



## AGUAJE DE LA CENTINELA: CENTINELA SPRINGS (1937)

Inglewood was carved out of the Rancho Aguaje de la Centinela. The appeal of a ready source of fresh artesian water was what made the Rancho Centinela so attractive for farming. It led to the area being settled first for the herds that would graze and then the early farms.

In addition to his mural at the Post Office, Archibald Garner was also commissioned to create the monumental water fountain that marked the outcropping of the springs and the center of what was originally Centinela Park. Constructed out of irregular pieces of granite, it was at the time a natural drinking fountain that incorporated the three plaques in its composition.

A second monument was created for the re-dedication of the Centinela Springs in 1970.

Edward Vincent Junior Park  
700 Warren Lane  
Inglewood, CA

### Landmark:

California Registered Historical Landmark  
Designated 1939

### Artist:

Archibald Garner

### Material:

Granite

### Preservation Organization:

Historical Society of the Centinela Valley

### Archibald Garner

Archibald Garner was born in Onida, South Dakota in 1904. During the 1930s Garner was a pupil of Stackpole and Cravath in San Francisco followed by study at Chouinard Art School in Los Angeles. During the Depression he fulfilled commissions for the Federal Art Project and was a sculpture designer for 20th Century Fox. An exponent of modern art, his style was termed "hard edge." He died in 1969.





#### Inscription on the three plaques

"FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL GOD'S BLESSING OF SWEET WATER TO ALL HIS CREATURES"  
MARKED BY CALIFORNIA HISTORY AND LANDMARKS CLUB - MARCH 2, 1939

AGUAJE DE LA CENTINELA (CENTINELA SPRINGS) ON THIS SITE BUBBLING SPRINGS ONCE FLOWED FROM THEIR SOURCE IN A DEEP WATER BASIN WHICH HAS EXISTED CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THE PLEISTOCENE ERA. PREHISTORIC ANIMALS, INDIANS, AND EARLY INGLEWOOD SETTLERS WERE ATTRACTED HERE BY THE PURE ARTESIAN WATER. THE SPRINGS AND VALLEY WERE NAMED AFTER SENTINELS GUARDING THE CATTLE IN THE AREA.

CALIFORNIA REGISTERED HISTORICAL LANDMARK NO. 363  
PLAQUE PLACED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN COOPERATION WITH THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CENTINELA VALLEY OCTOBER 9, 1976.





## CENTINELA ADOBE COMPLEX (1834)

Originally built as a ranch house in 1834 by Ignacio Machado, the Centinela Valley Adobe is the oldest building in the Centinela Valley and the core building of a historical museum. The Centinela Adobe Complex contains four buildings the other three being the Daniel Freeman Land Office built in 1887, and the Centinela Valley Heritage and Research Center. Through mementos from the 1888 Freeman mansion, more than 10,000 photographs, books and other memorabilia chronicling the evolution of Centinela Valley are housed in the facility.

The Land Office contains displays highlighting the area's first poultry colony, the first ever domestic chinchilla farm, famous brick manufacturers, and the home of aviation's third busiest commercial center, the birthplace of aerospace defense and exploration, the original South Bay businesses, and much more. The Walter Haskell Research Center (also known as the Heritage Center) houses the remnants of the 1888 Daniel Freeman Mansion. The mansion was demolished in 1972.

The Complex is owned by the City of Inglewood; the Museum is managed by the Historical Society of the Centinela Valley.

