# Supplementary Listing Record

NRIS Reference Number: SG100002209	Date Listed:
Property Name: Borah House	
County: Maricopa	State: AZ
This Property is listed in the National Register of Histonomination documentation subject to the following export notwithstanding the National Park Service certification	ceptions, exclusions, or amendments,
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
Amended Items in Nomination: Latitude/Longitute Coordinates should read:	
Latitude: 33.481364 Longitude: -112.060399	
The ARIZONA SHPO was notified of this amend	dment.
DISTRIBUTION: National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination a	ttachment)

# 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 manifesture categories and subcategories from the instructions. 1. Name of Property Historic name: Borah House Other names/site number: N/A Name of related multiple property listing: N/A (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing 2. Location Street & number: 72 East Country Club Drive City or town: Phoenix State: Arizona County: Maricopa Not For Publication: Vicinity: 3.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 X 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 X 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 X local Applicable National Register Criteria:  $\mathbf{X} \mathbf{C}$ Date State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets	does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title:	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 Borah House Maricopa, Arizona County and State Name of Property 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 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

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form OMB No. 1024-0018 NPS Form 10-900 Maricopa, Arizona Borah House Name of Property County and State **Number of Resources within Property** (Do not include previously listed resources in the count) Contributing Noncontributing \_\_\_1\_\_\_ buildings sites structures objects \_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_ 1 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

Borah House	Maricopa, Arizona
Name of Property	County and State
7. Description	
Architectural Classification	
(Enter categories from instructions.)	
Late 19th and 20th Century Revival:	

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Ceramic Tile, Concrete, Cast Stone

## **Narrative Description**

Mission/Spanish
Colonial Revival:

Mediterranean Revival

(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 Borah House is located at 72 East County Club Drive, Phoenix, Arizona. It is a large single-family residence built in 1935 and designed in the Mediterranean Revival Style. The back of the Borah House faces the Phoenix Country Club Golf Course. The two-story, 6,546 square foot house's exterior is two courses of brick (8") with a stucco finish. The roof is tile with overhanging eaves. Most of the windows are multi-light casement windows. There are four concrete screens on four of the front windows. The Borah House has a high level of architectural integrity.

#### **Narrative Description**

#### Exterior Details:

The Borah House is located in the Phoenix Country Club, an upper class residential development in Phoenix, Arizona, that consists of a golf course, flanked on the south and west by mansions. Access to the homes at the country club is via Country Club Drive, which runs east and west, and

Borah House

Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

Name of Property

north and south, from the southwest corner entrance where the clubhouse and parking are located.

Both East Country Club Drive and North Country Club Drive are twenty feet wide, narrow compared to the typical thirty-foot wide streets found in the adjacent subdivisions. Asphalt paving extends from the parking lot of the clubhouse to the end of the northerly drive, which is gated and restricted to residents. However, its easterly counterpart is open to the public and its original 1920s concrete pavement is intact. Rows of tall palms, planted in the 1920s, flank the narrow roadway and, accompanied by mature lawns, provide the streetscape with a historical feel.

The Borah House is the second house on the north side of East Country Club Drive as one enters the street from its only access on the west end of the street. The Borah House is situated towards the rear of a 33,215-square foot lot. The house has sixteen (16) rooms and is 6,546 square feet. A more recently constructed detached guest house of 449 square feet is a noncontributory to this application.

The Borah House is a large, two-story irregularly planned single family residence designed in the Mediterranean Revival Style. It has a concrete foundation and a partial basement. The exterior walls are built with a double course of bricks with a thickness of eight inches (8"). The exterior is stucco. The roof is low pitched with cross hips, clad in ceramic tile, with overhanging eaves and carved tail ends. The front of the house has eleven (11) non-symmetrical windows. There are two windows on the east side of the front façade on both the first and second floors that have concrete screens. Those windows are original to the house. The balance of the windows, not original to the house, are multi-light metal casement windows. Above many of the first floor windows are cast concrete headers.

The front door is original to the house and it is stained wood. Around the front door is the original cast stone surround, (Photo 7). Above the front door is an ornate wood balcony, with railings and balusters on two sides, (Photo 8).

The two-car garage is situated on the east side of the house. It also has a cast concrete header above the garage door. The exterior walls of the garage are also built with a double course of bricks with a thickness of eight inches (8"). Although the garage door is not original to the house, it was constructed and installed based upon the original house plans. Attached to and behind the garage is a later addition to the Borah House. It is of masonry construction and now serves as the east library.

On the north façade (back) of the Borah House, the location of the two sleeping porches are visible. Both were originally reached from the second floor through doors, which are now windows. On the west side of the Borah House is a later added two-story library. The walls of the west library are masonry which is stuccoed. The west library is accessed from the living room on the first floor and the master bedroom on the second floor.

Borah House Name of Property Interior Details: Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

The first floor of the Borah House consists of an entrance hall and main stairway, a den, a powder room, a sunken living room, a second stairway, a two-story library, a dining room, kitchen, maids room and bathroom, a family room with a sunken wine cellar, a second library, a second powder room and a laundry room.

The front door opens to an entrance hall. To the right of the front door is the entry to the dining room, with a decorative plaster detail, (Photo 9). Ahead is the main stairway, which is rounded, with its light stained oak risers and treads. The newell post is turned steel. The handrail is mahogany. In between the spindles is a scrolled iron feature, (Photo 10). The stairway features a plaster niche with a mahogany bottom, (Photo 11). There is a decorative detail under the second-floor balcony, (Photo 12).

The downstairs den is at the opposite end of the front door in the entrance hall, (Photo 13). The downstairs den retains its original built in mahogany bookcases and its trophy case, (Photo 14). There are windows looking out to the back garden and golf course. Just outside of the entrance to the downstairs den, is a powder room to the east, and the stairway to the partial basement to the west.

There is a single wood step down into the living room, which is on the west side of the house. The living room has windows on the south and west exposures. The living room ceiling had a painted wood panel detail, (Photo 15). The fireplace is cast stone, now painted, and has decorative details, (Photo 16). The original concrete floor is colored red, with a series of eight inch (8") scored squares around the perimeter and a solid red interior, (Photo 17). To the north of the living room is a picture gallery. It has two doors leading to the back garden and a brick patio. The picture gallery serves to connect the living room with the second stairway and the two-story library on the west side of the Borah House.

The entrance hall and dining room have had their original colored concrete floors covered by 24" squares of marble. The dining room has two windows to the south, and two doors to the north. The doors to the north lead to a covered patio and look onto the back garden and golf course.

The kitchen connects to the dining room with a wooden double acting (swinging) door. Above that door in the dining room is the original doorbell for the house, (Photo 18). The kitchen has been changed and no longer has most of its original features. The floor in the kitchen and adjoining service porch is now brick.

The kitchen connects to the maid's room and bathroom by a small hall. The maid's room has two casement windows to the east. It retains its original red colored concrete floor. The fixtures in the maid's bathroom appear to be original.

