



Modern Times

Three Mid-Century Modern architectural gems in honor of Frank Lloyd Wright's 150th birthday

Clockwise from top left: the Wiley Home's circular pool; Philip Johnson's trademark sunny interiors; the sharp angles of Pierre Koenig's Case Study House #21; the free-form pool and mountain views at the Edris House

The Wiley Home
218 Sleepy Hollow Road,
New Canaan, Connecticut

The Basics: Even among New Canaan's impressive collection of Mid-Century Modern structures—which most famously includes Philip Johnson's Glass House—the Wiley House is a stand-out. Johnson, who is perhaps best known for Manhattan's Seagram Building (and its Four Seasons New York restaurant), built the house in the early 1950s for real estate developer Robert C. Wiley, just a few years after completing its forerunner, the Glass House. The 5,616-square-foot residence is centered on a double-height glass pavilion that contains a living room and a spacious kitchen,

cantilevered over a fieldstone base that comprises four bedrooms and five full bathrooms.

The Lifestyle: Less than a 90-minute drive from New York City, tranquil New Canaan is a perfect weekend escape. This 6.33-acre property is located off a quiet, wooded drive just 10 minutes from the commuter train station and downtown, where you can find upscale boutiques, restaurants, and cafés. Should you desire additional design inspiration, check out the town's 90-plus Mid-Century Modern homes from the 1950s, built by the "Harvard Five" group of modernist architects, including Johnson and Marcel Breuer.

The Extras: Johnson selected the site for the Wiley House because of the property's gentle hills and grove of hickory trees. The vintage (but heated) circular swimming pool features an original diving pad, while the pool house, which has a full bathroom and kitchen and adjoins the 4,620-square-foot barn-turned-art gallery, was added to the property in 2008.

\$12,000,000, sothebysrealty.com



The Edris House

1030 West Cielo Drive,
Palm Springs, California

• Designed by "Desert Modern" pioneer E. Stewart Williams, the Edris House is one of Palm Springs' most iconic Mid-Century homes—with National Register of Historic Places and Palm Springs Class 1 Historic Site designations to prove it. This three-bedroom, three-bathroom house emphasizes the property's sweeping views of the Coachella Valley, thanks to floor-to-ceiling windows that slide seamlessly into the Douglas fir-paneled ceiling. An open floor plan maximizes the house's 2,700 square feet, including plenty of room for hosting, and boasts a stone hearth in the living room and an entertainer's terrace overlooking a free-form swimming pool.

\$4,200,000, christiesrealestate.com

Michael Bigsby (Wiley House), Lance Gember (Edris House), Grant Hufford (Case Study House #21)

Case Study House #21

9038 Wonderland Drive,
Los Angeles

• Modernist architect Pierre Koenig built this award-winning, one-story, steel frame home in 1958 as part of *Arts & Architecture* magazine's Case Study program, which commissioned major architects of the day to design and build homes during the postwar housing boom. Tucked away in a Hollywood Hills canyon, the 1,280-square-foot house is organized around a central core that has two full bathrooms and a boiler room, while the two bedrooms face the hills. A street-facing opaque steel wall on one side provides privacy, and floor-to-ceiling windows in the front and back help merge the interior with the surrounding landscape.

\$4,500,000, sothebysrealty.com

