stewart

Extent: 9 linear feet plus flat file drawers

Repository: Palm Springs Art Museum

Palm Springs, California 92263

Abstract: The architecture designed by E. Stewart Williams FAIA (1909-2005) from 1947 until his retirement in 1996 is integral to the fabric of Palm Springs. Producing residencies, banks, schools, hospitals, and colleges, he initially worked with his father Harry and bother Roger in the firm Williams, Williams and Williams, and later with John Porter Clark, as Williams, Clark and Williams. Educated at Cornell University and the University of Pennsylvania, Williams was grounded in the Beaux-Arts tradition, and became a confirmed Modernist. Beginning with his first residential design, a home for Frank Sinatra, Williams used a spectrum of materials--natural and industrial--to create structures that had the elegance and simplicity of Modern aesthetics combined with a textural and chromatic sensitivity to the desert. His works include the Palm Springs Art Museum, numerous financial institutions and residences in Palm Springs.

Language of Material: English

Access

The collection is open to qualified researchers by appointment only.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

E. Stewart Williams Collection . Palm Springs Art Museum

Acquisition Information

The E. Stewart Williams Collection was acquired in November 2002 (Gift agreement with E. Stewart Williams) and supplemented by additional gifts from Erik and Sidney Williams (#S2015.4) and Mari Anne Pasqualetti (#S2015.5) in 2015. In 2016, additional gifts from Erik and Sidney Williams were received (S2016.2, S2016.3, S2016.4) and Geoffrey and Linda Williams (#S2016.11).

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection contains five series – architectural drawings, photographs, awards, miscellaneous materials, and media recordings (VHS + DVD).

Indexing Terms

Architecture - California - Palm Springs
Palm Springs - Buildings, structures, etc.
Historic Buildings - California - Palm Springs
Williams, E. Stewart (Emerson Stewart) (1909-2005) - Archives
Palm Springs, California
Architects – California - Palm Springs

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