The service porch (as described on the original plans) is actually an enclosed room to the north of the kitchen. It connects the door on the east side of the house to the kitchen and the family room. The original brick of the service porch is now exposed, (Photo 19). In addition to the door

Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

on the east of the service porch, there is a casement window as well as a casement window to the west, which is looks onto the covered patio.

To the north of the service porch is a later addition of a family room and a sunken wine cellar. This area of the house has mahogany wood floors. A small hall connects to the laundry room and powder room to the west side. The library on the east, while not original, has an antique fireplace, antique entry doors, built in book shelves and a detailed ceiling.

The second floor consists of three bedrooms, two bathrooms, an enclosed reading porch and the second story of the west library.

At the top of the main stairway is now a window to the north. This window used to be a door to the first of two sleeping porches, now gone. Throughout the hallway, balcony, and bedrooms of the second floor is red oak flooring, (Photo 20).

The bedroom at the end of the hallway to the east of the house has casement windows to the east and south. There is a casement window to the north that replaces the original door to the second sleeping porch, also now gone. This bedroom has its own bathroom with its original medicine cabinet and sink, (Photo 21). The window in this bathroom to the south is original and is covered by a concrete screen.

The second bedroom, to the west of the east bedroom, is smaller and shares the master bathroom through its own door. It has two casement windows to the south. This bedroom currently functions as an upstairs den.

The owner's bedroom is at the west side of the house. It has two closets, one of which is the original walk in cedar closet. There are casement windows to the west and south in this room. The owner's bedroom connects to the master bathroom through a door to the south of the bedroom.

The master bathroom is tiled (original) and has its original sink, medicine cabinet, and built-in shelves and laundry hamper, (Photo 22).

At the north of the owner's bedroom are doors leading to an enclosed reading porch. The reading porch overlooks the back garden and the golf course, and serves to connect the owners' bedroom to the west library.

The west library is not original to the house, but has been designed and constructed consistently. It has colored concrete floors to match the living room, railings that match the second-floor balcony and an antique fireplace. The ceiling is vaulted with mahogany trusses. Both levels have floor to ceiling bookcases that honor the plastered decorations throughout the house.

Borah House Name of Property Integrity: Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

There have been changes to the Borah House since 1934. As with most properties, the landscaping has changed over time. However, in the front of the house, the original driveway and sidewalks are present. The palm trees lining East Country Club Drive are present.

On the back of the Borah House, on the East side, the original plans show a service porch with door to the backyard and access to the laundry. Starting at the Northwest corner of the service porch, the wall was extended several feet to the West, and then North, then East, then South. This created a room behind the service porch, (now the wine room), as well as the East Library behind the garage. The construction materials are similar to the existing Borah House – masonry walls bearing the same stucco pattern; cast concrete headers above the windows and doors. The height of the flat roof addition, which is believed to date to 1971 makes clear what is historic and what is not. Also, there is no known loss of historic material and no know obstruction, damage or destruction of character defining features.

On the back of the Borah House, on the West side, is a later addition of a second Library (Photos 30-33). The height of the addition is approximately three (3) feet lower than the main part of the Borah House, (Photo 1) making it clear what is historic and which is later. While the form, manner, style and detailing of the addition are consistent with the Borah House, they are not exact, and do not appear to be part of the historic building. Also, there is no known loss of historic material and no known obstruction, damage, or destruction of character defining features.

Most of the windows have been replaced, but the replacement windows are appropriate to the Borah House and the openings do not appear to have been modified.

Within the house, at some point the kitchen was upgraded, and some of the original colored concrete floors were covered.

With its high percentage of original design elements, the Borah House remains a fine example of a large Mediterranean Revival style home. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of this early twentieth century architectural style by a true master architect.

# Neighborhood:

The neighborhood has several other historically significant properties. Down the street from the Borah House is located the Bennitt Mansion at 126 East Country Club Drive. The Bennitt Mansion was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2009. The Bennitt Mansion was designed by master architect H.H. Green. Green also designed the George Lutgerding House constructed in 1928 in Country Club Place across the street from the Borah House. Also across the palm tree-lined street is located the Craig Mansion at 131 East Country Club Drive. The Craig Mansion was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1992. The Hilvert House, located at 106 East Country Club Drive, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2017.

Borah House	
Name of Property	

Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

In addition to The Borah House at the Phoenix Country Club, Lescher and Mahoney were the architects for William H. McCornack, 85 North Country Club Drive (Commission 426) 1925; Frank Coles, 53 North Country Club Drive (Commission 436) 1925; Frank Coles, Jr., 100 or 106 North Country Club Drive (Commission 806) 1937; and Harry L. Nice, address unknown (Commission 1584) 1948. The following Lescher and Mahoney houses at the Phoenix Country Club are no longer standing: Commission 338 (1920); Commission 353 (1921); Commission 487 (1927); and Commission 488 (1927).

NPS Form 10-900 **Borah House** Maricopa, Arizona Name of Property 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 Х 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

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

orah House	Maricopa, Arizona
me of Property	County and State
Areas of Significance	
(Enter categories from instructions.)	
Architecture	
Period of Significance	
1935	
Significant Dates	
Significant Person	
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)	
Cultural Affiliation	
Cultural Allination	
Architect/Builder	
Lescher and Mahoney, Architect	

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 Borah House is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a distinctive example of Mediterranean style architecture in Phoenix, Arizona, and as the work of master architects Lescher and Mahoney. The property is located in the Phoenix Country Club,

Borah House

Maricopa, Arizona

Name of Property

County and State

which was developed as an elite residential enclave in which a number of high-style, architect designed houses were constructed during the 1920s and 30s. The period of significance is 1935, the year construction of the Borah House was completed. The property is nominated at the Local level of significance.

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

## Mediterranean Revival Style

The Borah House is representative of the high style period revival architecture that was popular in Phoenix during the 1920s and 1930s. Located within the Phoenix Country Club, the house was designed by the architecture firm Lescher and Mahoney in the Mediterranean Revival Style. Sometimes referred to as the Italian Revival Style, the Mediterranean Revival Style appealed to those who wanted to continue the Italian classical tradition while suggesting a form that was picturesque and regional. To do so, the twentieth century revivalists looked to the Italian villa of the sixteenth century for the classic form and shape, which employed a symmetrical composition at the street level or at least a partial symmetrical façade. The basic form of the building was a single rectangular volume with smooth plastered walls, a low pitched and hipped roof, and pronounced overhang.

Houses in this style are often two-story, with varied massing and projecting bays or wings. Courtyards were common, framed by the building, porches, balconettes, and the occasional verandas and/or loggias. Walls are usually plastered, and painted white. Openings are typically round and square arched, and may be elaborate. Windows are usually small paneled casement, but double hung are not uncommon. The Mediterranean Revival Style is also often extensively decorated with plaster or cast concrete columns, pilasters, urns, finials, and plaques.