### Landmark

National Register of Historic Places

### Preservation Organization

Historical Society of the Centinela Valley

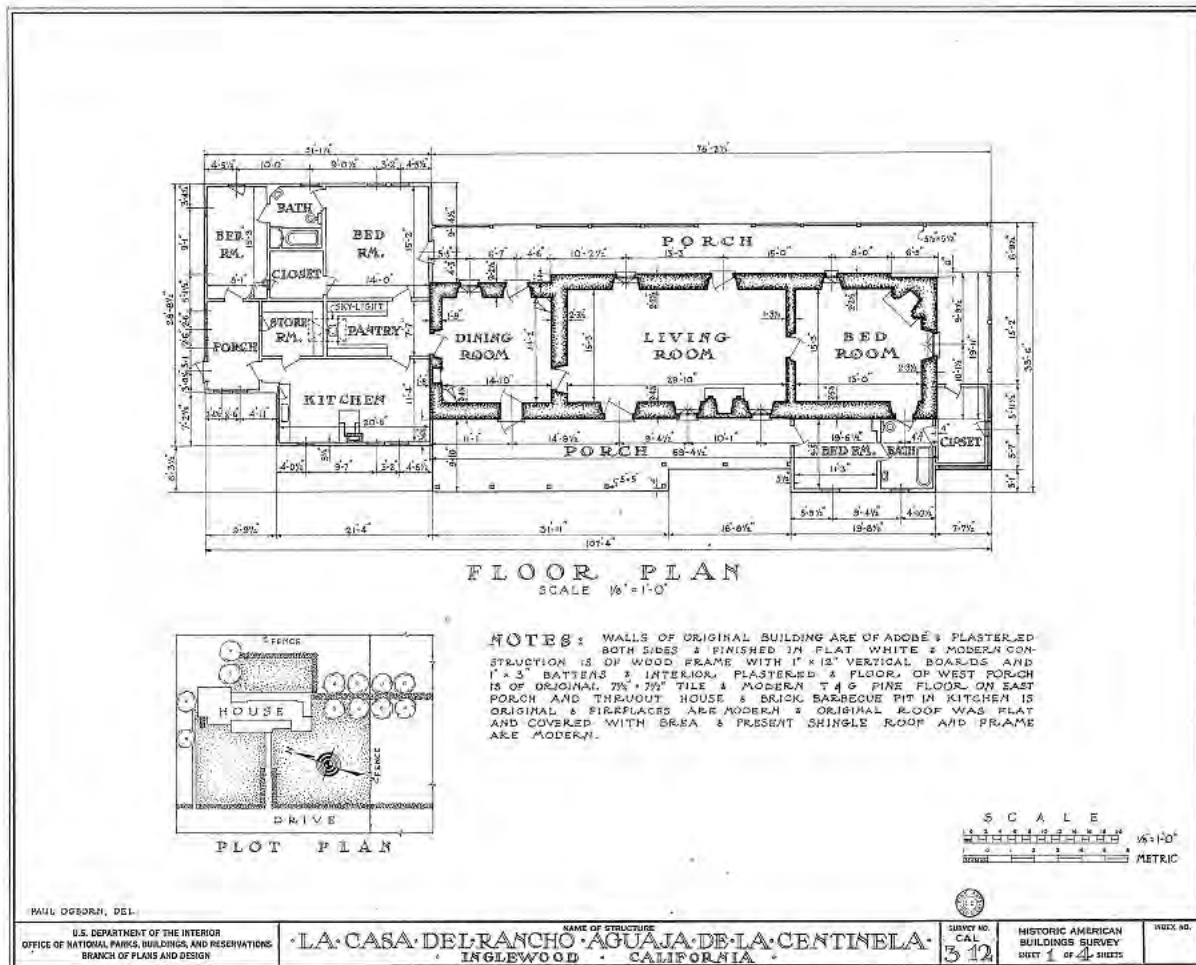
7635 Midfield Avenue  
Inglewood, CA.



Top Photo: Adobe in 1890

Bottom Set of drawings from the

Historic American Buildings Survey 1936



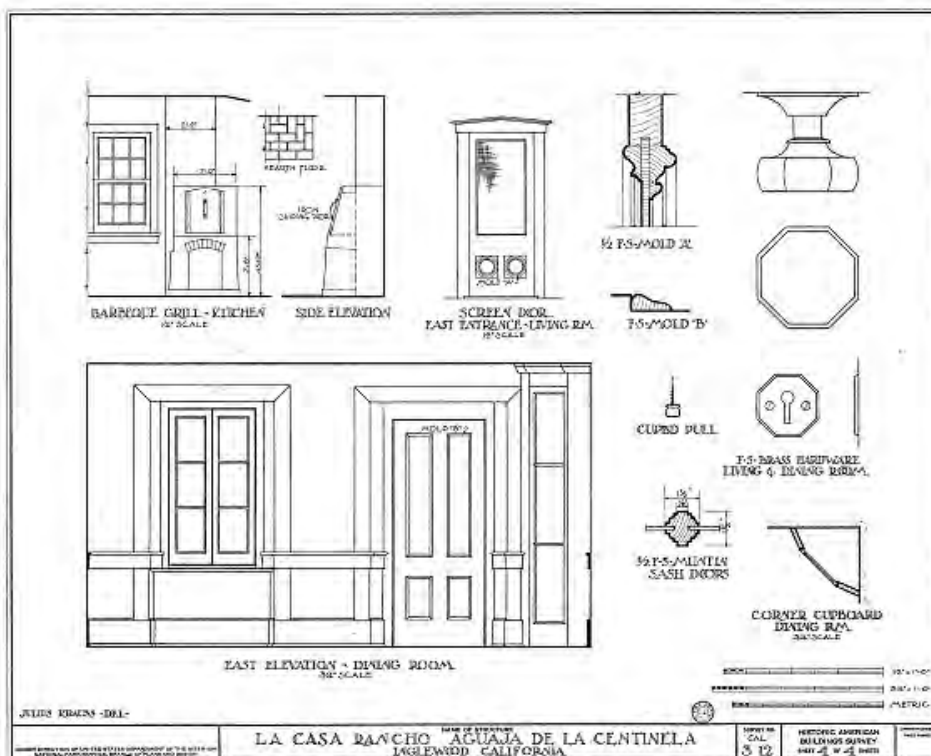
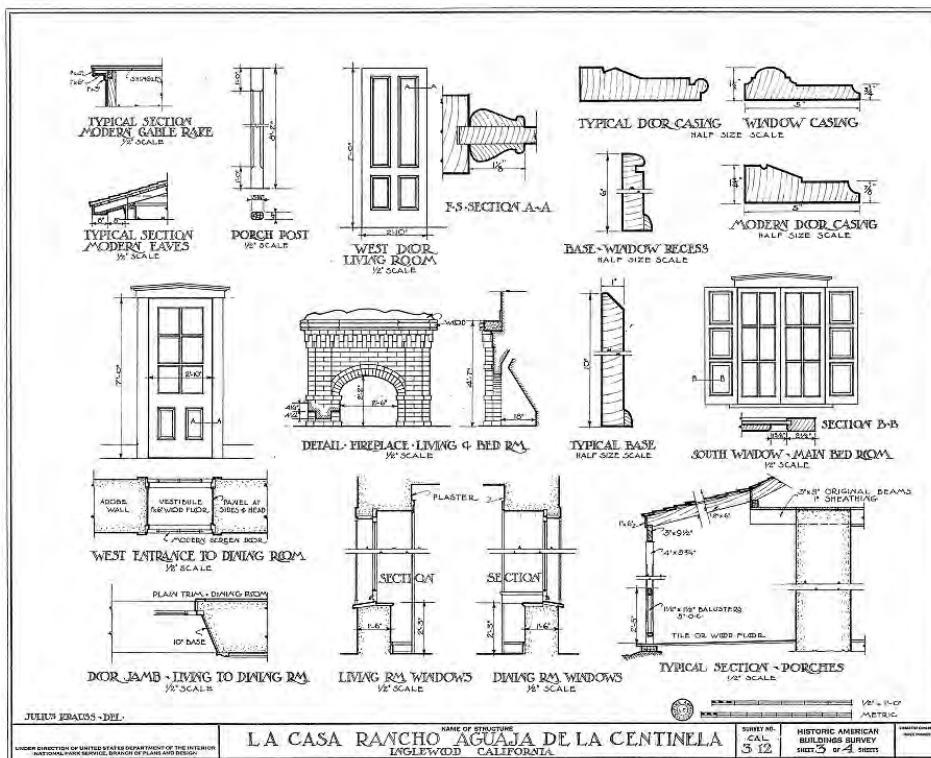




