

Duplicate

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Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

PH 036243X

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET  
RECEIVED  
DATE ENTERED: OCT 20 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

NAME

HISTORIC  
 THE ADAMSON HOME ON "VAQUERO HILL"  
AND/OR COMMON

THE ADAMSON HOME AT MALIBU LAGOON STATE PARK

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
23200 West Pacific Coast Highway  
CITY, TOWN  
Malibu  
STATE  
California 90265  
VICINITY OF  
CODE  
06  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
Twentieth 27  
COUNTY  
Los Angeles  
CODE  
037

CLASSIFICATION

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>OWNERSHIP</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>PRESENT USE</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
STREET & NUMBER  
P. O. Box 2390  
CITY, TOWN  
Sacramento  
VICINITY OF  
STATE  
California

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY RECORDER  
STREET & NUMBER  
227 North Broadway  
CITY, TOWN  
Los Angeles  
STATE  
California 90012

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE  
DATE  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
CITY, TOWN  
STATE  
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

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# SIGNIFICANCE

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 ORIGINAL SITE  
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N) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

been continually in use and  
 and documents of construction  
 use, boathouse, bathhouse and  
 red condition as per construction  
 le work, finishes, plumbing and  
 ds, swimming pool, retaining  
 . The ceramic tile installations  
 iginal beauty, color and design.

by C. Gregory Walsh, Jr.  
 n of Cultural Heritage  
 a Chapter, American

by Jerry Gross, Archi-  
 space Corp., Los Angeles.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SOULTRURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART (Tile)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SPECIFIC Furnishings
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1923-1926 Concept, Research & Preliminary Plans  
 Jan. 5, 1929 - Final Plans 1929 CONSTRUCTION - Morgan, Walls & Clements

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

General Contractors : Macdonald & Driver  
 Bathroom cabinets and vanity mirrors : Albatross Steel Equipment Company  
 Decorative floor and wall tile : Malibu Potteries  
 Tile roofing contractors : Phil E. French & Company  
 Wrought iron hardware : Fodorcraft  
 Finish hardware : Stockton & Spurgin, Inc.  
 Garage doors : Overhead Door Company  
 Lighting fixtures : B. S. Bell & Company  
 Plastering contractors : Grival Brothers  
 Plumbing fixtures : Orma Company  
 Decorations and furnishings : John B. Holzclaw Company  
 Decorative interior paintings and murals: Einar Hansen and Peter Nielsen

**SIGNIFICANCE OF ARCHITECTURE:**  
 The Adamson Home is a unique and sensitively designed blend of Moorish and Spanish-Mediterranean architecture of the late 1920's exemplified perfectly by the Moorish pointed arches at the two end wings of the house, which are carefully paired to the round Spanish arches of the loggia between. The house contains many outstanding architectural features. There is a fine vaulted, molded and painted ceiling in the dining room. Another vault or stained cast stone encloses the magnificent stairway up to the second floor. The windows are elegantly detailed in steel with unusual wrought iron filagree design at the base of the windows. The lavish use of tile is also noteworthy.

The Adamson House is absolutely unique in its promontory beachfront location and the way the traditional Mediterranean plan has been adapted to take advantage of the spectacular site. The traditional courtyard plan has been modified to take advantage of views down the coast, and the entire site arrangement capitalizes on the beach site.

The Adamson Home is a unique architectural asset to the area. The thoughtful use of fine materials in its construction to enhance the elegance of the design would be difficult or impossible to duplicate on today's market. The Adamson estate is notably the only intact coastal, historical landmark left in Los Angeles County representing a clear image of the architectural, cultural and artistic view of an era.

**ATTEST LETTERS:**  
 EXHIBIT D : Letter dated January 27, 1976 by C. Gregory Walsh, Jr., A.I.A.  
 EXHIBIT F : Letter dated January 29, 1976 by Robert O. Clements, A.I.A.  
 (SEE EXHIBIT "B", CONTINUATION SHEETS, PAGES 8-1, 8-2, and 8-3)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED	OCT 28 1977

EXHIBIT "B"

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

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**8. SIGNIFICANCE OF ART - TILE INSTALLATIONS:**

The lavish use of tile in patterns on walls and floors is noteworthy. Particularly fine are a broken tile motif repeated throughout the house, representations in tile of oriental rug patterns and a genuinely inventive use of the materials throughout. The tile was designed and manufactured locally at Malibu Potteries within one mile of the home by European artisans employed to produce exquisite and unique tile work. No price value can be set on reproducing this tile work as some of the designs and colors are very prohibitive in today's market. Accordingly, the rare and valuable tile artifacts in The Adamson Home cannot be practically replaced and are therefore priceless.

