

RECEIVED

OCT 09 1992

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name DeWenter Mansion, Guest House and Grounds  
other names/site number DeWenter Ranch

2. Location

street & number 6100 Brydon Road  not for publication  
city, town La Verne  vicinity  
state California code CA county Los Angeles code 037 zip code 91750

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>3</u>	<u>          </u> buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>          </u> sites
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u> structures
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u> objects
<u>4</u>	<u>          </u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

*Stacy R. Craig*

Date

10/3/92

California Office of Historic Preservation  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

*Albus Byers*

11/5/92

*fu* Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Agriculture/Subsistence: Ag. field

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls stucco

roof terra cotta

other ceramic tile

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The DeWenter Mansion and guest house, both Spanish Colonial Revival in design, form the centerpiece of the DeWenter Ranch, located in the hills north of the city of La Verne. Constructed in 1940, the mansion is an unusually fine example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style and exhibits quality construction and an elaborate detailed decorative theme. The house sits well back from the main road, on the brow of a gentle slope. Mature plantings, including some of the original citrus trees, surround the house. As a superior example of a grove house, it is representative of the prosperity of the citrus industry in the La Verne area. The guest house, constructed in 1939, is of the same design, and contributes to the property. It is located behind the house to the northwest. The houses are bordered on the west by a live oak canyon featuring an aviary or summerhouse on the east slope. W. H. Werner of Los Angeles was the mansion's architect.

### Exterior of Mansion:

The DeWenter House and garage form one large U-shaped building with the two-story garage being located on the west side, next to the long, tree-shaded driveway. It is connected to the main section of the house by a single-storied section with an open porch on the second floor. The main body of the house is two-storied with a single-storied living room wing projecting from the front (southwest) facade, and another single-storied wing in the rear. The roofs of the two-story main section, garage, living room, and breakfast room wings are clad in red clay tiles. Smooth stucco (called plaster on the plans) covers the entire exterior of the building.

### Front Facade:

The main entrance is in the center of the southwest facade and is fronted by a low wall that forms a large entry patio. The garage creates a wing on the west side and a single-storied living room wing is located on the east side. The entry courtyard is reached by walking around the garage and entering through an opening in the low brick wall. The unusually wide paneled door, which is stained and varnished, is set in a recessed alcove. An original brass lantern is located to the west of the doorway. A cantilevered balcony, bordered with an intricate wrought iron railing, is centered above the entry alcove. The curved stucco-clad base below the balcony is accented with a decorative oval teardrop. A pair of metal-framed leaded glass doors, featuring random panels of stained glass and gold-colored glass, leads to the balcony.

All of the windows in the house, with the exception of a few stationary plate glass windows, are multi-paned casement style with cranked opening devices. The stained glass windows in the entry hall are fronted with a delicate wrought iron grill. Clusters of purple grapes, green branches, and a champagne-colored background are featured in the design of the windows. Located to the east of the main entry, the stained glass is balanced on the west side by a window accented with a cast concrete grill in a diamond pattern. A similar cast concrete grill, featuring a rectangular pattern, is located to the east of the second-story balcony.

See continuation sheet

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1939-1940  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Werner, William  
Brown, Saul

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The DeWenter Mansion, Guest House, and Grounds are excellent examples of the fine houses and grounds built by the successful citrus ranch owner during the 1920's, 30's and 40's. The mansion is a superior example of the Spanish Colonial style in the La Verne area, and exhibits unusual attention to detail, using a variety of Spanish Colonial Revival architectural elements. Although most of the 299+ acre citrus ranch has been sold to another party, the mansion, surrounding gardens, guest house, live oak canyon, aviary, and part of the orange grove are preserved on the 4.22 acre property. Its setting, on a low rise at the end of a private road, will remain intact. The mansion and grounds are representative of the success of the citrus industry in the La Verne area. The mansion, guest house, and grounds retain their integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. William Werner, prominent Los Angeles architect, designed the main house and Pacific Systems Homes, also of Los Angeles built the guest house under the direction of architect Saul H. Brown.

**Ranch History:**

The Baker family, for whom the canyon on the west is named, were the first owners of this property. They tried dry farming and a variety of fruit crops on the land, but were unsuccessful with those ventures. In 1917 Dr. Randall, of Los Angeles, bought the ranch and began to develop the irrigation system and, in the late 1920's, planted the first citrus crops. Eureka Lemons, Lisbons, and Valencia oranges were planted. When the DeWenters, Henry and Paul, purchased the property in 1937, they continued the progress of the citrus ranching. Twelve wells and two large reservoirs supplemented the original spring-fed water system.