The Mediterranean Revival Style was popular during the 1910s and 1920s in California and Florida, especially in communities near the ocean, but it also seemed to be well-suited to the deserts of the American Southwest and highly regarded by some of Phoenix's upper-class citizens. Examples of Mediterranean Revival luxury homes in Phoenix listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places include:

- Judge Fred C. Jacobs House, a 4,000-sqare-foot rural estate home<sup>1</sup> located at 6224 North Central Avenue. Built in 1929 for Judge Jacobs, the house has a castellation topped, cast stone turret. The turret at the entrance with a recessed arched doorway, flanked by arched, stained glass windows.<sup>2</sup>
- Kinter K. Koontz House, a 4,400-square-foot rural estate home located at 7620 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street. The Koontz House was built in 1929 for prominent engineer Kinter K. Koontz.<sup>3</sup>

As Defined by the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "North Central Phoenix Farmhouses and Rural Estates Homes, 1895-1959. <sup>2</sup> Vincent Murray, Judge Fred C. Jacobs House, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 2011, 3.

Vincent Murray, Judge Fred C. Jacobs House, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 2011, 3
 Vincent Murray, Kinter K. Kooniz House, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 2011, 5.

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

- Name of Property Cline R. Asbury-Riney B. Salmon House, a 4,500-square-foot rural estate home located at 7801 North Central Avenue. Designed by Fitzhugh and Byron, the house was built in 1935 using adobe, with a cast stone, classical architrave framing the front entrance.<sup>4</sup>
  - Fred G. Hilvert House, an 11,000-square-foot house located at 106 East Country Club Drive. The Fred G. Hilvert House was built in 1929 for produce distributor Fred G. Hilvert. The house was designed by Fitzhugh and Byron.<sup>5</sup>

# Architecture of Lescher and Mahoney

The Borah House is significant under Criterion C as a rare residential example of the work of the prominent architectural firm of Lescher and Mahoney. The Phoenix based firm was established by Royal W. Lescher when he went into private practice in 1910. The firm, later joined by other architects, quickly gained a state-wide reputation for quality designs. The firm focused on public and commercial buildings and its production in the Southwest was only exceeded by that of the notable architectural firm of Trost and Trost in El Paso, Texas.

The firm's early projects include the Mesa City Hall (1920), the original Phoenix Country Club (1920), St. Mary's High School (1924), the Palace West/Orpheum Theatre (1927), Phoenix Union High School Stadium (1927), and Kingman Elementary School (1928). Lescher and Mahoney's success continued to grow over the next several decades with clients such as the Good Samaritan Hospital, Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph, Maricopa County, Sky Harbor Airport, the Desert Botanical Gardens, and various other educational and institutional clients.

Royal W. Lescher was born on August 12, 1882, in Galesburg, Illinois. While he was still a child, he moved with his family to Carpenteria, California and in 1902 graduated from Throop Polytechnic Institute in Pasadena, California, now the California Institute of Technology. After graduation Lescher worked for the Pacific Electric Railway Company of Los Angeles under the supervision of bridge engineer, E.S. Cobb. In 1904 Lescher moved to Buffalo, New York where he got his first experience working for an architectural firm. After four years in Buffalo, Lescher moved to Phoenix to work for local architect, Thornton Fitzhugh, one of Arizona Territory's leading architects.

While working with Fitzhugh, Lescher helped design the First Federal Savings and Loan Association building on West Adams, the territorial prison at Florence, a ward at the territorial hospital, and the Chandler Courts in Mesa. After spending two years under Fitzhugh's direction, Lescher purchased the office equipment of architect W.A. Bleisner and opened his own architectural firm. Lescher's first project was the West End School. Soon after its completion Lescher received two other school design jobs—a school building for the Littleton District in Cashion and a two-room addition to the original Murphy School. Over the duration of Lescher's practice he and his associates became one of the leading designers of elementary and high school buildings. By the end of his career he had designed a school in every county in Arizona and in nearly every community in the state.

<sup>4</sup> Vincent Murray, Cline R. Asbury/Riney B. Salmon House, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 2010, 3.
<sup>5</sup> Vincent Murray, Fred G. Hilvert House, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 2016.

Borah House

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Name of Property

After the three small school projects, Lescher landed his first big commission to design the Woman's Club of Phoenix at a cost of \$16,500. In 1913 his growing practice led him to take in John Rinker Kibbey as Partner. The firm changed its name to Lescher and Kibbey. Significant Lescher and Kibbey buildings include the Mohave County Courthouse (National Register listed), the Globe High School, Gilbert Elementary School (NR listed), Florence Union High School (NR listed), and Aspen Hall in Phoenix.

As the firm's reputation grew Lescher felt compelled to expand his firm once again. In 1917, twenty-five-year-old Leslie J. Mahoney joined the firm. Born January 21, 1892, the son of a building contractor in De Soto, Missouri, Mahoney traveled widely with his father during childhood. He studied liberal arts at Santa Clara College in California. After hearing a friend who worked for Lescher and Kibbey was leaving the firm, Mahoney offered to take his place. After a short time, Mahoney was taken in as partner and the firm became Lescher, Kibbey, and Mahoney. In 1923 Kibbey left the desert heat for the more moderate California, and the Firm was renamed Lescher and Mahoney.

From 1923 until the firm was sold in 1975, Lescher and Mahoney were both prolific and path breaking. The firm quickly became one of the most prominent architectural practices in the state and they went on to complete over 2,500 Arizona projects by Lescher's death in 1957. More than 20,000 drawings from the firm are now housed in the Arizona Historical Society Museum in Tempe, Arizona. Lescher and Mahoney designed most major public and institutional buildings in Phoenix through the 1950s and designed buildings throughout the state. The vast majority of the firm's early work focused on public buildings such as schools and courthouses. After 1930 the firm's focus shifted to commercial commissions, predominately in Phoenix. Though the firm worked in many architectural styles their buildings often conformed to the trends of the time. Major buildings during the firm's early years tend to be in the Neo Classic Style but by the midtwenties the firm's work shifted toward Spanish Colonial Revival and Mission revival forms though they often retained the symmetry and formality of Neo Classic designs. This is best represented by the Spanish Colonial Revival Orpheum Theater (1929). Their stylistic adaptation continued with the Modern style Title and Trust building (1931) and was completed with the International style Hanny's building (1947). Lescher and Mahoney began as a four-person office in the early twenties. Mahoney drafted, Lescher ran the business, and a draftsman and apprentice assisted. Lescher held Arizona architects registration certificate #5. By 1952, the firm employed sixty-five people, filling the 10th and 11th floors of the Title and Trust Building. Lescher died from a stroke in 1957. Mahoney continued to work until he retired and the firm merged with Dana Larson Roubel (DLR Group) forming Lescher and Mahoney/DLR Group in 1975. Mahoney died at the age of 93 in 1985.

The skill of Lescher and Mahoney's designs and their significance in Arizona history has resulted in twenty-eight of their civic and commercial buildings being listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places are included on the next page.

