NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

JAH 0 2904

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being nominated, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

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## Palmer, Jordan, House Name of Property

## Navajo County, Arizona County and State

Ownership of Property Cate	egory of Property	Number of Resources within Property				
(Check as many boxes as apply)	(Check only one box)	(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)				
☑ private	■ building (s)	Contributing Noncontributing				
☐ public-local	☐ district	4				
☐ public-State	☐ site	1buildings				
☐ public-Federal	☐ structure	sites				
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Name of related multiple pro (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a	operty listing a multiple property listing).	Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register				
N/A		<u>Q</u>				
6. Function or Use						
Historic Functions		Current Functions				
(Enter categories from instructions)		(Enter categories from instructions)				
DOMESTIC/Single Dwellin	na	DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling_				
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7. Description						
Architectural Classification		Materials				
		(Enter categories from instructions)				
Colonial Revival	<del></del>	foundation				
		Concrete				
		walls				
		Concrete				
		roof				
		Asphalt				
		other				
		Wood				

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Navajo County, Arizona County and State

Palmer, Jordan, House Name of Property

8. State	ment of Significance			
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)		Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)		
□▲	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Architecture		
□В	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.	Period of Significance1915		
□ <b>D</b>	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates1915		
	Considerations in all the boxes that apply.)			
Property		Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A		
□ A □ B □ C □ D □ E □ F □ G	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. removed from its original location. a birthplace or a grave. a cemetery. a reconstructed building, object, or structure. a commemorative property. less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Cultural Affiliation N/A Architect/Builder Nowlin Karchener		
	ve Statement of Significance he significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)			
9. Majo	r Bibliographical References			
Previou	e books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this for is documentation on file (NPS):  preliminary determination of individual listing (36  CFR 67) has been requested.  previously listed in the National Register	Primary Location of Additional Data:  ☐ State historic preservation office ☐ Other state agency ☐ Federal agency		
_ 	previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	<ul><li>☐ Local government</li><li>☐ University</li><li>☐ Other</li><li>Name of Repository:</li></ul>		
	recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #			

### Palmer, Jordan, House Name of Property

Navajo County, Arizona

County and State

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11. F	orm Prep	ared By						
name	title	Robert G.	Graham, AlA/Princ	cipal Architect				
			design Group, LL0					
_			-					
street	& numbe	er2601_N	N. 3 <sup>rd</sup> St. #308		telephone	(602) 274-9	777	
city or	r town	Phoenix			state:	AZ zip code _	85004	
Addit	ional Do	cumentation						
Submit	the following	ng items with the	completed form:					
Conti	inuation	Sheets						
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.  Photographs  Representative Black and White photographs of the property.  Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)								
Prop	erty Own	er						
		-	of the SHPO or FPO)					
street	& numbe	er				telephone		
city or	r town			ct	ate	zip cod	е	

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instruction, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Palmer, Jordan, House Navajo County, AZ

#### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

#### **SUMMARY**

The Jordan Palmer House is a one story home with Neoclassical style elements and walls of cast stone rusticated block, located on Main Street (Arizona 77) near the center of Taylor, Arizona. The house is set alone on its lot, facing Main Street. The footprint is rectangular. It has a recessed corner front porch supported on classical columns, and a medium pitched hip roof with gablet dormer-ventilators and bellcast eaves. The home has very few alterations from its original appearance, although the original site has been reduced in size.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The Jordan Palmer House occupies a prominent location on Main Street one block south of the center of Taylor. The present site measures about 145 feet wide and 125 feet deep, although originally the entire block was associated with the house. These adjacent areas have been developed with modern buildings or are open fields no longer visually associated with the house. The front yard is dominated by four large elm trees, through which a concrete walk leads from the street to the entry porch. There is an old water wellhead in the south side yard.

The house has a rectangular but nearly square footprint measuring 33 feet by 35 feet, including the porch. The raised front porch is recessed into the northwest building corner and is 24 feet wide and 7 feet deep. The roof over the porch is supported on three cast stone classical columns raised on square cast stone piers. The façade is thus asymmetrical, dominated by the recessed porch yet balanced by the single bedroom projecting out to the roof line. The columns are not of an established order but are fluted, with an intermediate projecting band on the shaft and round moldings at the base and capital. The porch floor is cast-in-place concrete. Walls are of rusticated concrete block (cast stone) set in a running bond. The foundation walls, about 18 inches high, are of concrete with a rough, off-the-board finish. Windows are wood, double hung, two-over-two units. The door and window openings are provided with projected cast stone lintels and sills. Doors have been replaced with modern units. The roof is a medium pitch hip with gablet dormer/ventilators facing to the sides and bellcast eaves. The roof was originally covered in wood shingles but these have long been replaced with asphalt shingles. The eave detail employs a wide, 12-inch board at the face of the wall, with a board soffit and 6-inch fascia enclosing the 1-foot overhangs. A secondary entry door from the porch into a side bedroom has been infilled. A door on the north side from another bedroom has likewise been infilled. The remaining entry, from the back into the kitchen, is intact. Two of the ten original widows have been replaced with aluminum units to match the historic pattern.