Henry DeWenter continued to work the ranch until he died in 1962. He and his wife, who died in 1965, occupied the mansion until they passed away. Their son, Paul DeWenter, was a young man when the family moved to the ranch. He lived in a cabin in the hills while his parents were living in the guest house, which was the first house built by the DeWenters on the property. When they moved into the big house, Paul moved into the guest house and continued to live there with his family, until the 1960's. Paul was a full-time citrus rancher during his entire adult life. Paul DeWenter and his family lived at the ranch until they sold it a few years ago and moved to Hawaii. During the time the DeWenter families lived in the house it was maintained in its original condition. Hughes Development Corporation, who purchased the property, careful to protect the property until it was sold to

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Original plans for DeWenter Mansion and Guest House (Mansion April 1940)  
Specifications for mansion (Guest House November 23, 1938)  
Interview with Paul DeWenter, who lives in Hawaii, by connections through Mr. Cullin  
Interview with Manuel Rodriquez, ranch caretaker  
Pomona-La Verne Directories 1940-1950  
Hollinger, Evelyn; La Verne, The Story of the People Who Made a Difference City of  
La Verne 1989

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 4.22 acres

UTM References

A 

11	4	3	0	2	8	0
----	---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	7	9	0	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

B 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

  
Zone Easting Northing

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The property includes two contiguous parcels, one for the mansion and one for the guest house. Both are owned by the new owner.

Parcel A: Beginning at the northerly quarter corner of said section 30, in the center line of Brydon Road, (Book 91 Oages 38-40); thence along the westerly line of the northeast quarter of Sec. 30, south 0° 37' 30" west 82.92'; thence south 89° 22' 30", east 20'; thence north 25° 47.02' East 146.38'  See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

This is all that remains of the historic property. The rest has been subdivided.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Diann Marsh  
organization N.A. date October 21, 1991  
street & number 321 East Eighth St. telephone 714/541-2441  
city or town Santa Ana state CA zip code 92701

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2

The living room wing extends forward (south) from the main east-west rectangle, forming the eastern perimeter of the central courtyard. A large plate glass window, topped with a three-sectioned transom, and flanked by casement windows, is centered in the front-facing gabled facade of the living room. It allows those in the living room to see a breathtaking view of the valley and hills to the south. Casement windows and a pair of french doors occupy the eastern facade of the living room wing.

To the west of the front door, a single-storied wing forms a shallow ell and is centered with a large multi-paned window. The stairway to the second floor open porch is located between this shallow wing and the two-story wing that is formed by the two-story garage. The dramatic stairway features colorful decorative tiles in Spanish designs on the fronts of the risers. The treads are clad in red clay floor tiles. The underside of the stairway forms a graceful arch and the stucco-clad solid rail forms giant steps along the eastern side of the stairs. The rail is topped with flat red clay tiles. At the bottom of the stairs is a large round stucco-clad section with a flat red clay tile on top. It is designed to hold a large pot of flowers.

The two-story front facade of the garage is graced with a balcony which reaches clear across the front of the second story. The red-clay-tile-clad roof extends downward to shelter the balcony. Square wood posts and a plain balustrade border the perimeter. Carved brackets form a row along the underside of the balcony. Two doors open onto the balcony and a multi-paned window is centered in the first floor facade.

**West Facade:**

The entire west facade is taken up by the garage and workshop. A ribbon of matching multi-paned windows occupies the second floor, while a pair of double garage doors and a single door to the workshop are located on the first floor. The pair of octagonal light fixtures above the garage feature crowns above isinglass globes and are original. The garage doors do not appear to be original.

**East Facade:**

A two-story chimney and balcony dominate the east facade of the house. The east side of the living room wing is centered with a multi-paned window. French doors lead out from the first floor to the covered porch. The balcony above forms the roof. A turned post supports the corner of the second-floor balcony's roof, and turned balusters are used in the railing.

A stucco-clad wood box is located in front of the chimney. The multi-paned windows of the library face the side of the first floor porch and the eastern section of the yard.

