

## HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. 0215-036

HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 1 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 11-368460-3992540 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

### IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Lloyd; Harold Estate
2. Historic name: Greenacres
3. Street or rural address: 1740 Greenacres Drive  
City Beverly Hills Zip 90210 County Los Angeles
4. Parcel number: 4348-019-027
5. Present Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private \_\_\_\_\_
6. Present Use: Residential Original use: Residential

### DESCRIPTION

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

The Harold Lloyd residence is a sumptuous Italian Renaissance villa located on six acres spanning the Beverly Hills and Los Angeles boundary. Of reinforced concrete construction, the two story residence is crowned by tiled hip roofs with brackets exposed in the eaves. Art stone trim is extensively utilized for quoining, columns, corbels, and window and door surrounds. The house is organized around a forecourt and a cortile, and oriented to formal gardens on the north and west. Meticulously designed and detailed, the house contains a wealth of notable elements, including but not limited to: a vaulted cloister in the forecourt; flat and round-headed casement windows variously with iron grilles, decorated lintels, engaged column mullions, iron and stone balconies, and leaded glass; fountains located in both courtyards; and a sgraffito panel overlooking the cortile.

The interior is equally noteworthy. The principal public rooms on the first floor are grouped around the cortile. A large hall with a beamed ceiling, tiled floor and (see continuation sheet)



8. Construction date: 1928  
Estimated \_\_\_\_\_ Factual X
9. Architect Webber, Staunton & Spaulding
10. Builder Weymouth Crowell Co.
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage \_\_\_\_\_ Depth \_\_\_\_\_  
or approx. acreage 6 acres
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
1986

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

## SIGNIFICANCE

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

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Harold Lloyd estate on Greenacres Drive is the quintessential mansion of the 1920s. Created for the silent screen comedian and his family by the noted Los Angeles architectural firm of Webber, Staunton, and Spaulding, the forty-six room mansion in the Italian Renaissance style is surrounded by six acres of formal gardens, outbuildings, and a tennis court. It is entered via a large motor court, perhaps the ultimate expression of what has become a Beverly Hills convention. In addition to his illustrious career as a film comedian, Lloyd, like some of his contemporaries, took an active interest in the community, belonging to the Uplifters Club, the Los Angeles Athletic Club, and the Al Malaikah Shrine Temple, of which he became an Imperial Potentate. He is also credited with taking a stand against annexation to Los Angeles in 1922, along with Fred Niblo, Mary Pickford, and others. The estate was completed in 1929 after three years of construction, reportedly at a cost of over two million dollars. The main residence contains hand-painted ceilings of extraordinary craftsmanship, a spacious (see continuation sheet)

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)

Architecture 1 Arts & Leisure 2  
Economic/Industrial \_\_\_ Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_  
Government \_\_\_ Military \_\_\_  
Religion \_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_

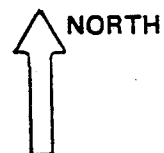
21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

City of Beverly Hills building permits  
City of Los Angeles Cultural Heritage  
Commission file

Architectural Digest, various datea  
(see continuation sheet)

22. Date form prepared November, 1986  
By (name) C. McAvoy & L. Houmann  
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

7b. Description:

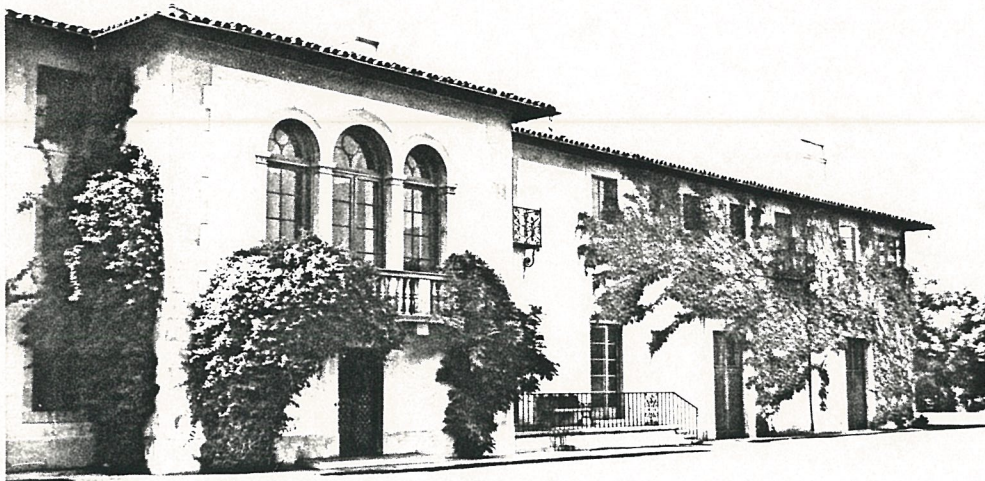
oval staircase occupies the east side of the cortile, to which it is connected by a glazed arcade. Similarly detailed, the north hallway leads through a pair of Corinthian columns to the living room with its elaborately coffered ceiling and panelled walls. The west side of the cortile is bordered by the garden room, a vaulted space entirely painted in a floral motif.

Terraces circle the house on the garden elevations. Beyond the expansive lawns are formal gardens, studded with fountains, pools, and triumphal arches. Of particular note is the play garden, which contains a child-sized Tudor house, stable, slide, and aviary. A tennis court is also located on the grounds as well as a partially subterranean club room.