Borah House				Maricopa, Arizona
Name of Property				County and State
ARCHITECT	STATE	COUNTY	RESOURCE NAME	DATE LISTED
Lescher & Kibbey	AZ	Graham	Graham County Courthouse	5/25/1982
Lescher & Kibbey	AZ	Maricopa	Brophy College Chapel	8/10/1993
Lescher & Kibbey	AZ	Maricopa	Gilbert Elementary School	6/16/1980
Lescher & Kibbey	AZ	Mohave	Mohave County Courthouse & Jail	8/25/1983
Lescher & Kibbey	AZ	Pima	Curley School	1/31/2008
Lescher & Kibbey	AZ	Pinal	Florence Union High School	6/22/1987
Lescher, Kibbey, &			The amount states may be determined the control of the states of the sta	
Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Temple Beth Israel	2/22/2011
			Arizona Citrus Growers Association	
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Warehouse	9/4/1985
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Cartwright School	8/12/1993
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	El Zaribah Shrine Auditorium	3/9/1989
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Arizona State Hospital Building	7/15/2009
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Buckeye Union High School	12/30/2009
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Sacred Heart Home for the Aged	2/2/2010
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Glendale High School Auditorium	5/2/2006
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Hanny's	9/6/1985
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Irving School	11/8/2000
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Knights of Pythias Building	9/4/1985
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Maricopa County Courthouse	2/10/1989
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Moeur, B.B., Activity Building	9/11/1985
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Orpheum Theater	9/4/1985
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Pay'n Takit #5	9/4/1985
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Title & Trust Building	9/4/1985
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	U.S. Post Office	2/10/1983
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Whitney, J.T. Funeral Home	9/4/1985
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Whittier, John G., School	8/12/1993
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Wickenburg High School & Annex Wickenburg High School	7/10/1986
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Maricopa	Gymnasium	7/10/1986
Lescher & Mahoney	AZ	Yuma	Mohawk Valley School	12/29/1986

Borah House	
Name of Property	_

Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

# Pre-World War II Residential Architecture of Lescher and Mahoney

Though Lescher and Mahoney are primarily associated with their work on civic and commercial buildings, they also designed a limited number of residential properties. Such properties made up less than ten percent of the firm's total commissions and were only completed for prominent Arizona citizens. While many of the firm's civic and commercial buildings have been recognized for their architectural significance, many of their residential properties have yet to be identified. This is likely due to their rarity. Despite this lack of recognition, Lescher and Mahoney played an important role in Phoenix residential design during the pre-World War II period.

From the mid-1930s to the beginning of World War II, the popular architectural styles in Phoenix included the Monterey (California style) and French Provincial styles. Though less popular, the Spanish and Mediterranean Revival styles, Eclectic modes, and Pueblo Revival styles were fairly common as well. These property styles are associated with the growth of residential construction during the late 1930s driven in large part by the New Deal recovery programs. In later years the economic expansion, sparked by the threat of war in Europe generated new home construction. The National Housing Act of 1934, which created the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) was crucial to the increase in residential construction. The FHA insured private lenders against loss on new mortgage loans and encouraged better construction standards and easier financing. This resulted in a nationwide upswing of residential construction. However, Phoenicians had the additional advantage of an ardent local supporter of the FHA program. Walter Bimson of Valley National Bank saw the program as a way to increase business and his involvement in and support of the FHA program in Phoenix spurred lending and home construction in the valley.

As an additional benefit, Phoenicians could be certain these homes would be well designed. Leslie J. Mahoney was the statewide supervising architect for the FHA program in Arizona. In 1936, the architectural firm of Lescher and Mahoney designed three demonstration houses in the California Monterey style for the FHA program in the Willo neighborhood of Phoenix. All three properties were listed as contributing properties in the Willo-Alvarado historic property survey.

Although the three Willo homes are good representatives of the Monterey style, they are modest in size and scale. As the economy improved, Lescher and Mahoney began to receive commissions for larger houses from owners with money to spend, such as the Borah residence. Dr. James L. Borah. Borah, an Illinois native and veteran of the Spanish American War, had a successful dentistry practice in Phoenix. Dr. Borah, the original owner of the property, commissioned Lescher and Mahoney to design his home in the new and prestigious Phoenix Country Club subdivision. He and his wife lived in the home until his death in 1951. His wife, Elsie Borah, continued to live in the house until her death in 1958 at which point the couple's only child, Olympic gold medalist Charles Borah, took possession of the house. The house stayed in the Borah family until Charles' daughter, Barbara Walter, sold the property in 1987.

Very few of Lescher and Mahoney's residential properties are listed as independent properties on the National Register of Historic Places. As of August 2013, there are only three: the Denison

Borah House

Maricopa, Arizona

Name of Property County and State

Kitchel Residence, the McCullough-Price House, and the John M. Ross House. The Denison Kitchel Residence was designed in the Monterey architectural style in 1942. The McCullough-Price House was designed in the Pueblo Revival style in 1938 and the John M. Ross House was designed in the Tudor Revival style in 1929. Thus, the Borah House would be the first example of Lescher and Mahoney's residential work in the Mediterranean Revival style to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Borah House is significant as a fine example of the residential work of Lescher and Mahoney. Residential commissions were a relatively small part of the Lescher and Mahoney portfolio. The Borah House's Mediterranean Revival Style reflects the firm's tendency to work in the popular styles of the particular period. It is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as an exceptional example of the Mediterranean Revival Style in Phoenix and for its association with the prominent Arizona architectural firm of Lescher and Mahoney.

#### Charles E. Borah

Charles E. Borah was the first Arizona citizen to win an Olympic gold medal. Charles was the only child of the property's original owner Dr. James L. Borah and his wife Elsie Borah. Charles was born on November 11, 1906 in Fairfield, Illinois. He was a Phillips Academy Andover graduate. In 1926 Charles won the AAU championships in the 100-yard dash, in 1927 he won the 220-yard dash, and in 1928 he won the 200-meter dash. Charles ran track at the University of Southern California where he won the IC4A championships in both the 100-yard and 220 yard dashes in 1927. Charles tied the famed Charlie Paddock's world record of 9.6 seconds in the 100-yard dash on two occasions, in 1926 and 1927. He competed in the 1928 Summer Olympics in Amsterdam where he ran the third leg of the men's 4x100 relay, the 200-meter dash, and the 100-meter dash. His relay team won the gold medal.

After returning home from the Olympics, Charles followed in his father's footsteps and became a dental surgeon in Phoenix, Arizona. Charles occupied the Borah residence from 1958 to 1979 when he gave the house to his daughter Barbara Walter. Charles Borah died in 1980.

#### History of the Phoenix Country Club

The Phoenix Country Club was founded in 1900 by Mrs. Webster Street and Mrs. Oakes Murphy. Street was the wife of the Chief Justice of the Arizona Territory and Murphy was the wife of the governor of the territory. These women, serving as a committee, succeeded in raising \$5,000 as a basis for the club. The Gordon Tweed estate gave the use of an 80-acre tract of land north of the present capitol building and now known as Oakland place as a site of the club. A nine-hole desert golf course was constructed and a modest club house built. A 1900 Arizona Republic article announced the formation of the club, "It is the purpose of the club to secure grounds convenient to the carline, erect a commodious club house, and provide golf links and other forms of amusement for its members. More than fifty persons have joined, and the list is expected to grow."