**North Facade:**

The north facade features the two-story main section of the house, the two-story garage, and the single-story section that connects the two. Two windows on the second floor and a door and ribbon of four windows on the first floor occupy the rear facade of the garage. The single-storied section between has a door and a large multi-paned window. Multi-paned casement windows line the second floor of the rear facade of the main section. A rectangular single-storied breakfast room wing, topped with a red-clay-tile-clad hipped roof, extends from the middle of this section. Large stationary windows, flanked by casement windows, occupy the west and north facades of the breakfast room. A pair of french doors is located on the east side. A variety of multi-paned

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3

windows are placed at random along the remainder of the rear facade:

**Interior:**

The interior of the DeWenter Mansion is a panorama of fine detailing. The spacious entry hall contains a dramatic curving staircase and a two-story high cathedral ceiling. The north half forms a semi-circle, with the stairway along the wall. The paneled wooden entry door is in the south wall. An archway under the stairway leads to the rear hall and front bedroom. Red clay tiles cover the floor of the entry hall while the stairway risers, treads, and moldings are clad in oak. An intricate wrought iron railing borders the stairs. The door to the sewing room opens off the east side of the wide landing, positioned three steps up from the hall floor. An archway to the dining room opens from the north side of the landing. Stained glass windows, in a grape pattern, and a window seat occupy the arched alcove in the south wall. Another wide archway leads two steps up to the living room, to the east of the hall.

The 20' by 28' living room features an eleven-foot-high ceiling accented with heavy boxed beams. Brackets accent the ends of each beam. The stained and varnished beams are in perfect condition. A handsome stucco-clad molded fireplace dominates the east wall and is fronted with a red-tiled hearth. A border of decorative ceramic tiles in shades of yellow, black, grey and white ring the perimeter of the hearth. Multi-paned windows are located on the east, south, and west walls. Random-width pegged oak flooring covers the floor and the original ornate wrought iron drapery rods are still in use.

The parquet floor of the dining room is in a pattern of squares created by placing four strips of oak flooring in one direction and four in the opposite direction. Red bricks surround the stucco-clad fireplace in the west wall. A china cabinet, featuring sliding plate glass doors in the top half and mahogany doors in the bottom section, is located in the east wall. The same flooring, cabinet design and mahogany woodwork is used in the library to the north of the living room. Crown molding accents the ceiling.

A butler's pantry, complete with a U-shaped bank of cabinets and a varnished wooden countertop, opens off of the dining room. Glass doors are used in the top cabinets.

Pale yellow glazed tiles cover the walls of the original kitchen. A border of narrow red tiles accents the space between the top row of tiles and the rest. The kitchen sink is set on a diagonal. The new owner plans to make some changes in the kitchen.

A bedroom and two bathrooms occupy the space to the west of the entry hall and to the south of the kitchen. The baths feature the original tiles, with the guest bath in shades of blue with a narrow yellow border and the second bath in shades of rose.

The second floor is reached by a wide curving stairway in the center of the house. The upper hall continues the elliptical shape of the lower hall. The wrought iron railing borders the upper hall, curving in the same shape as the hall walls. Parquet flooring covers the floor. An original lantern-style chandelier hangs from the center of the ceiling. Cast plaster is used to create the crown molding at the ceiling. A pair of french doors leads to a balcony. A telephone niche is located next to the french doors.

The southeast bedroom features a coved ceiling and a pair of french doors that open out onto the balcony on the east side. A prominent stucco-clad semi-circular Southwest-style fireplace occupies one corner, and is accented with a painting of a California mission on ceramic tile. A row of brick surrounds the fireplace opening and the original fitted wrought iron fireplace screen is still in place. Red clay tiles cover the hearth and the quarter-circle-shaped seats on each side.

(Continued section 7, page 4)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4

The bathroom adjacent to the southeast bedroom is decorated with green ceramic tiles in an Art Deco pattern and features a green and yellow border in a diagonal pattern.

The master bedroom is accented with a fireplace with a decorative tile surround. This large room also features a full-length built-in mirror with a handpainted border of roses along the edge.

Yellow tile, edged in narrow green trim, is used on the walls and floors of the master bath. The centerpiece of this bathroom is the splendid painting of swans on the ceramic tiles above the tub. The colors of the mural are cream, green, pink, blue, and rose. The basin, which matches all of the others in the house, is square, with aluminum legs. The basin, tub and toilet are all in a rich shade of green. However, the toilet is new and the sink and tub are original.

The bedroom in the southwestern corner is large, with a full-sized dressing room and many windows facing south and west. A built-in mirror in the bedroom is edged with a painted floral border.

