

Twin Palms Lost

Twin Palms Found

**(Re)Discovered Histories of
Our Neighborhood's Earliest Years**



Twin Palms Inherited a Krisel/Alexander Moved From

Central Palm Springs



TWIN PALMS

PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

Neighborhood Established 1956

Neighborhood Organization Certified 2011

Where are we?



922 E Anza Road Today



LMS

MEMBER

Williamson's Estate, 1900
Highway 101, Tempe, AZ 85281

922 E Anza Road Previously



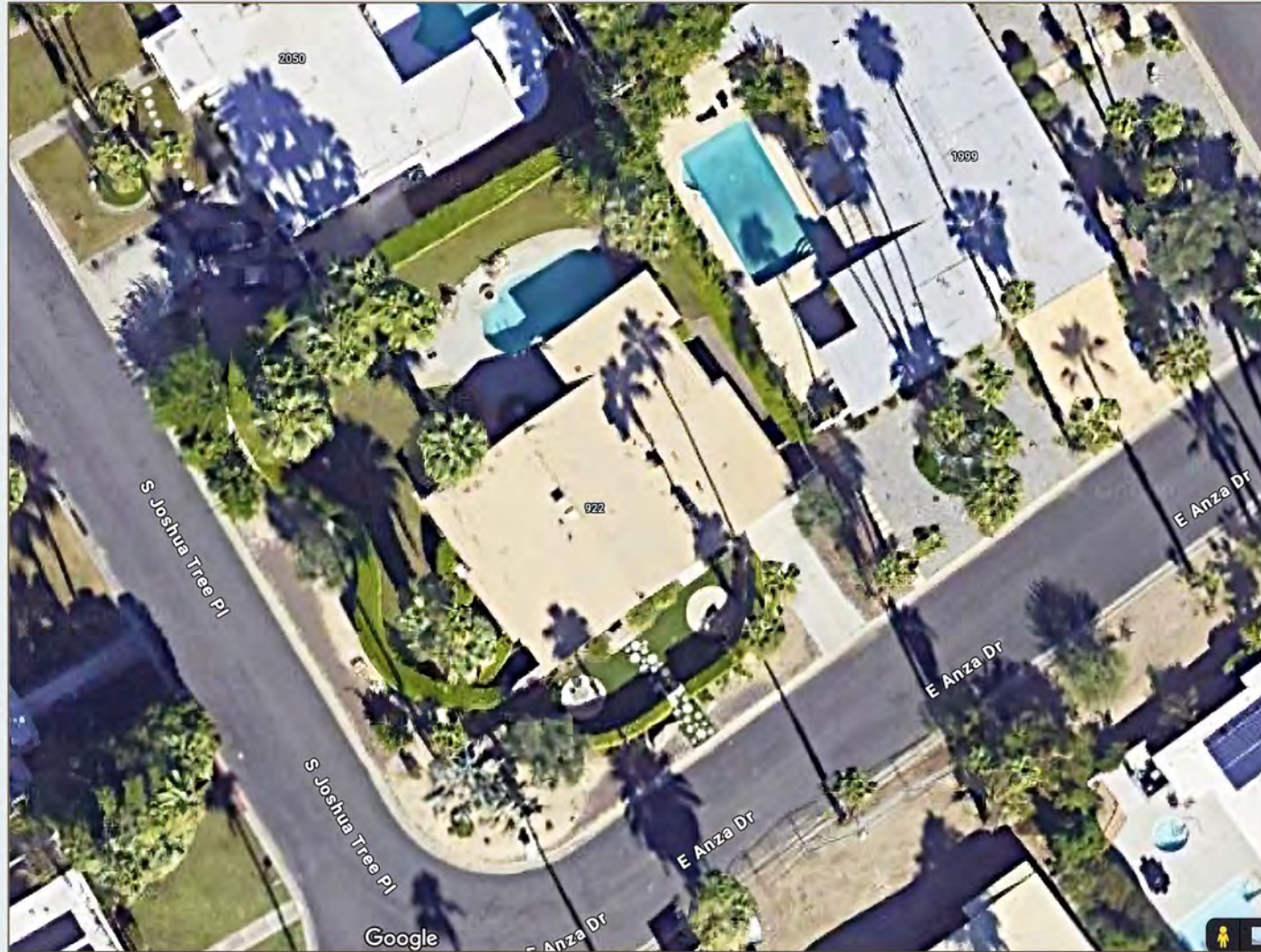
LMS

CALIFORNIA

Neighborhood Established 1900

Neighborhood Organization Certified 2011

A Twin Palms Krisel/Alexander?