The house and the remaining gardens are substantially unaltered. Restoration began in 1981. The major change in the property has been the subdivision of over half of the acreage, eliminating the waterfall, pool, golf course, and the original driveway.

19. Significance:

living room with projection facilities, loggias, courtyards, and fountains. The carefully landscaped grounds were the work of A. E. Hanson; builder was Weymouth Crowell. The children's play area includes a miniature stable and playhouse, while adult amenities include a swimming pool, billiard room, and a nine hole golf course. The estate has been reduced to seven acres. In addition to its National Register listing, the residence is listed as a Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Monument and is State Registered Landmark #961.



CONTINUATION SHEET: 1740 Greenacres Drive

21. Sources:

Beverly Hills Citizen, various dates

California Arts & Architecture, various dates

Los Angeles Times, various dates

Sunset, n.d.

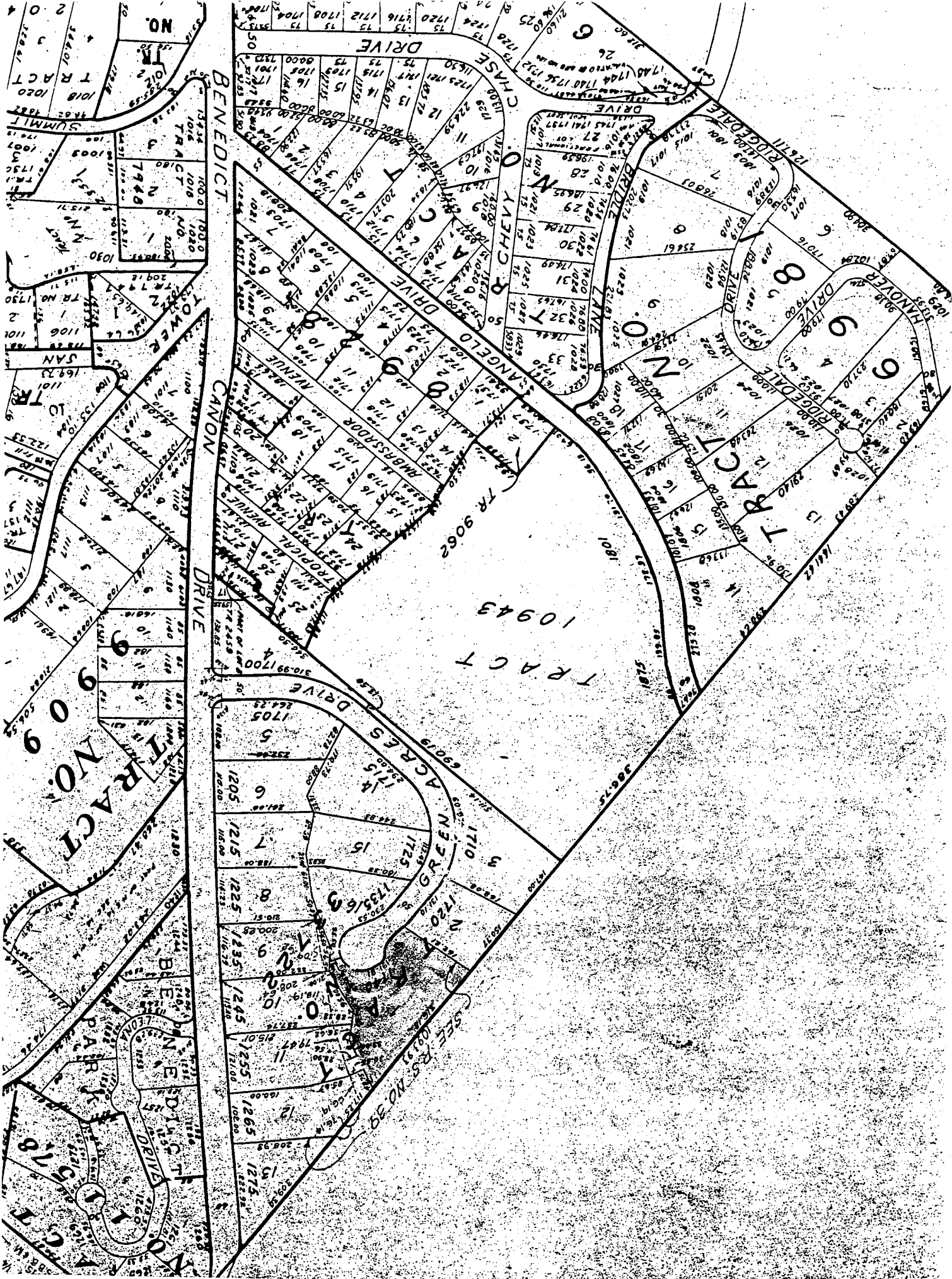
Beverly Hills Historical Society, First Historical Homes Tour brochure, 1985

Katz, Ephraim. The Film Encyclopedia. 1979

Lockwood, Charles. The Guide to Hollywood and Beverly Hills. 1984

Regan, Michael. Stars, Moguls, Magnates--The Mansions of Beverly Hills. 1966





## CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #

HRI #

Trinomial

NRHP Status Code: 7R

Page 1 of 1 Resource Name or # *Harold Lloyd Estate*

☐ Continuation ☒ Update

P2. Location: 1740 Greenacres Dr.

**B10 Significance:**

*This property could not be properly re-evaluated because the building was not visible from the public right of way during the current survey process.*

**P5b Description/Date of Photo:**

No Photo Available

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

P9. Date Recorded: *Tuesday, June 01, 2004*