All of the doornobs in the house are crackle-finish brass and have a single knob with a locking devise in the center. They are original.

Across the open porch between the second floor of the original house and the second floor of the garage is a spacious playroom with an open beamed ceiling and oak floors. The rear half of this section contains a small apartment for use by servants.

Because we have the original plans with which to make comparisons, we are able to ascertain that the mansion has 95% of its original architectural elements and decorative finishes. The new owner plans to make a few changes to the kitchen and laundry room, but plans to retain all of the other original features.

**Guest House:**

The smaller guest house is located to the north of the mansion, on the other side of the east-west road which runs between the two houses. It was begun in late 1938 and finished in 1939. The plans show that the 1000-square-foot house was a Pacific Systems Home designed by Saul H. Brown on November 23, 1938. The DeWenters lived in this house while the larger one was being built. The guest house is listed as a contributor to the site.

Spanish Colonial Revival in style, the house is located on a gentle slope to the north of the driveway. A walkway leads from the road up to the southeast corner of the house and across the front to the main entry near the southwest corner. The exterior is clad in stucco and red clay tiles cover the roof. Casement-style multi-paned metal-framed windows are used throughout the house. The front door, accented with a narrow vertical window, leads directly into the living room. The small sheltered porch is supported by a single square stucco-clad post. Originally the house was U-shaped, with the U to the back. It contained two bedrooms and one bath, as well as the living room/dining room and kitchen. Later the U was filled in, creating an enclosed family room. During the 1960's a third bedroom and bath were added to the west side, to the north (rear) of the original bedrooms. Hardwood floors exist underneath the carpeting.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

---

The aviary is a single-storied rectangular building with wide shiplap siding and a hipped roof. Screen covers the openings between the siding and the roof and the interior is unfinished. Evidence of habitation by some type of bird can be seen on the interior. It is listed as a contributing building because of its original appearance, its ca. 1940 construction date, and as a part of the character of the site.

The DeWenter Mansion and Guest House possess their original integrity of location, site, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The grounds will be restored, saving as many of the specimen trees and plants as possible. The houses and grounds will remain in their original use.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2

the Gliniak family in early 1991. The Gliniaks are planning to clean and repair, where necessary, the mansion and guest house. One of the few changes to be made will be the modernization of the kitchen.

**Historic Context:**

The DeWenter Mansion, guest house, outbuildings, and grounds were all part of an estate that had a picture-perfect setting at the top of a gentle slope, with the backdrop of the mountains behind, and citrus groves on the slope in the front. The live oak canyon on the west has its original character. The house contains large open entertaining areas and the yard features an expansive patio, stone fireplace, and pergola. Although some of the plant life has died out, the majority of the specimen trees and plants remain. The house and gardens will be restored to represent the home of a successful citrus rancher during the heyday of the citrus industry, La Verne's principal economic force.

There were 3 large Mediterranean Revival citrus ranch houses in the La Verne area. One of these, the Lewis Estate, is churrigueresque in style and sits surrounded by a tract. Its gardens and setting are gone. The Romick House, a Monterey Revival-style home built in 1929-30, has recently been demolished. The DeWenter Mansion, with its surrounding character-defining setting, will survive as a good example of the home of one of the wealthiest citrus ranchers in the La Verne area.

**Agriculture:**

By the 1920's La Verne had become one of the major centers of citrus production in Southern California. The small town was surrounded by citrus groves which reached to the top of the foothills on the north and into the valley to the south. The La Verne Fruit Exchange had two divisions: The Orange Association, and the Lemon Association. In the late 1930's the Lemon house employed approximately 175 persons with a payroll of \$75,000. The Orange Association, with 475 employees, had an annual payroll of \$152,000 a year. Even though the nation was in a Depression, the citrus industry in the La Verne area continued to grow. The La Verne Citrus Association, the Exchange's competitor, earned \$5,203,985.97 between 1925 and 1934. Citrus was the main source of income for La Verne residents into the 1960's, and the city enjoyed a reputation as a producer of top grade citrus through those years.