PALMS
CALIFORNIA

Neighborhood Established 1908
Historic Landmark Designation Certified 2011

A Twin Palms Krisel/Alexander?



PALMS

S. CALIFORNIA

Neighborhood Established 1958

Neighborhood Organization Certified 2011

Is this it?

**Model Home Plan B-3
Vista Las Palmas, 1959**



Is this it?



**Model Home Plan B-3
Vista Las Palmas, 1959**



PALMS
VISTA LAS PALMAS

Where's Vista Las Palmas?

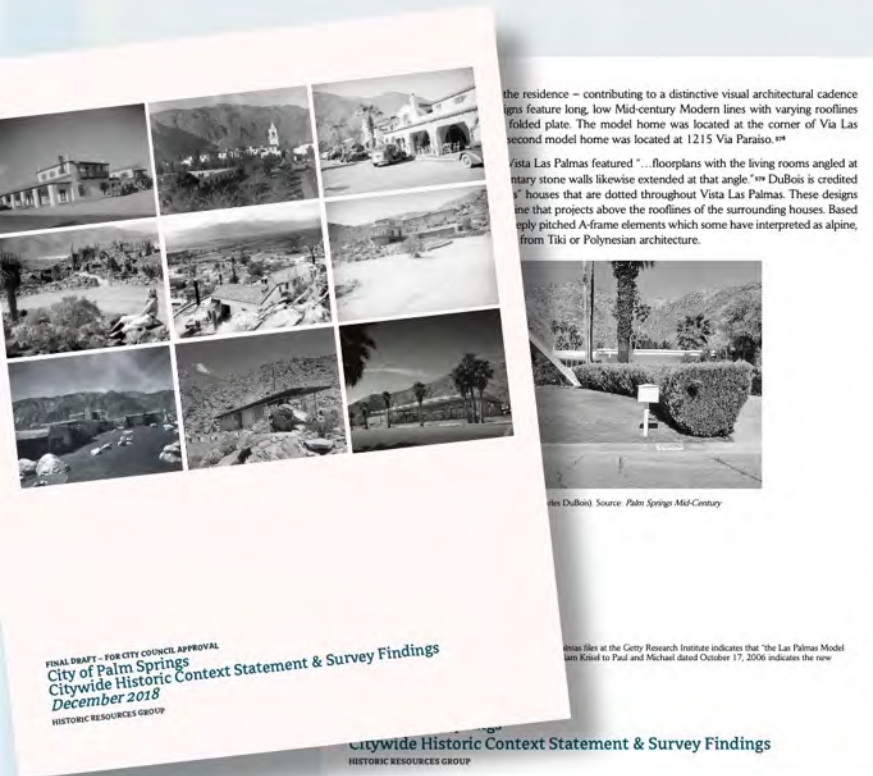
Vista Las Palmas

Downtown

Twin Palms



Citywide Architectural Survey



City of Palm Springs Citywide Historic Context Statement And Survey Findings

December 2018

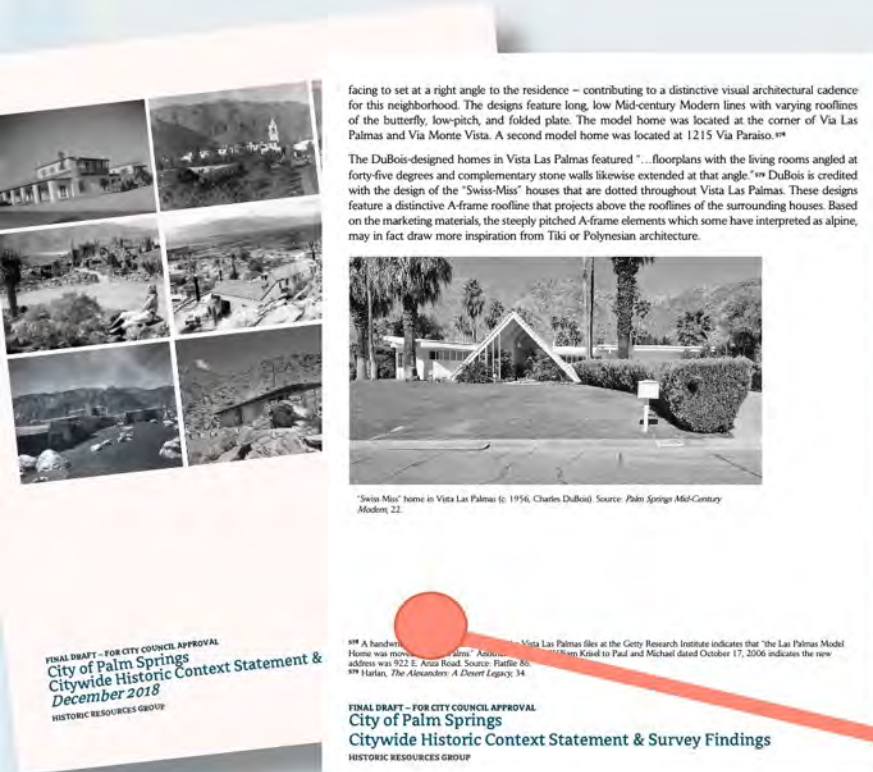
TWIN PALMS

PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

Neighborhood Established 1939

Historic Land Use Organization Certified 2011

Footnote #578



facing to set at a right angle to the residence – contributing to a distinctive visual architectural cadence for this neighborhood. The designs feature long, low Mid-century Modern lines with varying rooflines of the butterfly, low-pitch, and folded plate. The model home was located at the corner of Via Las Palmas and Via Monte Vista. A second model home was located at 1215 Via Paraiso.⁵⁷⁸

The DuBois-designed homes in Vista Las Palmas featured "...floorplans with the living rooms angled at forty-five degrees and complementary stone walls likewise extended at that angle."⁵⁷⁹ DuBois is credited with the design of the "Swiss-Miss" houses that are dotted throughout Vista Las Palmas. These designs feature a distinctive A-frame roofline that projects above the rooflines of the surrounding houses. Based on the marketing materials, the steeply pitched A-frame elements which some have interpreted as alpine, may in fact draw more inspiration from Tiki or Polynesian architecture.



"Swiss Miss" home in Vista Las Palmas (c. 1956, Charles DuBois). Source: *Palm Springs Mid-Century Modern*, 22.

⁵⁷⁸ A handwritten note in the Vista Las Palmas files at the Getty Research Institute indicates that "the Las Palmas Model Home was moved to Twin Palms." Another letter from William Krisel to Paul and Michael dated October 17, 2006 indicates the new address was 922 E. Anza Road. Source: Flatfile 86.