The interior layout is dominated by a large central living space with the other rooms of the house opening from it on each side. In addition to the Living Room there are three Bedrooms, a Kitchen, and a Bathroom. The interior has had very few alterations, mostly limited to finishes. It retains several intact examples of built-in woodwork.

**CONTRIBUTING ELEMENTS** 

NONCONTRIBUTING ELEMENTS

Jordan Palmer House

(none)

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Palmer, Jordan, House Navajo County, AZ

### NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### **SUMMARY**

The Jordan Palmer House was constructed in about 1915 by Nowlin Karchener. The property is significant under Criterion C as the best surviving example of the use of rusticated cast stone in the Snowflake/Taylor area. Evaluated within the context of Architecture in Snowflake-Taylor Arizona 1878-1940, the Jordan Palmer House represents an excellent local example of the Neoclassical style. The home is in excellent condition with few alterations.

#### CHRONOLOGY AND HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

The house was constructed in about 1915, reportedly by local contractor Nowlin Karchener. Rusticated cast stone locally produced by Ray Tanner was employed as the major building material. Little else is known about the history of the property. The site originally included a wide area, but this has been reduced in size as adjacent areas have been parceled out for newer residences.

#### **CONTEXT STATEMENT**

### Architecture in the Taylor-Snowflake Area, 1878-1940

### Early Architectural Development, 1878-1899

The towns of Taylor and Snowflake were established side-by-side in the Silver Creek valley in Northern Arizona by groups of Mormon missionaries sent from Utah in 1878. The two towns share a common history. The 19th-century architecture found in the Taylor/Snowflake region is typical of that found in Mormon-settled towns across Arizona and southern Utah. The homes themselves are a testament to the heritage, experience, and skills of the original Mormon pioneers.

The Mormon migration to Utah from the Midwest in the 1840s brought with it the prevalent Classical architectural styles of the 1830s and 40s. The symmetry and details of Colonial, Gothic, and Greek Revival design dominated the architecture of Utah well into the 1880s.

With the completion of the transcontinental railroad through Salt Lake City in 1868, Utah re-established strong links to the stylistic centers of the eastern U.S. This allowed the importation of manufactured building parts and materials, as well as the influence of the popular styles of the day, including the Gothic Revival and the Victorian period styles. These influences would form the stylistic background for the architecture employed as the Mormon pioneers spread southward into Arizona.

The height of Mormon colonization in Arizona occurred between 1876 and 1880, and their settlement in Taylor and Snowflake is dated to this period.

Many homes and commercial buildings of the earliest period of Mormon settlement through the end of the 19th century remain in Taylor and Snowflake. The physical appearance of the Mormon architecture contrasts with that found in the rest of Arizona during this period. The influence of the pioneers' Utah roots is quite evident in the design of their homes and work places.

Many of the earliest buildings raised by the Mormon pioneers were fortifications for small outpost communities, such as the old Las Vegas Mormon Fort, Pipe Spring, and Lee's Ferry. Examples such as these tended to be built very simply of indigenous materials, usually stone or adobe. They often incorporated typical defensive forms including battlements, loop-holes, and bastions.

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Typical of rural Arizona, the Mormon settlers tended toward simple buildings with traditional precedents. The preference for symmetry and classical forms continued, even in buildings which were otherwise "Victorian" in their detailing. Furthermore, their conservative and traditional nature may have led them to cling to the earlier classical and romantic styles in preference to the later Victorian trends. Thus, many of the remaining 19th-century homes in Mormon settled towns show marked influence of the Greek Revival and Gothic Revival styles.