Borah House Name of Property Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

This Country Club was quite successful and the club house and golf course fulfilled all club needs for nearly a decade. In 1910, however, club membership had increased to such an extent that agitation for a large club house and new grounds began. Shortly thereafter committees were designated to make preliminary arrangements for a new home for the club. E.J. Bennitt donated a site at the northern end of Central Avenue, at the Arizona Canal. Bennitt went on to build the Bennitt Mansion, which was listed on the National Registry of Historic Places in 2009, in the Club's current location, near the Borah House. The club then purchased a tract of desert land on the north side of the canal, comprising about 120 acres. A clubhouse was constructed on the Bennitt site and cost about \$10,000. A 9-hole desert golf course was constructed and tennis courts provided. Reorganization of the club was effected as a means of financing the new club house and golf course. For eight years, accommodations at the new club fulfilled every need. But, membership growth eventually made evident a need for larger and more pretentious quarters if the club were to continue to thrive and expand. So agitation for a new home was once again started.

After twenty years of occupying three different golf courses, the Phoenix Country Club relocated to a new location at the Northeast corner of Seventh Street and Thomas Road in 1920. The Phoenix Country Club purchased the 160-acre "Williams" tract from the firm of E.J. Bennitt and Company on January 8, 1920. When this was done, a new corporate organization was formed, called the Phoenix Country Club. The new club was substantially a continuation of the old, all stockholders of the former club having privilege of converting stock in the former organization as part payment for shares in the new club. Increasing interest in golf among club members as well as demands from non-resident members and visitors, was instrumental in influencing the club in purchasing a tract large enough on which to construct an 18-hole grass golf course.

The services of Harry Collis, a well-known professional, were secured to aid in mapping out a course. At the time, Collis was recognized one of the foremost experts in the United States on golf flat courses. A 1921 Arizona Republic Article proclaimed, "Golfers who have played on famous courses throughout the country say the new Phoenix Country Club links are unsurpassed anywhere in the West." When the course was constructed, it was only the third grass golf course in the state. The Phoenix Country Club Golf Course served as the first home of the Phoenix Open and the course has been played by famous golfers such as Ben Hogan, Byron Nelson, Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Gene Littler, Johnny Miller, Miller Barber, Ben Crenshaw, Hal Sutton and many others.

The original platting design of the Phoenix Country Club golf course, club house, and East and North Country Club Drive residential lots was completed in April 1920 by Lloyd Wright, the eldest son of Frank Lloyd Wright. When Wright designed the plat it was located on the outskirts of town and was completely dependent on "automobility." The architectural plans for the Phoenix Country Club clubhouse were completed by Lescher, Kibbey, and Mahoney in the spring of 1920. The same architectural firm, later known as Lescher and Mahoney, would build the Borah House, near the clubhouse, a few years later. The club commissioned Engan Construction Company to build the clubhouse. The cost of the building alone was \$42,000, with

Borah House

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Name of Property

furnishing and equipment adding another \$15,000 to the outlay. The whole was financed by the club membership.

A 1921 Arizona Republic article described Lescher, Kibbey, and Mahoney's work on the club house as, "Combining a simple architectural beauty with splendid arrangement and artistic furnishings, the building represents the last word in club house construction." Lescher, Kibbey, and Mahoney designed the club house to replicate an old Spanish farm home and was detailed to conform to the best traditions of Spanish architectural ideas. The exterior of the building shows long, low, straight lines. The walls are of brick, originally painted with a light cream stain to imitate the old-fashioned whitewash. The roof is of red Mission tile and its long expanse, as well as the long walls, were originally relieved by light blue-green shutters and window trim.

The Phoenix Country Club Place subdivision was marketed and sold by the Dwight B. Heard Investment Company. Heard was a prominent publisher, politician, and investment banker in the Phoenix area. A 1920 Arizona Republic newspaper article announcing the sale of lots in the subdivision described the subdivision as, "a gem in a setting of picturesque desert lands covering a half mile square. Only a mile from the present city limits, it will have the advantage of enjoying all modern city conveniences while offering the special inducements of scenic beauty and comparative seclusiveness."

The Phoenix Country Club epitomized a luxury country life style. A 1934 Arizona Republic Article described the Phoenix Country Club as "an oasis of charm in the heart of a desert land [that] has no rival in the West." To add to the prestige of home ownership at the Phoenix Country Club, only members of the Country Club were originally allowed to purchase lots for building residences and all residences constructed had to exceed seven thousand dollars, a considerable cost when the lots were auctioned in 1920. Today, the area has been surrounded by the commercial and residential growth of the City of Phoenix. The 18-hole golf course remains Maricopa County property but the Clubhouse and surrounding residences on North and East Country Club Drives were annexed by the City of Phoenix in 1948.

Borah House Name of Property Maricopa, Arizona County and State

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

#### National Register Forms

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- Zacharias, David. Bennitt Mansion National Register of Historic Places Nomination. June 2005. On file at State Historic Preservation Office, Arizona State Parks, Phoenix.
- Graham, Robert G. Denison Kitchel Residence National Register of Historic Places Nomination. April 1994. On file at State Historic Preservation Office, Arizona State Parks, Phoenix.
- Weight, Kevin. McCullough-Price House, Chandler, Arizona. National Register of Historic Places Nomination. April 2009. On file at State Historic Preservation Office, Arizona State Parks, Phoenix.
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- Newcomb, Rexford. The Spanish House for America Its Design, Furnishing and Garden, 1927.
- Bricker, Lauren Weiss. The Mediterranean House in America, 2008.
- Sewell, Jock M. Mediterranean Architecture, A Sourcebook of Architect Ural Elements, 2011.
- Appleton, Marie. California Mediterranean, 2007.
- Newcomb, Rexford. Mediterranean Domestic Architecture in the United States, 1999 (Acanthus Press reprint).