The DeWenter homes and grounds are good examples of the home of a successful citrus rancher during the heyday of the citrus ranching business in La Verne.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 10 Page 2

Continuing Parcel A:

to the true point of beginning; Thence North  $39^{\circ} 05' 50''$  East 83.55'; thence North  $47^{\circ} 28' 34''$  East 140.19'; thence North  $32^{\circ} 45' 24''$  East 82.05'; thence North  $75^{\circ} 26' 27''$  East 166.17'; thence North  $88^{\circ} 26' 56''$  East 58.16'; thence North  $70^{\circ} 56' 20''$  East 140.34"; Thence North  $79^{\circ} 22' 16''$  East 119.88'; Thence South  $74^{\circ} 01' 22''$  East 42.49'; Thence North  $14^{\circ} 05' 15''$  East 44.20'; Thence North  $78^{\circ} 38' 02''$  West 211.64'; Thence North  $0^{\circ} 18' 05''$  west 220.21'; thence North  $84^{\circ} 47' 01''$  West 190.63' to Point A which said Point A is described as follows:

Beginning at the Northerly quarter corner of said Section 30 (Being also the Southerly corner of said Section 19) ; Thence along the Westerly line of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 19, as shown on said record of survey map, North  $0^{\circ} 37' 57''$  East 50.00'; Thence North  $44^{\circ} 12' 16''$  East 281.49'; thence North  $4^{\circ} 19' 54''$  West 139.02'; thence North  $25^{\circ} 49' 26''$  East 186.71'; thence North  $34^{\circ} 26' 26''$  East 156.51' to Point A; thence along those various courses herein before described as follows:

South  $34^{\circ} 26' 2''$  West 156.51' ;  
South  $25^{\circ} 49' 26''$  West 186.71' ;  
South  $04^{\circ} 19' 54''$  East 139.02' ;  
South  $44^{\circ} 32' 16''$  West 281.49' ;

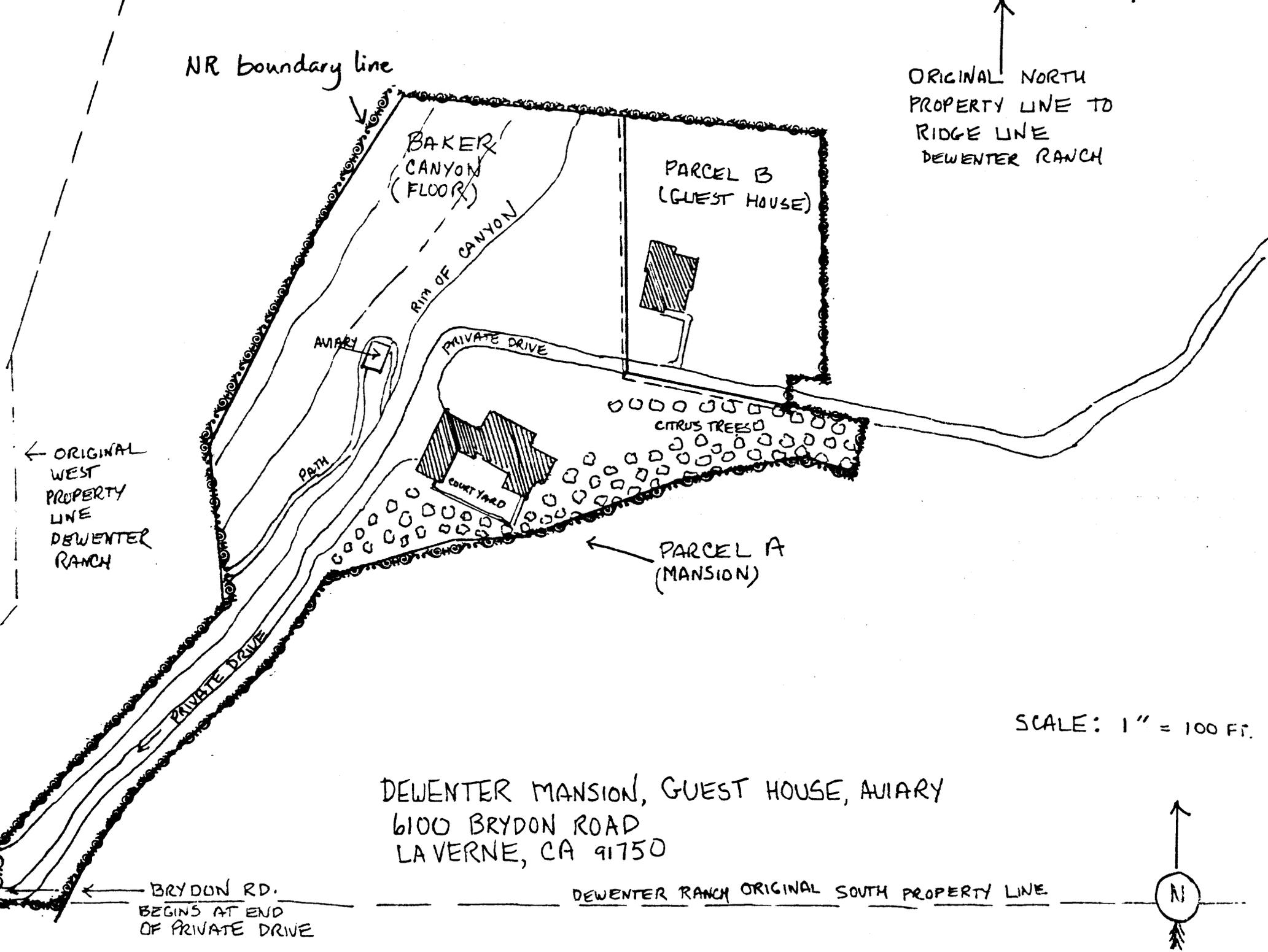
South  $0^{\circ} 37' 57''$  East 50' to said Northerly Quarter corner of said Section 30, said corner being in a non-tangent curve concave Southwesterly and having a radius of 42.00', a radical line of said curve to said point bears North  $0^{\circ} 37' 37''$  East;

