Miles C. Bates house, located at 73-697 Santa Rosa Way was designed by Walter S. White. Walter White is considered by many to be Palm Desert’s architect, having designed over 65 structures here, many of which are still in existence. The location of the home for Bates is located north of Highway 111 in the area first known as Palm Village, which had previously been occupied by date and citrus ranches. In 1951 Palm Village and Palm Desert united to become Palm Desert. At the time of construction in 1955, the plans for the home specify removal of certain existing trees which are spaced evenly across the site. Early photos of the Bates house show citrus trees located just south of the home, so it appears the home was constructed along the northern edge of an existing citrus grove. Over time the former Palm Village area was developed into a residential area.

The roof of the Bates house is unique. Its curving form was designed using long wooden dowels roughly 2.5 inches in diameter alternated with bioconcave elements to give it a wavelike shape. White appears to have considered the siting of the home in relation to the Santa Rosa Mountains in the distance, as the rolling roof line follows the profile of those southern mountains.