

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. 0210 027
HABS _____ HAER _____ NR 5 SHL _____ Loc _____
UTM: A 11-369440-3991680 B _____
C _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: None
2. Historic name: Rav; Charles Residence
3. Street or rural address: 901 North Camden Drive
City Beverly Hills Zip 90210 County Los Angeles
4. Parcel number: 4345-004-008
5. Present Owner: _____ Address: _____
City _____ Zip _____ Ownership is: Public _____ Private _____
6. Present Use: Residential Original use: Residential

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Dutch Revival
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

The present appearance of this two story Dutch Revival home dates from 1929. Prior to that year, the stuccoed structure had a decidedly English bungalow appearance, keyed by hipped and gabled roofs with rolled edges. Stout columns supported an arched pediment over which the roof swelled to form a porch. Next to it on the north, a front gable wing contained a bank of casement windows with transoms.

Although the massing, L-shaped plan, roof, and general location of elements is more or less the same, the house's styling was dramatically changed by the 1929 renovation. Most prominently, the front gable was given a decidedly Flemish flair by the addition of a heavily decorated scalloped parapet. A two story rounded bay replaced the windows below the gable. The porch was given a more classical makeover, with engaged columns and an urn-topped entablature detailing the openings. Urns also punctuate the open terrace which extends south from the porch. Another change was the addition of a two story wing flush with the front gable wing to extend the (see continuation sheet)



8. Construction date: 1916
Estimated _____ Factual X
9. Architect _____
Unknown
10. Builder _____
Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet) irreg
Frontage 200 Depth 201
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
1986

13. Condition: Excellent _____ Good _____ ☒ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____ No longer in existence _____
14. Alterations: _____
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land _____ Scattered buildings _____ Densely built-up ☒
Residential ☒ Industrial _____ Commercial _____ Other: _____
16. Threats to site: None known ☒ Private development _____ Zoning _____ Vandalism _____
Public Works project _____ Other: _____
17. Is the structure: On its original site? ☒ Moved? _____ Unknown? _____
18. Related features: _____

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

One of the homes within the City which has been prominently associated with a number of film industry participants is the residence at 901 North Camden Drive. Originally constructed in the English style, the home was remodelled to its present Flemish design. Constructed in 1916, two years after the incorporation of the City, the home was built by William D. Foote, who is listed as its first owner. It was sold in 1919 to actor Charles Ray. Ray added servants quarters, a three room addition, and a rose arbor to the extensive grounds upon acquiring the property. He continued to refine the home in 1920, with a \$4,800 garden house, finishing the basement and enlarging the porch in 1921, and enlarging the front hall and installing a marble floor in 1922. Ray, a popular star of Hollywood's silent era, was brought to the screen by producer Thomas Ince. His early success was short-lived, however, and he suffered financial reverses when he attempted to start his own production company. The home later became the residence of actress Betty Compson and of Sam and Frances Goldwyn. Further substantial changes were made in 1929 by owner Alfred F. Smith, vice president of the Monolith-Portland Cement Company. A 1929 article in the Citizen states (see continuation sheet)

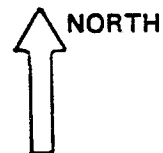
20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
Architecture ☒ Arts & Leisure _____
Economic/Industrial _____ Exploration/Settlement _____
Government _____ Military _____
Religion _____ Social/Education _____

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

City of Beverly Hills building permits
Beverly Hills Citizen, various dates
Beverly Hills Historical Society, First
Historical Homes Tour, brochure, 1985

22. Date form prepared November, 1986
By (name) C. McAvoy & L. Heumann
Organization City of Beverly Hills
Address: 450 N. Crescent Dr.
City Beverly Hills Zip 90210
Phone: (213) 550-4881

Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):



See continuation sheet

CONTINUATION SHEET: 901 North Camden Drive.

7b. Description:

northeast corner of the house. Windows on the south half of the facade, which are casement in type, stayed mostly the same before and after the remodelling. Located on the northwest corner of Camden and Sunset, the property is enclosed by a new, low brick wall.

19. Significance:

that the home was "one of the early movie homes in Beverly Hills, Ray being one of the first to start the exodus from Hollywood of stars whose names were of world wide fame" (BHC 8-1-29). Smith spent approximately \$50,000 to remodel the home to its present style. Architect of the alterations was Roy I. Morin, whose plan included new bedrooms and a tile roof. The residence and its grounds continue to hold a place of prominence in the Beverly Hills community.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #

HRI #

Trinomial

NRHP Status Code: 5S3

Page 1 of 1 Resource Name or # Charles Ray Residence

☐ Continuation ☒ Update

P2. Location: 901 North Camden Dr.

B10 Significance:

This building appears in good condition with no significant alterations visible since the property was last evaluated in the 1985-1986 survey. It remains potentially eligible for local listing or designation.

P5b Description/Date of Photo: East and north elevations, looking southwest/May 2004



P8. Recorded by: Jan Ostashay, Peter Moruzzi, PCR Services, One Venture, Suite 150, Irvine, CA 92618

P9. Date Recorded: Tuesday, June 01, 2004