Folk architecture, pertaining to those homes which reflect more of a building tradition than a "style" as we think of it, had its place in the founding years. As was typical in the Mormon colonies, the first dwellings were built using locally available raw materials, simple in form and utilitarian in function. Some of the other Mormon communities emulated the indigenous adobe construction. But in the Silver Creek valley, the site's proximity to Arizona's northern forests made timber construction possible, a technology which was likely better understood and appreciated by the settlers. Therefore, most of the earliest homes were essentially one- or two-room log cabins.

After the railroad united the U.S. and allowed for delivery of manufactured parts, folk styles solidified nationally into specific forms collectively classified as "National Folk." These building traditions took the form of simplified versions of indigenous or traditional forms or architectural styles. For instance, front- and side-gabled versions often strove to present a classical presence, without the use of classical detail. The folk house forms seen in Taylor and Snowflake appear to be heavily influenced by the classical ideals which pervade the towns' architecture. Side-gabled or hall-and-parlor forms, which imitate and simplify Greek Revival forms, were the most popular Folk types during the 19th century. These second generation homes were predominantly built of local sandstone or brick. Particularly intact examples include three in Taylor: the Aquilla Standifird Home and houses at 305 S. Main St. and 5th St. E. and Cattle.

The Greek Revival style and the Gothic Revival style are separate and distinct, but features of each are often found in the same building. Greek Revival buildings are identified by their classical symmetry and detailing, most often incorporating classically detailed gables and pediments. In analyzing the often-simplified forms of rural architecture, often the basic form and symmetry are the only clues to this stylistic influence. The Gothic Revival style is typified by steeply pitched roofs and by wall surfaces extending into gables or dormers without a break. Also typical of the style, but rare in Taylor and Snowflake, are Gothic-arched windows and decorated vergeboards at the gables.

The Greek Revival style is noted by popular texts to have achieved popularity in about 1825 and lasting to between 1860 and 1890. However, its influence appears to have survived even longer in the relatively remote and traditional Mormon colonies of Arizona. The same can be said of the Gothic Revival style, which is said to date from about 1840 through 1880 or 1885. Examples or influences of both styles can be seen in the Silver Creek valley through 1900.

Greek Revival homes are relatively plentiful and are the most common of the remaining 19th Century homes in Taylor and Snowflake. The basic Greek Revival home is a side-gabled house with classically detailed gables, often with returns at the eaves. Good examples of this are 13 N. 1st St. in Taylor and the Hulet House in Snowflake. The Tithing Office in Snowflake is similar, but incorporates two rooftop dormers. A common variation is to append a central, gabled porch, dormer, or tower.

Two outstanding examples of the Gothic Revival style are found in the Taylor/Snowflake area, one in each town. The house at 129 4th St. E. in Taylor, with its three high-pitched gabled wall dormers, is an archetypical Gothic Revival house. The John A. Freeman House in Snowflake boasts a high-pitched wall dormer with a Gothic-arched window. Other examples exist as well, with some bordering on National Folk architecture, such as the house at 122 3rd St. E. in Taylor. The house is devoid of detail, but the front-facing, high-pitched gable and roof dormer are evidence of the Gothic Revival influence.

The Mormon preference for simple forms, whether for aesthetic or practical reasons, also reflected in the Victorian architecture, which they imported. Although Queen Anne, Eastlake, Shingle, and Second Empire styles were popular throughout the U.S., the Mormons colonizing Arizona eschewed the flamboyance associated with many buildings of these styles. Only a few buildings with Victorian detailing remain in the Taylor/Snowflake area. Most fall into the broad categories of the "Folk Victorian" or "Victorian Eclectic" styles. As used here, Folk Victorian refers to a traditional folk—

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house form, such as hall-and-parlor, with details normally attributed to one or more of the Victorian-period styles. The term Victorian Eclectic refers to a home that embodies typical Victorian massing, proportions, and/or forms, but is devoid of the details identified with particular Victorian styles or borrows details from a mixture of styles. Unfortunately, this division is imperfect, and some homes could be placed in either subcategory.

In Taylor, the A.Z. Palmer House is of the Folk Victorian style, but also shows Greek Revival influence. The strict symmetry of the facade, the front-facing gables, and the cornice at the eave are all remnants of the Classical influence.

Among the Victorian Eclectic homes in the area are the Nettie Rencher House, 10 S. Stinson, and 81 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. in Snowflake.

The most impressive Victorian home in the Silver Creek Valley is the James M. Flake House in Snowflake, the only example in the Second Empire style.

### **Architectural Development after 1900**

Architecture in the Taylor/Snowflake area in the 20th Century more closely paralleled that of greater Arizona. The architecture in the two towns diverged, however, with Snowflake building more refined, style-conscious buildings and Taylor tending toward the traditional folk forms.

