



As early as 1928, a café has operated from the building improvements located at the southwest corner of Camden Drive and Brighton Way. In the summer of 1928, an “L” shaped drive-in market with standalone octagonal shape shop space offset in the parking lot to the northeast of the parcel was built. The buildings were designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival style by the notable architectural firm of Gable & Wyant for then owner Harlan S. Kittle (1872-1962), a real estate investor and local resident. Collectively, the one-story, stucco sheathed buildings contained a market, café, barbershop, shoe repair shop, flower shop, and wood carver studio. The florist and shoe repair business shared space in the uniquely shaped detached structure at the corner. The entrances to these spaces were via angled corner doors at the northeast and northwest of the small building. The café was located at 912 Brighton Way and was run by Mrs. Lily Cooper of Los Angeles (it operated without a formal name, which was common at that time).

By the early 1930s, Mr. William T. Bishop became the property owner and made a number of modifications to the site. This new work modified the look and function of the existing drive-in market by constructing six additional shop spaces within the infill of the paved parking lot in 1936. This new infill of building space enlarged the entire structure into a rectangular shape and shifted and increased some of the address numbering. The property now include with three new shop units along Brighton Way and three along North Camden Drive. The addressing of the property and businesses now consisted of 363-365-367-369-371 North Camden Drive and 9600-9604-9606-9608-9612 Brighton Way. It was at this time that the café moved into the corner space that was previously occupied by the florist and shoe repair shop (now addressed as 9600 Brighton Way). In building onto and expanding the standalone structure as a café, the existing arched shaped windows and associated stuccoed side walls (east and north), as well as the angled entry door at the northeast were retained an integrated (those features remain today). The relocated and enlarged café was operated by Macklin and Elizabeth Hardy (listed in the 1937 city directory as a “restaurant,” but also without a name).

According to research, a few years later, the eatery was called Terry’s Coffee Shop and was owned and operated by Mr. E. Terry. By 1951, the restaurant was stilled referred to as Terry’s Coffee Shop, but owned and operated by Eleferios Prappas. For a brief period in the early 1960s, the café was called Nelly’s Coffee Shop with Nelly Keller being the proprietor.

In 1968, new owners, Mr. and Mrs. William W. Huss remodeled the interior of the eatery and renamed it the Brighton Coffee Shop. It has remained the Brighton Coffee Shop since that time and is one of the oldest operating businesses of that type in the community. The well-established eating place has been visited by generations of Beverly Hills residents and Hollywood stars. Local celebrity Doris Day is said to have loved the banana pancakes. The menu has been expanded and updated over the years, but traditional American breakfast fare and lunch options are still the most popular choices on the menu. The interior maintains its quaint diner charm with many nostalgic photographs from the restaurant's early years.

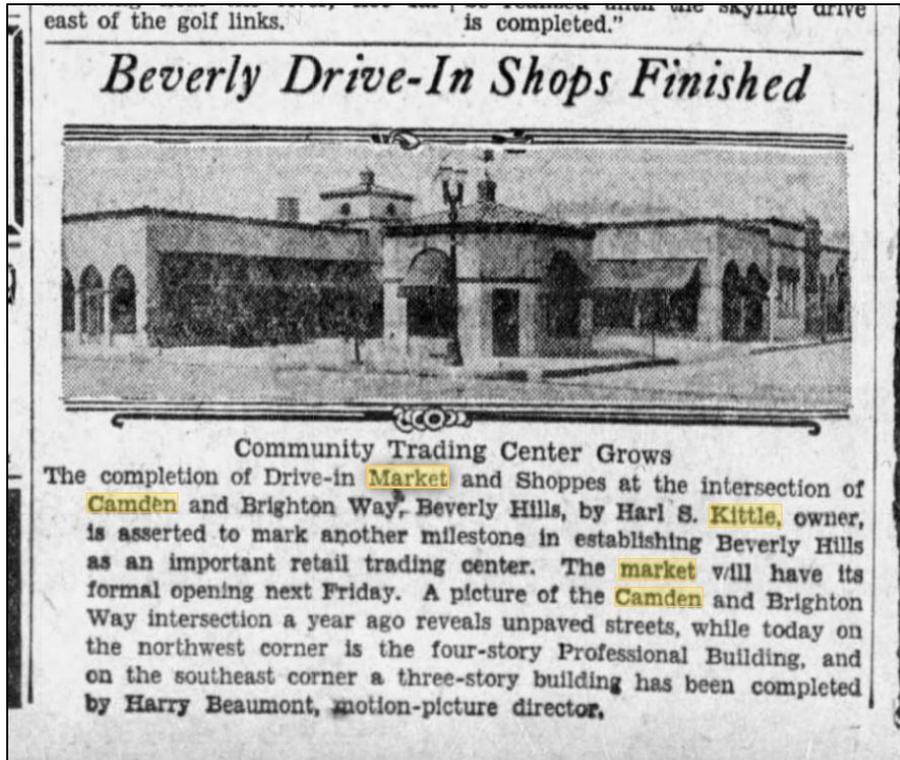
*Proposed Plaque Copy:*

“A café run by Mrs. Lily Cooper operated out of the drive-in market that once occupied this site from 1928 to 1936. In 1937, the café relocated to the corner tenant space on the same site, at 9600 Brighton Way. The coffee shop, named Brighton Coffee Shop in 1968, had been visited by generations of Beverly Hills residents and Hollywood stars.”

*Recommended Placement Location:* Centered within the public sidewalk in front of the current 9600 Brighton Way retail space.