ATTEST LETTERS:

- EXHIBIT : Letter dated January 27, 1976 by C. Gregory Walsh, Jr., A.I.A.
- EXHIBIT : Letter dated January 27, 1976 by Jerry Gross, Architectural representative, Interpace Corporation.

**8. SIGNIFICANCE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

The original site was a mounded hill of sand dunes about ten acres in size. As construction of the house was being completed, good humus was brought in from nearby canyon land and beds for the garden made, the soil being in depth from five to ten feet. The hill around which the drive curves received a thinner covering; it was sown for some years with wildflower seed.

A dozen or more fully-matured olive trees were trucked in from a Malibu Canyon grove, which F. H. Rindge, Sr. had had planted in the Nineties. These were planted about the house and bath house and dotted over the hill, not in rows, however. Some varieties did not thrive at the beach and were replaced by other and usually more exotic trees, i.e., the huge coral tree near the chicken pens.

As the number of the family's hobbies grew over the years, the grounds were encroached upon by a large lath house, potting shed and carpenter shop, blacksmith shop, runs for chickens, and several dog houses. There were planted special collections of roses, bulbs of all kinds, Chinese magnolias, and a great variety of ornamental and fruit-bearing shrubs and trees.

During World War II Mrs. Adamson did most of her own seeding and potting of annuals. She also planted a family orchard and several large "victory gardens", which provided fresh and preserved fruits and vegetables thereafter.

Over time the control of the micro-climate around the residence was reinforced by the layout and maturity of the plant material selected. Response to the fierce Santa Ana winds are controlled by groves of trees and shrubs on the Northern boundary of the property. The cold Westerly winds during the summer are modified by stands of Sycamore trees. There is evidence of a clear eco-system between house, landscape orientation and the forces of nature.

UNITED STATES

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY**

CONTINUATION SHEET

**8. SIGNIFICANCE OF ART**

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Noteworthy Moorish tile patios and...

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**8. SIGNIFICANCE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

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The Rindge...

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EXHIBIT "B"

CONTINUATION SHEET

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8. SIGNIFICANCE OF FURNISHINGS:

The "John B. Holtzclaw Company, Interior Decorators, Importers, Creators and Makers of Distinctive Furniture" executed the interiors, Mr. Holtzclaw giving it his personal attention. Antiques were used, or reproductions made especially for the house, utilizing authentic design adaptations of Hispanic furniture (cf. Bibliography).

Noteworthy at this house are the half-dozen wrought iron tables with decorative Moorish tile tops made by the Malibu Potteries. They were placed in the outside patios and sitting areas.

Most of the original furnishings including silverware and other valuables are in the protective custody and safekeeping of the State of California and are available to be returned to The Adamson Home for an authentic interpretive display of the original furnishing of the home.

8. SIGNIFICANCE AS TO EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT:

The Adamson Home is constructed near a rich archaeological site designated LAN-254 which predates European involvement in California to approximately 3,000 B.C. Cabrillo sailed along this part of the Southern California coastline in October, 1542. The site is part of the original 13,000 acre Rancho Malibu Sostomo Semi Sequit granted by the King of Spain to Don Jose Bartolome Tapia in 1804. The last owner of this Spanish land grant was Mr. Frederick H. Rindge who purchased the Malibu Ranch from Henry W. Keller in 1891. The Adamson Home was constructed by the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rindge, Rhoda Rindge Adamson, in 1929. Accordingly, the Adamson Home and grounds provide a unique opportunity for interpretive applications on civilization in California from pre-historic Indian civilization through the explorative Spanish colonial and land-grant periods to the settlement of Southern California from 1850 when California was admitted to the Union to the present era.

The Adamson Home is also significant in that it is associated with a family who originally migrated to America in 1638 and moved westward in the settlement of the West. The family has been involved in the history of America on the Eastern coast as exemplified in the naming of the town of Rindge, New Hampshire. In 1887 Rhoda Rindge Adamson's father, Frederick H. Rindge, donated lands and funds to the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts for the Cambridge Public Library, the Cambridge City Hall and the Cambridge Manual Training School for Boys, now known as the Rindge Technical School. An extensive collection of implements used by native races was donated in 1894 to the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University and a large coin collection was donated to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston by the Rindge family.