Thence Southeasterly along said curve through a central angle of  $82^{\circ} 51' 15''$  and arc distance of 60.74' to that certain course hereinbefore described as having a bearing and length of "N $25^{\circ} 47' 02''$  East 95.40' to the true point of beginning. The above described land contains 3.34 acres.

Parcel B (Guest House Parcel)

Parcel B is contiguous to Parcel A, with the Eastern border of the top half of Parcel A and the Western border of Parcel B being 218'; thence East from the Northeasterly point of Parcel A for 170'; thence South 218' ; thence West 29' thence South 12'; thence West 141' to beginning point. This parcel contains approximately .80 of one acre.

The total property is approximately 4.22 acres.



NR boundary line

ORIGINAL NORTH  
PROPERTY LINE TO  
RIDGE LINE  
DEWENTER RANCH

BAKER  
CANYON  
(FLOOR)

PARCEL B  
(GUEST HOUSE)

RIM OF CANYON

AVIARY

PRIVATE DRIVE

PATH

COURT YARD

PARCEL A  
(MANSION)

CITRUS TREES

← ORIGINAL  
WEST  
PROPERTY  
LINE  
DEWENTER  
RANCH

PRIVATE DRIVE

SCALE: 1" = 100 FT.

DEWENTER MANSION, GUEST HOUSE, AVIARY  
6100 BRYDON ROAD  
LAVERNE, CA 91750

← BRYDON RD.  
BEGINS AT END  
OF PRIVATE DRIVE

DEWENTER RANCH ORIGINAL SOUTH PROPERTY LINE



DEWENTER MANSION, GUEST HOUSE, AND GROUNDS  
6100 Brydon Road  
La Verne, CA 91750

Photographs taken: April, May of 1991

Taken By: Tayo Olmos  
Positive Images  
80 West Dayton Street  
Pasadena, CA 91105

Location of Negatives: same

1. Front facade, main house: Taken from the southeast, this photo of the western-most half of the front facade features the main entry, balcony above, the stairway to the open porch on the second floor (on the left), and the southeast wall of the garage directly behind the stairway.
2. Front facade: Main house; Taken from the southwest, this photo shows the front door, balcony above, cast concrete grillwork window treatment, stained glass window and wrought iron grill (to the right of the front door), and the living room wing (on the right).
3. Front facade; main house: Taken from the southwest, this photo shows the living room wing on the far right, the entry in the center, and a single-storied bedroom wing on the far left.
4. Front facade, main house: The stairway to the open balcony/porch on the second floor is located to the west of the front entry. This photo is taken from the south. The garage wing forms the wall on the left. The risers of the stairs are decorated with colorful Mexican tiles. The rail, on the right, features giant stepped shapes, with red tile on the top. A round pier at the bottom of the stairs appears to be for a potted plant.
5. Front facade, main house; The living room wing, located to the east of the front entry, as seen from the southwest. The living room is 20' x28'. The window in the center looks out toward a fantastic view of the whole valley.
6. Southeast facade; main house; Taken from the southeast, this facade features the living room on the extreme left, the chimney in the center, the first floor side entrance to the living room, the second floor balcony, and the corner of the den (to the right of the side entrance).
7. Southeast facade, main house: Taken from the southeast, the side facade of the main house overlooks much of the valley below. The french doors lead to the living room. A wood box on the left of the side entry is located in front of the large two-story chimney. The windows on the right of the entry denote the location of the den. The balcony on the second floor leads to the room with the southwest-style fireplace. The single-storied living room wing is on the extreme left.
8. Front facade: Main house: The two-story garage wing, located to the extreme left of the main entry court, features a full balcony on the second floor. To the left can be seen a glimpse of the northwest facade, featuring the garage doors. The view from the second-floor playroom looks out over the entire valley. The short wall to the right is the entry to the low-walled front patio. Photo taken from the southeast.
9. North facade; main house: Taken from the driveway on the northwest, this photo

