

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: None
2. Historic name: Green; Burton E. Residence
3. Street or rural address: 1601 Lexington Road
City Beverly Hills Zip 90210 County Los Angeles
4. Parcel number: 4348-009-016
5. Present Owner: _____ Address: _____
City _____ Zip _____ Ownership is: Public _____ Private _____
6. Present Use: Residential Original use: Residential

DESCRIPTION

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

The twin gables of the home of Beverly Hills founder Burton E. Green, once overlooked the City from the base of the hills. Elaborately half-timbered, the gable ends encompassed the upper levels of the two and one-half story residence. Stone sheathed the lower story. A broad, rounded bay, also of stone, separated the gables. This elevation overlooked a balustraded terrace and a lawn which fell gradually away to Lexington and Crescent. A gate at that corner marked the entrance to the driveway, which wound around the house to the entry on the opposite (northwest) elevation. Eventually ivy was allowed to grow over the stone portions of the house, enhancing its venerable medieval character.

Beginning in the late 1960s and continuing through the present year, the estate has been subjected to numerous alterations. The property has been subdivided and the Lexington gateway sealed. The house itself was remodelled into a French chateau. A steeply pitched hipped roof replaced the gables and smooth stucco (presumably) was (see continuation sheet)

Attach Photo(s) Here

Photograph not available

8. Construction date: 1914
Estimated _____ Factual X
9. Architect _____
Unknown
10. Builder _____
Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet) irreg.
Frontage _____ Depth _____
or approx. acreage 2 acres
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)

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.)

In 1914, the year in which Beverly Hills was incorporated, the founder of the City, Burton E. Green, built a half-timbered Tudor mansion in a parklike setting on four acres at the northeast corner of Lexington Road and Crescent Drive. A forerunner of the many estates which began to dot the foothills in the 1920s, the residence set the tone for construction in the area during the formative years of the City. Artistically landscaped, the grounds were lushly planted with flowers, palms, and rare shrubs, and reputedly had one of the area's first swimming pools. Entrance to the home was via a long winding drive which terminated in a circular motor court. The twenty room mansion contained an elaborate marble entrance hall which bisected the luxuriously appointed rooms on the first floor. "The huge fireplace in the drawing room possesses dignified proportions, while the large windows form frames for the extensive mountain views," wrote Margaret Kimball in 1923 in the Beverly Hills Citizen. In addition to the drawing room, the residence contained a spacious dining room, solarium, two libraries, card room, billiard room, conservatory, five bedroom (see continuation sheet)

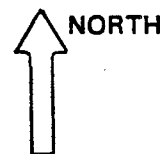
20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
 Architecture 2 Arts & Leisure ___
 Economic/Industrial ___ Exploration/Settlement 1
 Government ___ Military ___
 Religion ___ Social/Education ___

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

Los Angeles County Tax Assessor records
 City of Beverly Hills building permits
Beverly Hills Citizen, various dates.
 Regan, Michael. Stars, Moguls & Magnates.
 (1966).

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: 1601 Lexington Road

7b. Description:

substituted for the stone and half-timbering. Tall, round-headed windows now pierced the central bay. Classical detailing such as keystones completed the transformation.

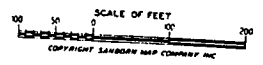
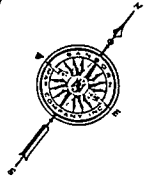
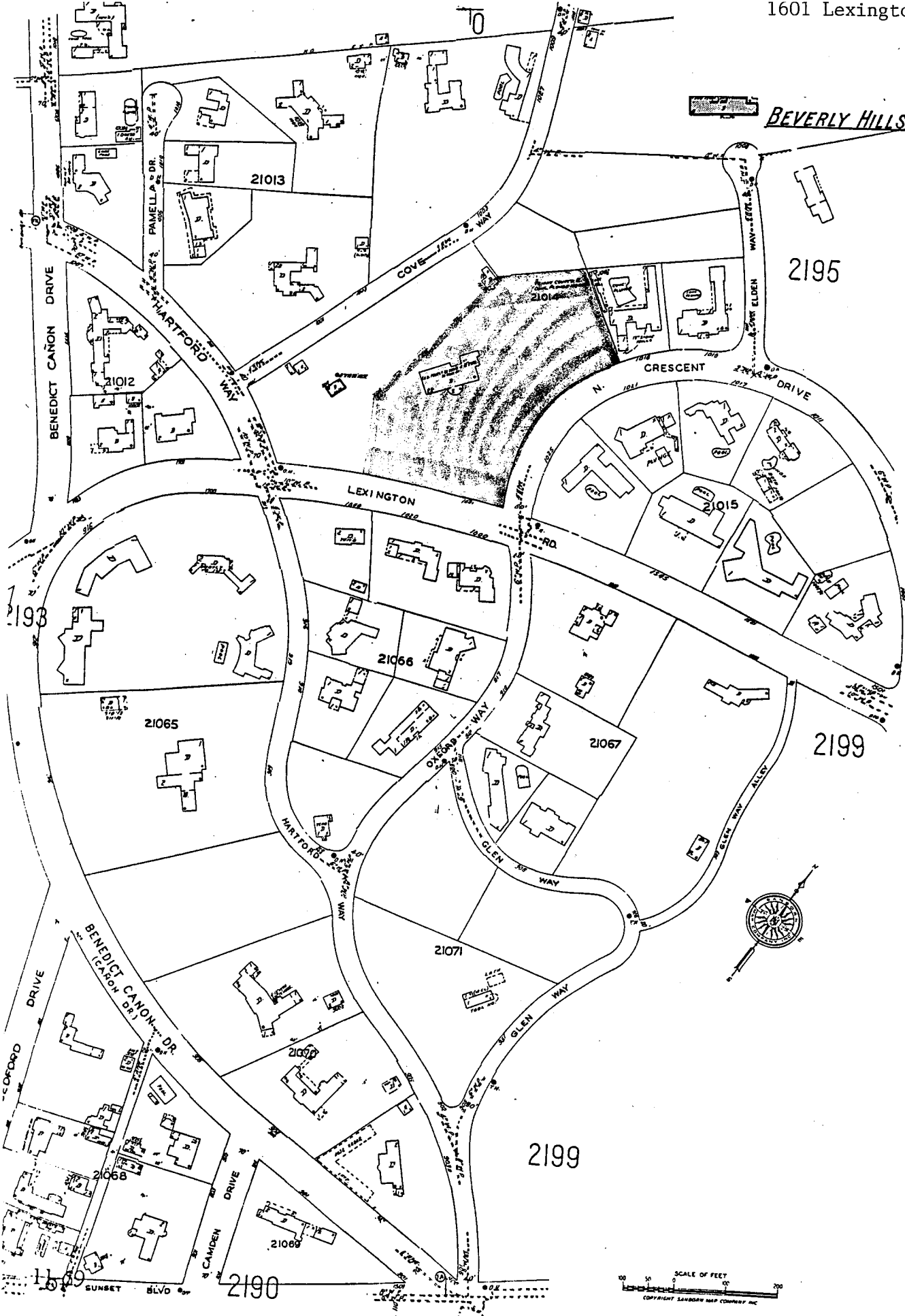
However, in the interim since the last photographs of the house were publicly available, several permits for alterations have been issued. The present status of the house, which is hidden from view, is unknown.