Architectural styles' popularity in housing in the 20th Century ebbed and flowed, but the styles with the most impact on Taylor and Snowflake were the Bungalow and National Folk styles. The high representation of these styles in relation to others may indicate an explosion of development in the 1910s and 1920s. In keeping with the traditional preferences of the early settlers, the eclectic Neoclassical style and closely related Colonial Revival style were popular for a period of time at the beginning of the 20th Century. The Period Revival styles of the late 1920s and 30s (primarily Spanish Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival) are also represented, although in fewer numbers.

In total numbers, National Folk and Bungalow style residences are about equal in the Taylor-Snowflake area. But in Taylor, fully 55% of all 20th-century homes are classified as National Folk, while in Snowflake, 40% are Bungalows. This graphically illustrates the difference in architectural character between the two towns.

National Folk forms which survived the transition into the twentieth century are categorized into several types. The types that occur frequently in the Taylor/Snowflake area are the Front Gable, Side Gable, Hall and Parlor, and Pyramidal-Roofed. Front Gable houses arose as a result of the influence of the Greek Revival movement of the nineteenth century, as well as the Bungalow style of the early part of the twentieth century, each emphasizing gabled forms. Side Gable houses are rectangular in plan and more than one room deep. The type expanded quickly across the United States with the availability of lumber made possible by railroads. Massing, construction, and porch types often show influences of popular styles. The Hall and Parlor type survived unchanged into the post-railroad wood frame era. Pyramidal-roofed houses were influenced by the Neoclassical style, and date to the same period.

The Bungalow style home is the most common in Snowflake, and is well represented in Taylor also. Born of the Craftsman Movement near the turn of the century, the Bungalow style reflects an emphasis on craftsmanship. The Craftsman Movement was a reaction against both Eclecticism and mass-produced, machine-inspired aesthetics. The typical Bungalow is a one-story house with low-pitched broad gables. A lower gabled roof usually shelters a deep porch while a large, higher gable roof covers the main body of the house. Much of the visual interest of the bungalow is provided by the massing of its roof forms. Exposed rafters, ridge beams, and purlins extending beyond the walls support deep overhangs. Decorative beams or braces are often added under the gables. Porches, either full or partial width, are supported by square columns of wood, brick, stone, or stucco finishes. Windows are either wood double-hung or casement. The Bungalows in the Taylor/Snowflake area range from the very simple to the very elaborate.

The Neoclassical style is represented in each town by approximately 10% of 20th century buildings. The style was particularly popular for public and governmental buildings, in addition to homes. The premier example is the second (and extant) Stake Academy Building in Snowflake. Grand scale, classical columns, and symmetry are hallmarks of the style, all

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of which are evident in the Academy. Several Neoclassical cottages were built from rusticated concrete block in the 1910s, including the Jordan Palmer House on Taylor's Main Street, a similar example at 302 E. Center, and one home in Snowflake. All feature pyramidal roofs and cast classical porch columns in addition to the rusticated walls.

Period Revival styles began to gain in popularity nationally around 1900, but did not become dominant until after World War I. In the Mormon colonies of northern and eastern Arizona, the height of popularity did not occur until the late 1920s and 30s. Period Revival homes were later to amount 10% to 20% of the total 20<sup>th</sup>-century homes in both towns. One of the earliest Period Revival homes in the valley is the Jesse Smith House, constructed in 1906 in Snowflake in the Colonial Revival style.

The most common of the later Period Revival styles are the Spanish Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival styles. One of the most prominent examples of the Spanish Colonial influence in the area is the A.Z. Palmer & Sons Store in Taylor. Its curvilinear parapet is indicative of the Mission Revival substyle. Later examples exist mostly in residences in Snowflake, generally of the more eclectic Spanish Colonial Revival style. There are also several excellent examples of the Tudor Revival style in homes in Snowflake.

### **Evolution of Building Material Use**

The early Mormon settlers arriving from Utah into Arizona brought with them skills that would influence the architecture of their settlements. Among the skills which would influence their building was the ability to locally produce fired clay bricks. Other skills included the milling of lumber and decorative moldings. Techniques of adobe construction were particularly useful prior to the establishment of the other building trades. Abundant sources of stone were also available for the stone cutters to practice their trade. The presence of these skills in the Mormon community allowed for a wide variety of material use early in each town's history.