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 Borah House Maricopa, Arizona Name of Property County and State Newspaper Articles The Arizona Republican, January 1, 1951. New Country Club an Exact Replica of Spanish Home, The Arizona Republic, October 27, 1921. Three-Day Social Program Marks the Opening of this Fine Addition to Valley, *The Arizona* Republic, October 27, 1921. The Country Club is Organized and Starts Off with Bright Prospects, The Arizona Republic, October 21, 1900. Phoenix Country Club 18-Hole Grass Golf Course Will Open Today—One of the Finest in West, The Arizona Republic, October 1, 1921. Will Sell Lots in New Country Club Tract at Auction, The Arizona Republic, May 29, 1920. To Sell 52 Lots to Finance New Country Club, The Arizona Republic, May 19, 1920. Casa Grande Dispatch, November 12, 1980. 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: X State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government

\_\_\_\_ University
Other

Name of repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

Borah House				Maricopa, Arizona
Name of Property		_		County and State
10. Geographical Dat	a			
Acreage of Property	0.76	_ ,		
Use either the UTM sy	stem or latitude/	longitude coordi	inates	
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4. Latitude:		Longitude:		
Or UTM References Datum (indicated on U	JSGS map):            x         NAD 1	983		
1. Zone: 12	Easting:	401481.029	Northing:	3705156.027
2. Zone:	Easting:		Northing:	
3. Zone:	Easting:		Northing:	
4. Zone:	Easting:		Northing:	

Borah House	Maricopa, Arizona
Name of Property	County and State

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

72 East Country Club Drive, Lot 2 Country Club Place; northern boundary is the golf course of Phoenix Country Club. Maricopa County Parcel # 118-20-002.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This boundary includes the extant property historically associated with the Borah property. The Borah House sits on Maricopa County Parcel Number 118-20-002. The plat map is on Page 26 and a google map is on Page 27.

ame of Property		
er		
t Country Club Drive		
state: Arizona	zip code:85014	
-5:		
	ter  t Country Club Drive state: Arizona lhouse.com	t Country Club Drive state: Arizona zip code:85014 lhouse.com

#### **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.

Bor	ah	H	0	u	s	е

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

# Photo Log

Name of Property: Borah House

City or Vicinity: Phoenix

County: Maricopa

State: Arizona

Photographer: Mark E. House

Date Photographed: 11/27/2016

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

1 of	22	. Front- camera direction north
2 of	22	. Garage/Driveway- camera direction north
3 of	22	. West wing- camera direction northeast
4 of	22	. Back west wing- camera direction southeast
5 of	22	. Back- camera direction southwest
6 of	22	. Back- camera direction south
7 of	22	. Front Doorway- camera direction north
8 of	22	. Wood Balcony above Front Doorway- camera direction north
9 of	22	. Dining Room Entry/Plaster Detail- camera direction southeast
10 of	22	. Scrolled Iron Stairway- camera direction west
11 of	22	. Plaster Niche in Stairway- camera direction west
12 of	22	. Decorative detail under Second Story Balcony- camera direction
-		northeast
13 of	22	. Entrance Hall- camera direction north
14 of	22	. Built-In Trophy Case- camera direction northwest
15 of	22	. Living Room Ceiling Wood Panel Detail- camera direction east
16 of	22	. Painted Cast-Stone Fireplace in Living Room- camera direction north
17 of	22	. Cement Floor in Living Room- camera direction south
18 of	22	. Original Doorbell above Dining Room Doorway- camera direction east
19 of	22	. Original Exposed Brick of Service Porch- camera direction southeast
20 of	22	. Red Oak Flooring on Second Floor- camera direction southwest
21 of	22	. Bathroom located in Bedroom on Second Floor ft. Original Medicine
		Cabinet and Sink- camera direction southeast
22 of	22	. Master Bathroom ft. Original Tile, Medicine Cabinet, Sink and Built-In
3.		Shelves and Laundry Hamper- camera direction west

NPS Form 10-900	OMB No. 1024-0018	
Borah House		Maricopa, Arizona
Name of Property		County and State

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.).

United States Department of the Interior

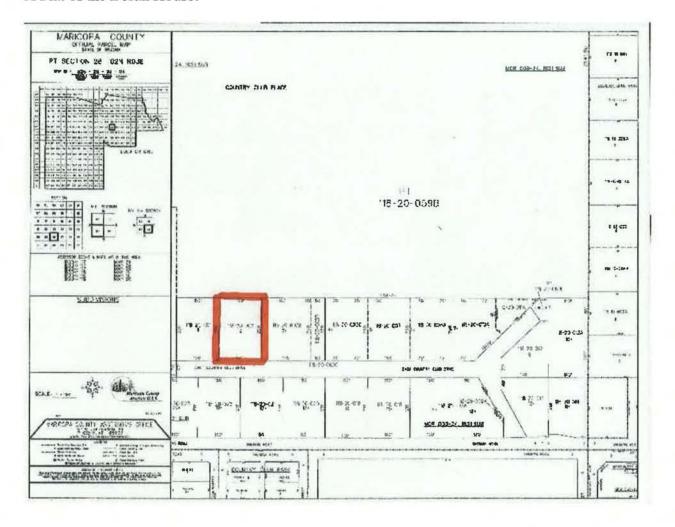
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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.

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

# A Plat of the Borah House:



Maricopa, Arizona County and State

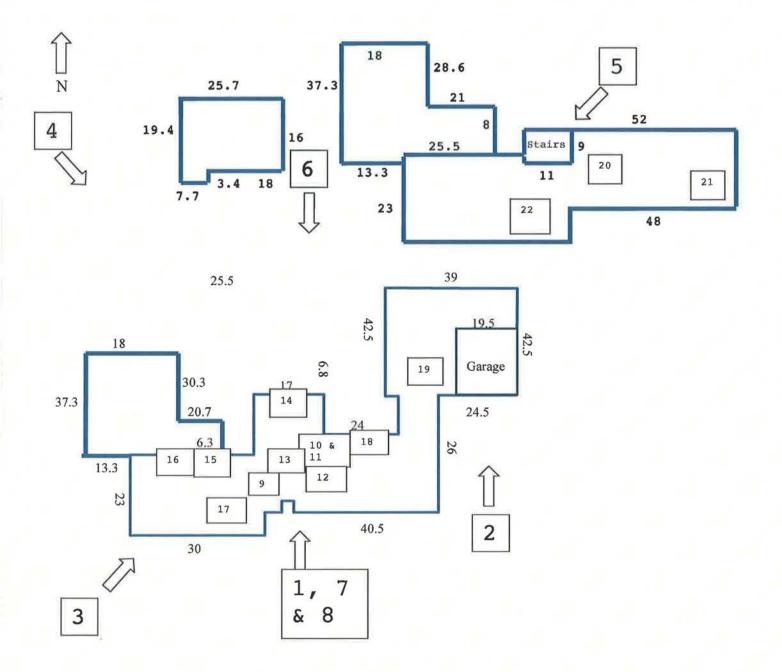
Borah House Name of Property 72 E Country Club Dr - Google Maps

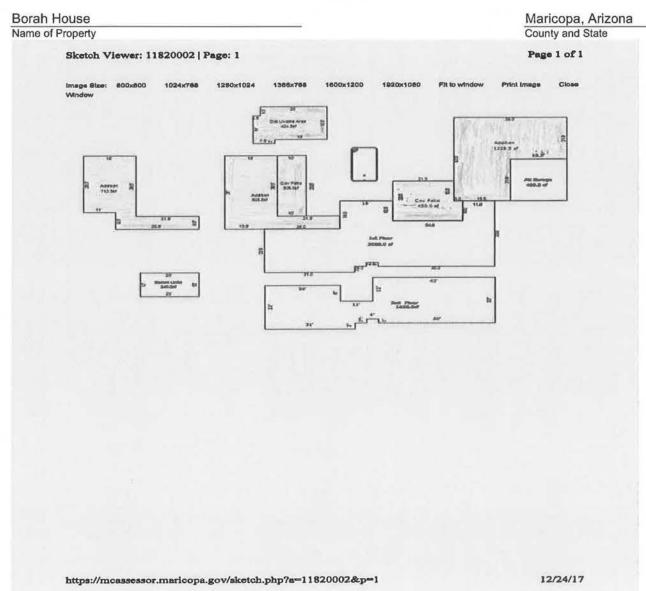
Google Maps 72 E Country Club Dr



Borah House Name of Property Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