FINAL DRAFT - FOR CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL
City of Palm Springs
Citywide Historic Context Statement & Survey Findings
HISTORIC RESOURCES GROUP

578 A handwritten note by William Krisel in the Vista Las Palmas files at the Getty Research Institute indicates that "the Las Palmas Model Home was moved to Twin Palms." Another letter from William Krisel to Paul and Michael dated October 17, 2006 indicates the new address was 922 E. Anza Road. Source: Flatfile 86.

Its Specs

- 3 Beds, 2 Baths, 2100 SF
- Marble-Topped Vanities
- Air Conditioned
- Fireplace
- 100% Wool Wall-to-Wall Carpet
- Paddock Pool
- Perimeter Fencing
- Full-Grown Olive Tree



designed for gracious living...

PALM SPRINGS' MOST EXCLUSIVE LOCATION

Golden Vista ESTATES

3 bedrooms • 2 full baths • Paddock 16' x 32' heated, filtered pool included.

\$36,950 — \$3,950 DOWN — 25 YEAR LOANS

No feature has been omitted, no luxury overlooked to make these AIA designed homes the ultimate in gracious desert living. Nestled on the slopes of Mt. San Jacinto, in the Palm Springs Las Palmas residential section...choice of the leaders in the social, business and entertainment world. Nowhere else will you find so much...at anywhere near this price.

- 100-110 ft. frontage lots, generally 120 ft. deep.
- Carrier refrigerated air conditioning and forced air heat.
- Reflective rock wool insulated. Acoustical tile ceilings.
- Beautiful wood burning fireplaces with key log lighter. 100% all wool wall-to-wall carpeting, sliding glass doors.
- Kitchens with all built-in appliances including Waste King range, oven, Waste King garbage disposal, dishwasher, built-in washer-dryer combination; beautiful natural wood cabinets.
- Concrete terrace around pool. Pool and play area redwood fenced.
- 2 full baths with Italian ceramic tile, large wall-to-wall mirrors, marble topped vanities.
- Master bath has outside door for pool users.
- Full grown olive tree • Outside electrical outlets.
- Plenty of closet space.
- 40 gal. glass lined water heater.