Photos:





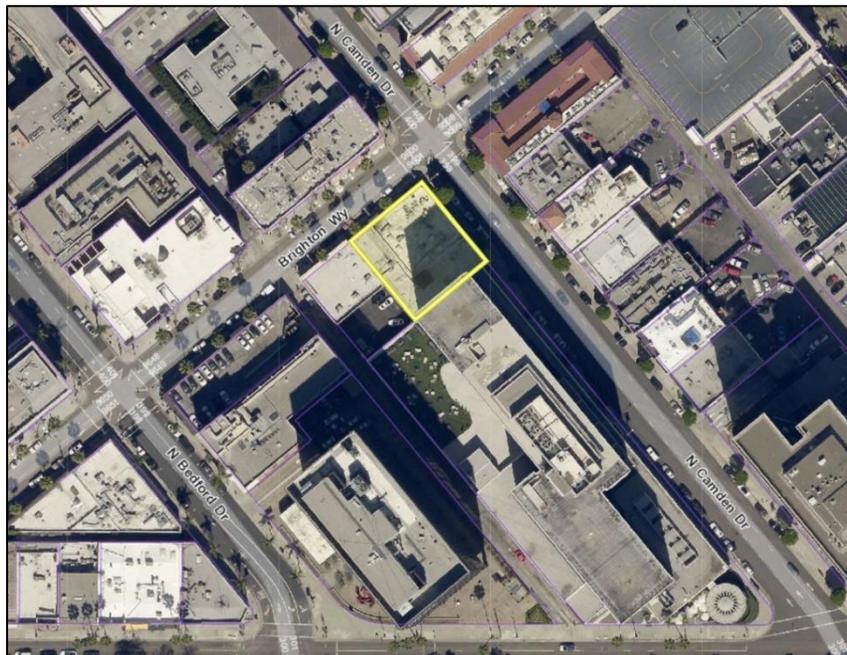
Aerial photograph – 9600 Brighton Way site, 1927



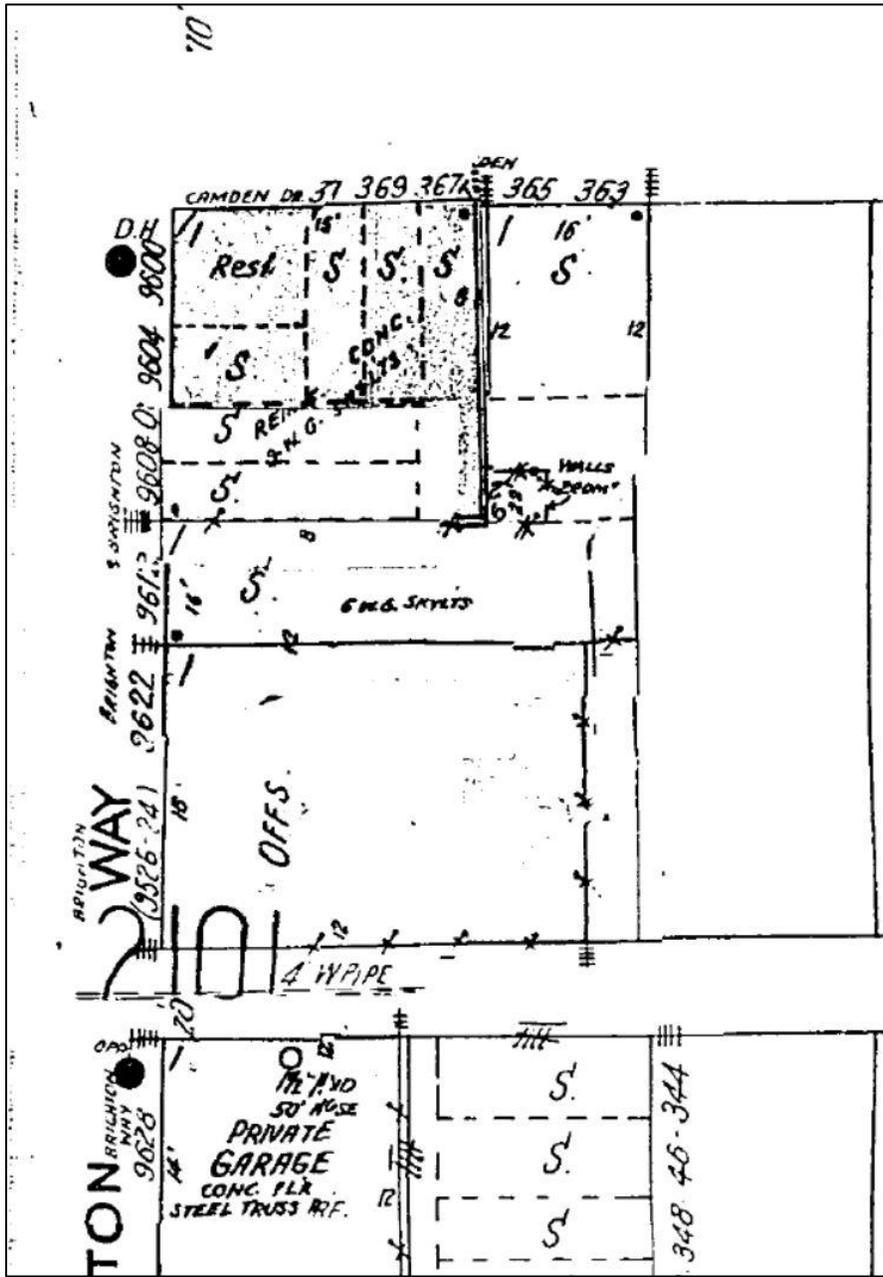
Aerial photograph – 9600 Brighton Way site, 1928



Aerial photograph – 9600 Brighton Way site, 1937



Aerial photograph – 9600 Brighton Way site, 2014



Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1950 paste-up



9600-9604-9608-9612 Brighton Way (Google Earth, 2022)



363-365-367-369-371 North Camden Drive (Google Earth, 2022)