The Rindge and Adamson families involvement in the culture and settlement of

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CONTINUATION SHEET

8. SIGNIFICANCE AS TO EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT:

California from 1887 to the delta lands in the San Joaquin this day known as "The Houses" the Rindge-Elliott United Methodist Church donated by Rhoda Rindge Adamson. California area was destroyed construction of a rail right-of-way, operation and direct involvement Union Oil Company of California Insurance Company (now Marblehead Land Company). The Adamson Companies. The Adamson Peppercine University.

In summary, the Adamson The lives of the members and westward settlement Hampshire and Massachusetts in its own right from tecture and furnishing Adamson family as it United States of America

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

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8. SIGNIFICANCE AS TO EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT: (Continued)

California from 1887 to the present is attested by agricultural development of delta lands in the San Joaquin Valley near Stockton where a large parcel is to this day known as "The Rindge Tract". The Southwest Museum in Los Angeles houses the Rindge collection of native artifacts. In March, 1896 the first United Methodist Church of Santa Monica was dedicated - made possible by funds donated by Rhoda Rindge Adamson's father. The settlement of the Southern California area was directly affected by the Rindge-Adamson family through construction of a railroad along the Malibu Coast, legal cases involving road rights-of-way, operation of their own ceramic tile factory (Malibu Potteries) and direct involvement in the formation of such California business entities as Union Oil Company of California, Southern California Edison, Conservative Life Insurance Company (now Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company), Adohr Milk Farms, Marblehead Land Company (named after Marblehead, Massachusetts) and the Adamson Companies. The Adamson family donated the large parcel of land on which Pepperdine University, Malibu Campus, was recently constructed.

In summary, the Adamson Home is part of the heritage of California and the nation. The lives of the members of the Rindge-Adamson family parallel the exploration and westward settlement of the United States from 1638 to 1976 and from New Hampshire and Massachusetts to California. The Adamson structure, significant in its own right from a standpoint of architecture, tile art, landscape architecture and furnishings, is also significant due to the lives of the Rindge-Adamson family as it pertains to the exploration, settlement and culture of the United States of America from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

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# DESCRIPTION

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house, built of reinforced concrete, has been continually in use and maintained since 1929. Construction drawings and documents of construction are of record. The existing residence, gatehouse, boathouse, bathhouse and site development are in their original, unaltered condition as per construction documents. The condition of the structure, tile work, finishes, plumbing and electrical is excellent and in use. The grounds, swimming pool, retaining walls and driveways, are in use and maintained. The ceramic tile installations are in excellent condition and retain their original beauty, color and design.

**ATTEST LETTERS:**

**EXHIBIT D** : Letter dated January 27, 1976 by C. Gregory Walsh, Jr., Preservation Officer, Chairman of Cultural Heritage Committee, Southern California Chapter, American Institute of Architects.

**EXHIBIT E** : Letter dated January 27, 1976 by Jerry Gross, Architectural Representative, Interpace Corp., Los Angeles.

# SIGNIFICANCE

<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART(Tile)
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS

**SPECIFIC DATES** 1929-1928 CONCEPT DESIGN  
Jan. 5, 1929 - Final Plans

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

General Contractors  
Bathroom cabinets and vanity mirrors  
Decorative floor and wall tile  
Tile roofing contractors  
Wrought iron hardware  
Finish hardware  
Garage doors  
Lighting fixtures  
Plastering contractors  
Plumbing fixtures  
Decorations and furnishings  
Decorative interior paintings and murals

**SIGNIFICANCE OF ARCHITECTURE:**

The Adamson Home is a unique and sensitive Mediterranean architecture of the late 1920s. It features pointed arches at the two end wings of the main house, the round Spanish arches of the loggia, and outstanding architectural features. There is a vault in the dining room. Another vault or stairway up to the second floor. The window design of the tile is also noteworthy.

The Adamson House is absolutely unique in its way the traditional Mediterranean plan has a spectacular site. The traditional courtyard of views down the coast, and the entire site.

