



[ANGLES ON ARCHITECTURE]

A Quiet House for Prayer

By Karen Numme And Laura Massino Smith

Originally built as the family home for Earl Anthony, the complex of buildings on Waverly Avenue, near Griffith Park Blvd. now serves as a monastery.

Anthony once had the sole California dealership rights for the Packard automobile. He lived in a Craftsman style house in Beverly Hills before moving to Los Feliz. The house in Beverly Hills was designed by prominent early 20th century architects and brothers Greene & Greene of Gamble House fame. When one of the Greene brothers decided to buy a Hudson automobile instead of a Packard, Anthony terminated his relationship with the brothers and hired San Francisco architect Bernard Maybeck.

Maybeck is best known for his design of the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco. He also designed automobile showrooms for Anthony so he seemed like the logical choice, in Anthony's view, to design a new house.

Anthony wanted an Italian Villa style home, but his wife wanted a French Chateau. Maybeck combined elements of each style as well as adding

some Spanish Mediterranean flourishes and the clients were happy.

Anthony was a demanding man and very much involved with the design of the house. Due to his constant changes the

as a private home for nuns and priests. Called the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Monastery and House of Prayer for Priests, it is used as a retreat house and is open seven days a week. For more



The monastery on Waverly Drive is also used as a retreat house.

final cost was \$500,000. In 1928 dollars, that was a fortune.

The house was subsequently owned by Sir Daniel Donohue and his wife and at that time was called Villa San Giuseppe. Donohue was deeply involved with the Catholic Church and grand functions were held there. An Aeolian organ, one of only three in Los Angeles at the time, was the standard musical accompaniment for these functions.

In the 1960s, the house was donated to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and now sits among peaceful gardens

information and photos visit www.sistersihmla.com.

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