

Barcelona, March 3, 2013

**Monsieur Patrick CÉSARI**  
**Maire de Roquebrune-Cap-Martin**  
**Vice-Président du Conseil Général des Alpes Maritimes**  
**Président de la Communauté de la Riviera Française**  
**22 Avenue Paul Doumer**  
**06190 Roquebrune-Cap-Martin**

Dear Mr Mayor,

On behalf of many people worldwide who have approached us, we want to express our grave concern about the condition of the villa E-1027, designed by Eileen Gray. Internationally it is considered to be one of the icons of Modern Movement architecture and design.

In 2000 the French Government named E-1027 a Historic Monument. It was purchased by the Conservatoire du Littoral who turned it over to the Commune de Roquebrune. Although since then restoration has been carried out by the architect en chef Pierre-Antoine Gatier (not to everybody's satisfaction), much work remains to be done. In the last three years the house is deteriorating for lack of maintenance and it is imperiled by its current neglect.

If this will continue the house will return to a state of decrepitude.

On the 20th February, the prestigious exposition "Eileen Gray" has been opened at the Centre Pompidou in Paris, which will attract worldwide attention. Many admirers of her work would like to come and visit her masterwork E-1027 in Roquebrune. However the Commune has limited visitation although the building is structurally sound and its beauty shines through despite imperfections.

We urge you to delegate responsibility for the administration and maintenance to a responsible entity that will open the house to visitors and raise funds to complete the restoration. Our organisation DOCOMOMO has local friends who are eager to assume this responsibility. Besides in our international network there are friends who are prepared to help to raise funds.

DOCOMOMO is the international organisation for the documentation and conservation of buildings of the Modern Movement. It was founded in the Netherlands in 1988. Today there are working parties in 68 countries and approx. 2800 participants worldwide, being architects, designers, architectural historians, preservationists, docents, journalists and owners of Modern Movement buildings.

Dear Mr. Mayor, E-1027 can't remain a deteriorating beauty being locked away from the public eye ever since it was made a Historic Monument. Eileen Gray and her many admirers deserve better of France whose culture she enriched. Now that the Pompidou exposition puts its spotlights on the house in Roquebrune it is the time to act. We offer our help.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Ana Tostoes Chair DOCOMOMO International.



Professor Hubert-Jan Henket, Honorary President DOCOMOMO.

Cc :  
Mrs. Agnès Cailliau, Chair of DOCOMOMO France  
Mrs. Odile Gauthier, Director of the Conservatoire du littoral,  
Professor Jean-Louis Cohen  
Mr. Michael Likierman  
Mr. Michelle Brown  
Professor Tim Benton