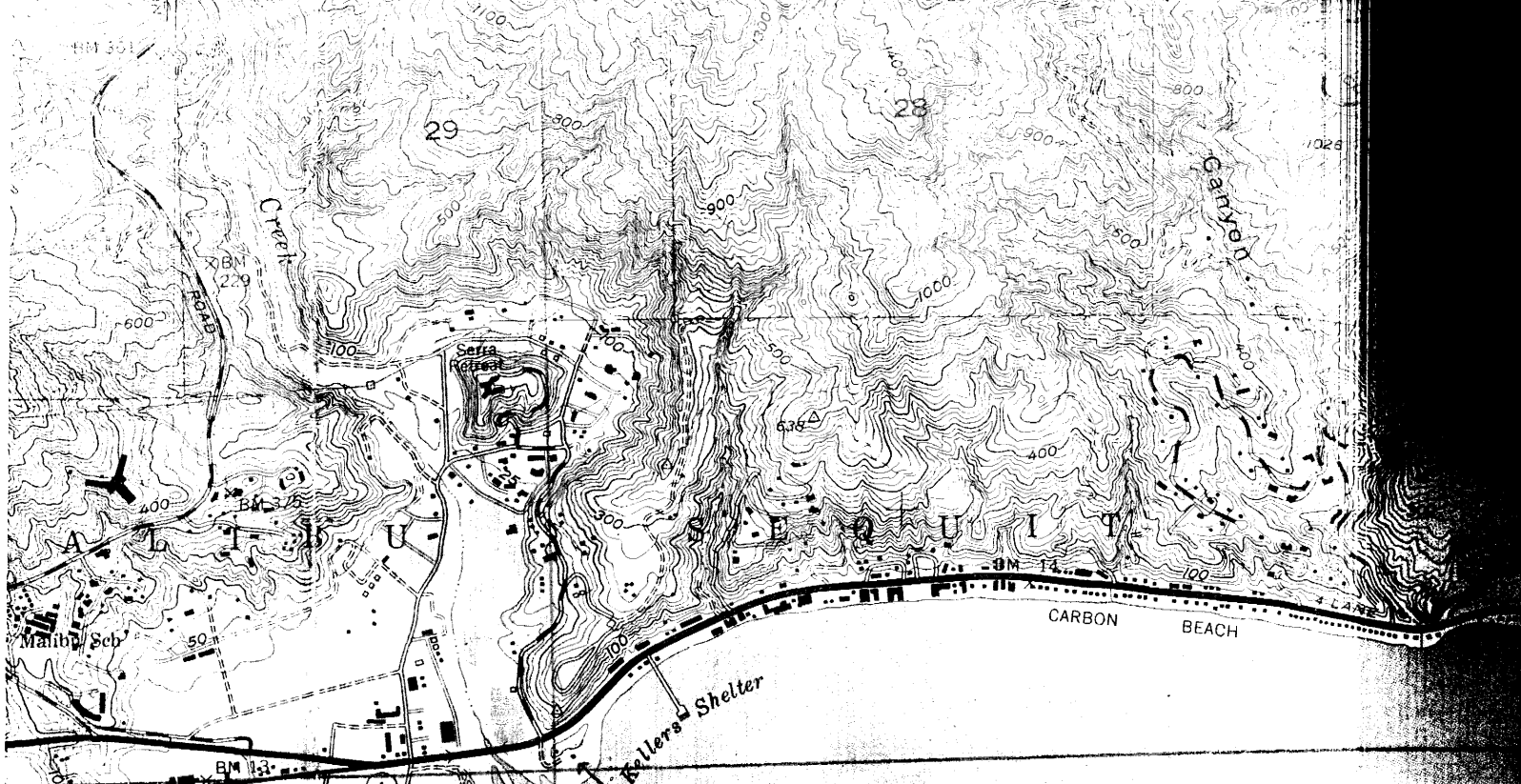
The Adamson Home is a unique architectural fine materials in its construction to make difficult or impossible to replicate or add. It is the only intact coastal, historical landmark a clear image of the architectural, cultural

**ATTEST LETTERS:**

**EXHIBIT D** : Letter dated January 27, 1976

**EXHIBIT F** : Letter dated January 27, 1976

(SEE EXHIBIT "B", CONTINUATION SHEETS 2-23)



ADAMSON HOME  
Malibu, Los Angeles County, CA  
UTM References  
11/345060/3767040

M O N I C A B A Y

I C O C E A