(Continued Page 2)

features: the two-story garage on the right, the single-storied wing that connects the two sections and is topped by the open porch/balcony, the main two-story section on the left, and the single-storied breakfast room wing on the extreme left. This photo was taken when the patio was taken up to do some sewer work. The patio will be replaced with identical materials.

10. Rear (northeast) facade; Main house: A close-up of the single-storied breakfast room wing, taken from the northeast, shows the french doors which lead into the room. The dining room window on the left is typical of the multi-paned recessed metal-framed windows used throughout most of the house. Where plate glass windows and transoms are used, casement windows with cranks offer ventilation on each side.
11. West facade; Main house: The west facade, taken from the west, features the pair of double garage doors and a workshop (to the left, in the northwest corner) with a single door. The lights above the doors are original. The row of windows along the second floor look out from the playroom and housekeeper's quarters. A corner of the front balcony shows in the upper righthand corner.
12. Main house: Entry hall; The main entry features a curving staircase with wood risers and treads. The light fixture hanging from the two-story section of the elliptically-shaped hall is original. Note the niche on the stairway. The arch in the background leads to the kitchen-first floor bedroom area. The door on the extreme left is the front door. The hall floor is clad in the original red clay tiles.
13. Main house: Entry hall: The east end of the entry hall opens into the living room through the arch. Note the fireplace in the east wall and the boxed beams in the ceiling. The stained glass windows on the right were custom made for the house and feature bunches of grapes and limbs. A wood shelf under the window acts as a window seat.
14. Main house: second floor hall: The east end of the second floor of the two-story hall is edged with a plaster cornice molding at the ceiling. The wrought iron railing and ceiling fixture are original. The parquet floor, also original, is in excellent condition. The french doors on the right lead to the small balcony at the front, above the main entrance. The indentation beyond the doors is a telephone niche. The door in the center leads to a closet and the archway to the left leads to the bedroom with the southwest fireplace. The door to the left leads to another bedroom.
15. Main house: second floor bathroom: The original green bathtub and yellow wall tile forms a background for the swan mural, in shades of pink, rose, green, blue, and cream, above the tub. The sink and shower are also original.

#### GUEST HOUSE:

16. Guest House, front facade: The front facade of the guest house, taken from the south. The path from the road is located on the right side, and crosses in front of the windows to the front entry.
17. Guest House; front facade: Taken from the southwest, this photo shows the front facade, west corner of the guest house. The same style multi-paned metal-framed window is used in the guest house as the main house. The roof is red clay tile.

(Continued on page 3)

18. Guest House; west facade: Taken from the southwest, this photo shows the west facade of the guest house. The two windows in the center show the original part of the house. The windows and offset wing on the back (to the left) is the addition constructed in the 1960's.
19. Guest House; rear (north) facade: The north facade features some changes made during the 1960's. the wing on the right was added at that time. The patio in the center of the house, which was originally U-shaped, with the U to the back, has been enclosed. The two sets of three windows indicate that location. The chimney which appears in the center indicates the location of the original rear wall of the house. The patio, or terrace, as it was called in the plans, was open to the sky.
20. Guest House; rear (north) facade: Taken from the northeast, this photograph offers a close-up of the additions on the rear of the house. The door and series of windows on the left are part of the patio enclosure done during the 1960's. The wing on the right is a third bedroom added in the 1960's.
21. Summer House/aviary: The small wooden building in the photo is located to the west of the driveway and is reached by a path which leads to the floor of the canyon. The photo was taken from the southwest. It's most recent use was as an aviary.