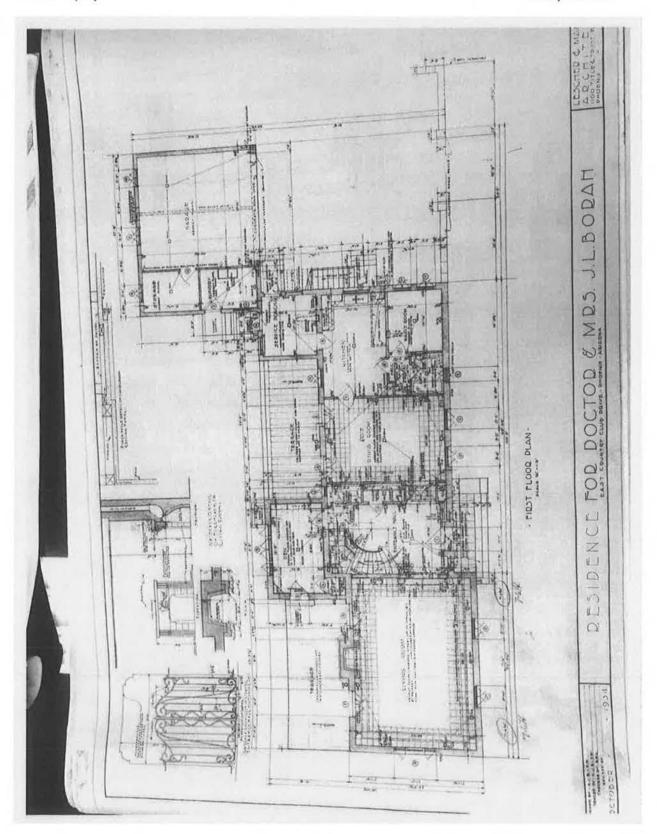
Sketch plan of the Borah House with notations accompanying photographs.



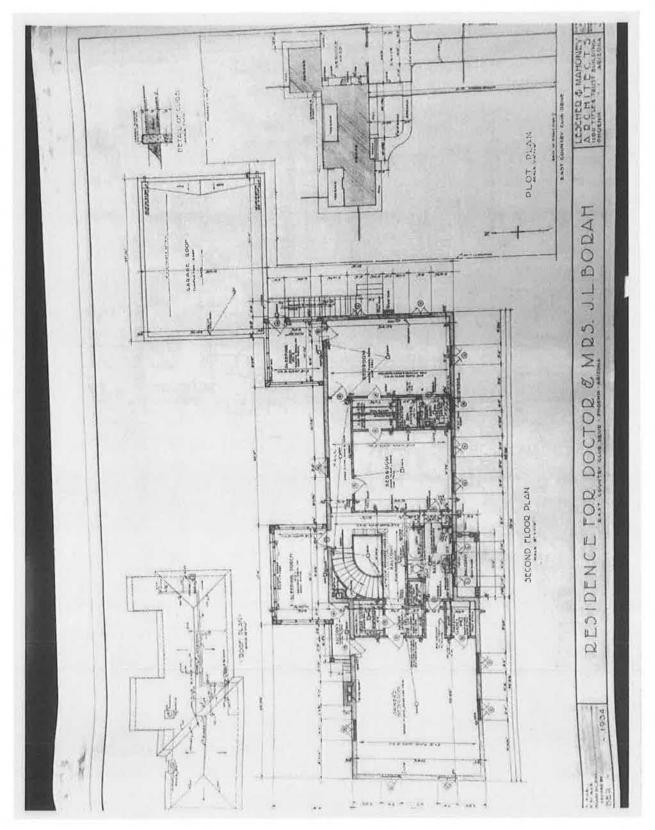


The Shaded areas are not original to The Borah House.

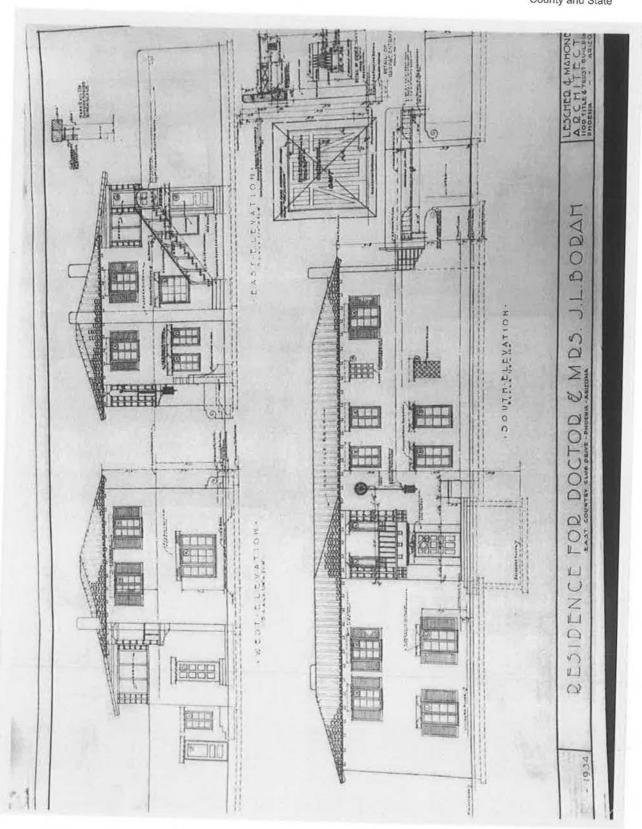
Name of Property



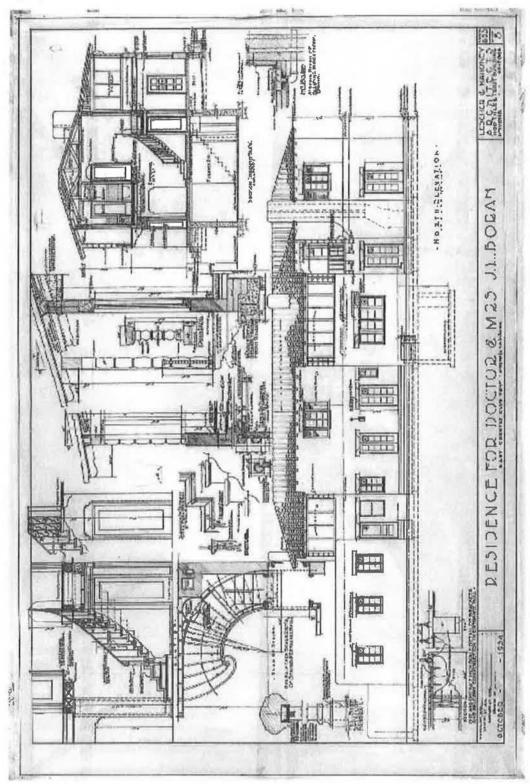
Name of Property



Name of Property



Name of Property



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

Photo 1
The Borah House
Maricopa County, Arizona
Errot Camera Direction North



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 2
The Borah House
Maricopa County, Arizona
Corrego/Private Company