Having begun to arrive in small numbers in the late 1870s, the Mormon settlers built log cabins for shelter, few of which have survived to the present day. Wood frame construction was also employed using lumber from the Sunset Order Sawmill 125 miles away and later from Snowflake Cooperative Sawmill, which bought out the Sunset Order Sawmill. Virtually the entire town during the first six years or so was constructed of roughhewn logs or wood frame. Several log buildings remain, as previously mentioned. Other light wood framed houses may remain, but if so are likely sheathed.

The often readily available indigenous material was adobe. Adobe was a traditional building material for Hispanics in the Southwest, but Anglo settlers soon learned to adapt its construction techniques for their own homes, built in their own styles. The colonists covered the adobe structure with stucco, brick, or wood siding to prevent its erosion; therefore, many more examples may exist than those which could be identified through an exterior visual inspection.

Locally produced brick was first burnt in or about 1884, when the first Snowflake Stake house as well as the Snowflake Co-op Store were built (neither extant). After that time, many of the most substantially built buildings were constructed of locally produced red brick. The earliest bricks were apparently closer to burnt adobe than to high-quality brick. Many of the substantial 19th-century homes were built of the locally produced brick. Yellow brick was later imported from Gallup, New Mexico, once the railway was completed. This brick was used in a number of buildings.

Locally quarried stone was occasionally used to construct early dwellings and as the foundation material of many buildings. The only known stone houses remaining from the 1800s are the Aquilla Standifird House and the Norman Brimhall House in Taylor, both constructed of local sandstone.

As construction technology advanced, cast concrete blocks, resembling cut stone, made their appearance. Cast stone has been used on a limited basis from the middle ages, but in the U.S. its rise in popularity began with the marketing of several patented systems after the Civil War. The use of cast stone grew nationally after the widespread development of portland cement and the marketing of blockmaking molds to builders around the country in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, which made the cast material an economical substitute for natural stone. In the early 1900s, Ray Tanner, a local

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Palmer, Jordan, House Navajo County, AZ

builder, developed and used this material extensively. This material was employed throughout the area, in buildings including the Jordan Palmer house in Taylor and the Janet Smith House and the Bushman Store Building in Snowflake.

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Jordan Palmer House is the best surviving house in the Taylor/Snowflake area of locally produced cast stone. It is also an excellent intact local example of the Neoclassical style. It is classified as such by its generally symmetrical massing, the use of classical columns to support the roof, and the pyramidal roof form.

The Period of Significance and the Significant Dates for the property correspond to the initial construction of the home in 1915.

The original house is essentially intact in all of its features, except for roofing materials, infill of two door openings, and replacement of two windows. It is in its original location and retains its relationship to Main Street. While substantial parts of the surrounding area have been redeveloped, the front yard to the street retains mature trees and other landscape features that enhance the historic feeling.

The property has not been evaluated for subsurface resources or archaeological significance. There are no known building sites or any indications that such features might be present.

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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Palmer, Jordan, House Navajo County, AZ

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Mr. Arvin Palmer, interviewed by Robert Graham in Taylor, Arizona April 5, 2002.

National Park Service. Preservation Briefs 42: The Maintenance, Repair and Replacement of Historic Cast Stone.

Ryden Architects, A Historic Resource Survey of the Towns of Snowflake and Taylor, Arizona. Robert G. Graham, Historical Architect and Richard Lynch, Historian. February, 1993.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 10 Page 8

Palmer, Jordan, House Navajo County, AZ

#### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Bounded by the east curb line of Main Street on the west, the south curb line of Tumbleweed on the north, an east-west line 145 feet south of and parallel to the south Tumbleweed curb line on the south, and a north-south line 125 feet east of and parallel to the east Main Street curb line on the east.

### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The site originally included a wide area. The nominated area includes the house itself and its immediate surroundings. On the north and west sides the streets form a natural boundary. On the south and east sides, the boundary has been placed arbitrarily to provide adequate setting for the house. This omits from the boundary modern homes to the east, an empty lot and modern commercial building to the south, and a garage and shed, which were constructed some time after the house and are now visually isolated and not architecturally integrated.

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section Number PHOTOS Page 9

Palmer, Jordan, House Navajo County, AZ

The following are the same for all photographs:

Photographer:

Roberta Graham

Date:

April 5, 2002

**Location of Original Negatives:** 

Metropolis Design Group, LLC 2601 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. #308

2601 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. #308 Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Photo #	View to	
1	E	
2	ИW	
3	SW	
4	S	