Model Home at 831 Via Monte Vista
Open Daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Built by **ALEXANDER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY**
PALM SPRINGS' LARGEST BUILDERS OF LUXURY HOMES
Alexander Construction Co. • 63-890 San Rafael Dr., Palm Springs, Calif.



Luxurious Master Bedroom 13' x 18 1/2' with 15' Wardrobe



Beautiful wood burning fireplace in large living area

Alexander Construction Co.
63-890 San Rafael Dr., Palm Springs, Calif.

Send me free literature

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Phone _____

Los Angeles Times

April 9, 1961

Mystery solved!



Vista Las Palmas
Model B-3
1959



PALMS
RESIDENTIAL

Its Birthplace



IN PALMS

FRANKS, CALIFORNIA

Woodward Enriched 1954

Woodward Enriched 1954

But wait... There's more!



ALEXANDER / *construction company*

63-890 SAN RAFAEL DRIVE PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA FAIRVIEW 5-7152

Palm Springs Villager
Winter, 1960/1961

TWIN PALMS

But where was it originally...?



Visit our New Model Home on the grounds of the
World Famous Desert Inn—in the heart of Palm Springs

ALEXANDER / *construction company*

63-890 SAN RAFAEL DRIVE PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA FAIRVIEW 5-7152

Palm Springs Villager
December 14, 1960

But where was it originally...?



Visit our New Model Home on the grounds of the
World Famous Desert Inn—in the heart of Palm Springs

ALEXANDER / *construction company*

63-890 SAN RAFAEL DRIVE PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

FAIRVIEW 5-7152



Palm Springs Villager
December 14, 1960

Where was *that*?

Vista Las Palmas

Former Desert Inn Site

Twin Palms



PALMS
CALIFORNIA

Published 1998
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Construction Permits

Pool Construction March 14, 1962

450-9-P Rev. 8-57 ACCOUNT NO. 11-223

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS BUILDING PERMIT

OWNER Geo. Alexander		JOB LOCATION 922 Ansa Drive		CONTRACTOR OWNER
LOT NO.	BLOCK		DESCRIPTION OF WORK Foundation only for related dwelling	
TRACT El Camino Estates				
LOT SIZE 105 x 100	ZONE R-1	FIRE ZONE III	HEIGHT 15	
SET BACKS				
FRONT 25	SIDE 21	SIDE 10.5	REAR 10	
Permission to construct the herein described building is hereby granted. Building to be constructed in accordance with the regulations of the City of Palm Springs. No work to be covered without inspection.				
USE dwelling	AREA			
OWNER OR CONTRACTOR <i>Geo. Alexander</i>		BUILDING DEPT. <i>Harold A. Bets</i>	DATE 4-27-61	B 3362
		TOTAL VALUE OF WORK \$ 1,000.		TOTAL FEE \$ 6.00

This Permit Must Bear City Treasurer's Validation

Foundation Construction April 27, 1961

450-9-P Rev. 8-57 ACCOUNT NO. 11-223

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS BUILDING PERMIT

OWNER Wood, Sandra		JOB LOCATION 922 Ansa Drive		CONTRACTOR Blue Haven Pools
LOT NO. 71	BLOCK		DESCRIPTION OF WORK To construct 1 gunite swimming pool	
TRACT El Camino Estates				
LOT SIZE	ZONE	FIRE ZONE	HEIGHT	
SET BACKS				
FRONT	SIDE	SIDE	REAR	
Permission to construct the herein described building is hereby granted. Building to be constructed in accordance with the regulations of the City of Palm Springs. No work to be covered without inspection.				
USE Dwelling	AREA 15x30			
OWNER OR CONTRACTOR <i>Sandra Wood</i>		BUILDING DEPT. <i>Harold A. Bets</i>	DATE 3-14-62	B 4269
		TOTAL VALUE OF WORK \$ 3,000		TOTAL FEE \$ 38.00

This Permit Must Bear City Treasurer's Validation

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