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 3 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona

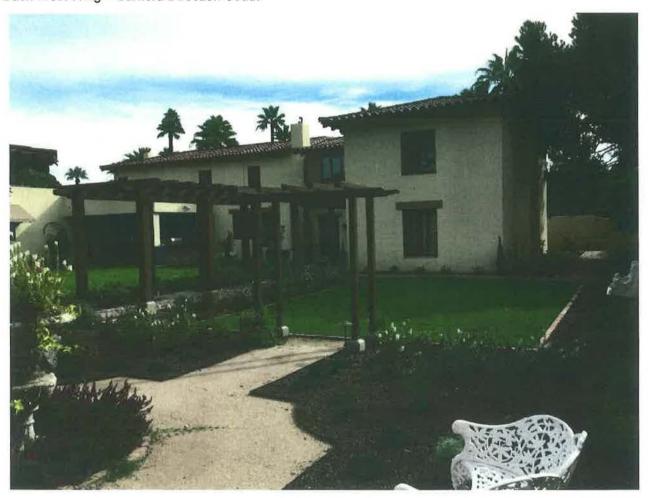


Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 4
The Borah House
Maricopa County, Arizona
Back West Wing – Camera Direction South



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 5 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona Back – Camera Direction South



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 6 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona Back – Camera Direction Southeast



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 7 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 8 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona Wood Balcony above Front Doorway



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 9
The Borah House
Maricopa County, Arizona
Dining Room Entry/Plaster Detail



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 10 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona Scrolled Iron Stairway



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 11 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona

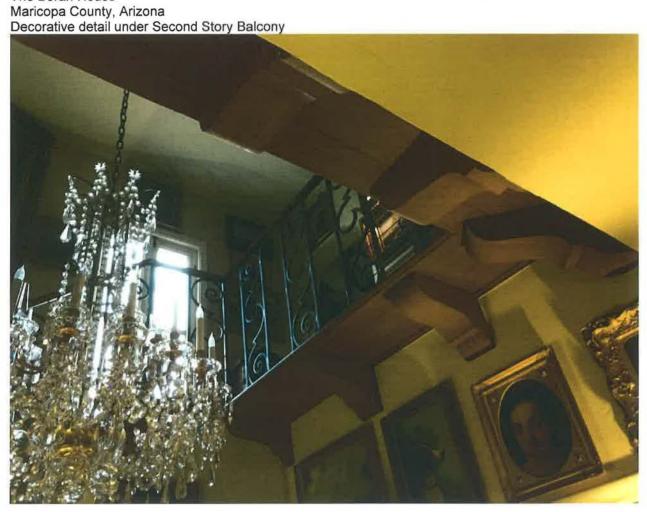


Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 12 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona



Borah House

Name of Property

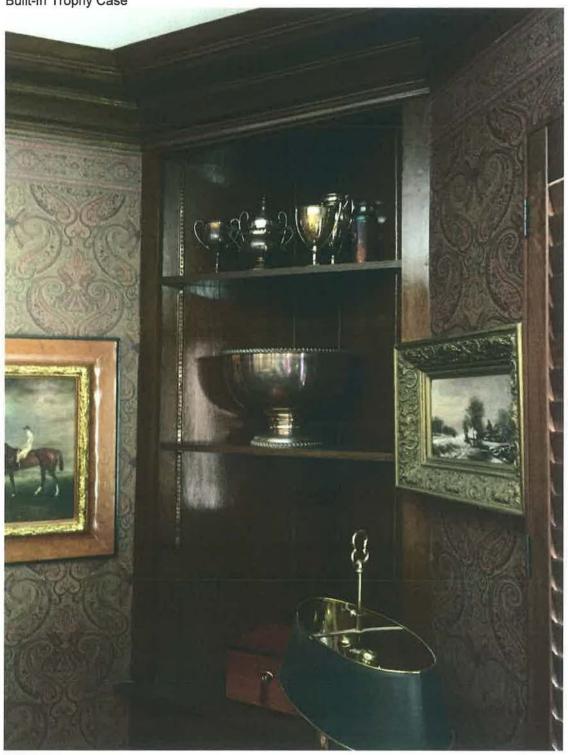
Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 13 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona



Borah House Name of Property Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 14 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona Built-In Trophy Case



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 15 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 16
The Borah House
Maricopa County, Arizona
Painted Cast-Stone Fireplace in Living Room



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

Photo 17 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona Cement Floor in Living Room



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 18 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona Original Doorbell above Dining Room Doorway



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

Photo 19
The Borah House
Maricopa County, Arizona
Original exposed brick of Service Porch



Borah House Name of Property Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 20 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona Red Oak Flooring on Second Floor



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona County and State

Photo 21 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona



Borah House

Name of Property

Maricopa, Arizona
County and State

Photo 22 The Borah House Maricopa County, Arizona























































































## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination				
Property Name:	Borah House				
Multiple Name:					
State & County:	ARIZONA, Maricopa				
Date Recei 1/29/201			of 16th Day: /13/2018	Date of 45th Day: 3/15/2018	Date of Weekly List:
Reference number:	SG100002209				
Nominator:	State				
Reason For Review					
Appeal		PDIL		X Text/Data Issue	
SHPO Request		Landscape		Photo	
Waiver		National		Map/Boundary	
Resubmission		Mobile Resource		Period	
Other		TCP		Less than 50 years	
		CLG			
X Accept Return Reject 3/15/2018 Date					
Abstract/Summary Comments:					
Recommendation/ Criteria					
Reviewer Lisa De		Discipline Historian			
Telephone (202)3		Date	3/15/18		
DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No					

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the

National Park Service.

## ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (SHPO)

## NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION TRANSMITTAL FORM \*\*FEDERAL EXPRESS\*\*

**DATE:** January 24, 2018

TO:

Edson Beall National Register of Historic Places 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 7228 Washington, D.C. 20240

FROM:

William Collins
National Register Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office
1100 West Washington Street
Phoenix AZ 85007

**National Register Nominations:** 

Dome House Cave Creek, Maricopa County, Arizona

Borah House Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona

Rincon Heights Historic District (Amendment) Tucson, Pima County, Arizona

Clarkdale Historic District (Amendment) Clarkdale, Yavapai County, Arizona

Documentation for these National Register nominations is enclosed, as required. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at wcollins@azstateparks.gov or 602.542.7159.