19. Significance:

suites, and servants quarters. Modifications to the structure were made by the architectural firms of Dodd and Richards, Koerner and Gage, and by prominent local contractors James Dickason and E.P. Dentzel for the Greens.

Burton Green, as head of the Rodeo Land and Water Company, was the City's most prominent citizen. In 1901, Amalgamated Oil Company had purchased 33,000 acres of land for oil development. No enough oil was found to constitute a successful venture, so Amalgamated was reconstituted as the Rodeo Land and Water Company and the area was subdivided in 1906. Green, a Wisconsin native whose family moved to California in 1884, named the new subdivision after Beverly Farm, Massachusetts, where he had once resided. He is touted as the "moving intellect" behind the city plan, and is also credited with hiring Wilbur C. Cook to design the distinctive street configuration, landscape, and development plans of the City. Green continued his interest in oil and real estate until his death, also founding Associated and Belridge Oil Companies. He was a member of several clubs and civic organizations in Southern California. Although the original acreage has been subdivided and the residence altered, the estate remains historically significant for its association with the City's founder.

BEVERLY HILLS



CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #

HRI #

Trinomial

NRHP Status Code: 7R

Page 1 of 1 Resource Name or # *Burton E. Green Residence*

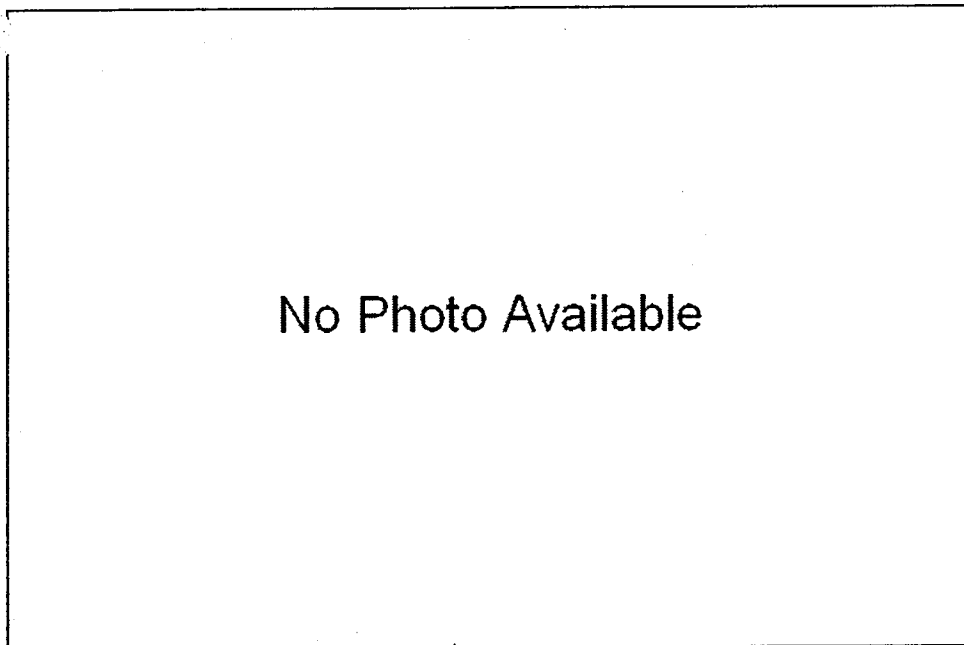
Continuation Update

P2. Location: *1601 Lexington Rd.*

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:



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

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