Photos: Henry F Withey Historic American Buildings Survey 1936











## MORETON BAY FIG (1888)

In 1875 Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus Macrophylla*) were brought to Southern California. They were shipped from Australia to San Pedro and were given away to anyone who came to the dock. Many were taken to Santa Monica where they were planted mistakenly as magnolias. Surprisingly enough, the trees which came from a much wetter native environment actually thrived in the Southern California climate. Some of them have grown to be 80 feet high. Today they can be found scattered throughout the Los Angeles Basin.

Inglewood's trees were planted by Daniel Freeman. They have grown into the largest trees in Inglewood and certainly the oldest at 127 years. In recognition of this, Inglewood passed the Tree Preservation Ordinance in 2012 to protect the historic trees.

333 North Prairie Avenue  
Inglewood, CA.





## HOLLYWOOD PARK RACETRACK (1938-2013)

Hollywood Park was built by the Hollywood Turf Club. It was one of the first racetracks designed by Arthur Froelich who went onto an illustrious career as a racetrack architect. During its 75-year existence the Track closed twice. During World War II, it was used for a storage facility, reopening after the war ended. In 1949 the Grandstand and Club House were destroyed by a fire; the track was rebuilt and reopened in 1960. It was expanded in 1984.

In its heyday, the Hollywood Park was a magnet for Hollywood celebrities, many of whom were on its board including Jack Warner, Walt Disney, Samuel Goldwin, Darryl Zanuck, Al Jolson and Bing Crosby.

There were many famous races run there including the inaugural Breeders Cup in 1984. Many horses such as Seabiscuit, Seattle Slew, and Affirmed ran the track.

Racing became considerably less popular as a leisure activity. By the 90's a casino was added. The Track was sold several times to a variety of owners,

### Original Architect

Arthur Froelich

### Turf Club Architect

Stiles O. Clements

### Landscape Architect

Frederick Barlow, Jr

### Landscape Architect

Edward Huntsman-Trout

1050 South Prairie Avenue  
Inglewood, CA.



each of whom had a different recipe for reinvigorating it. Nothing really took. Finally in 2013 it was shuttered for good. Over 13,000 people attended the last race making it the largest attendance in years. There were so many people trying to get in, that the gates were opened to everyone after 2pm. The final stakes race was won by California Chrome. The crowd sang 'Auld Lang Syne' and 'Hooray for Hollywood' as the horses paraded in.

A new retail and residential development which will bring 3000 housing units, a hotel and a park to the 260 acre site is currently under construction. each of whom had a different recipe for reinvigorating it. Nothing really took. Finally in 2013 it was shuttered for good. Over 13,000 people attended the last race making it the largest attendance in years. There were so many people trying to get in, that the gates were opened to everyone after 2pm. The final stakes race was won by California Chrome. The crowd sang 'Auld Lang Syne' and 'Hooray for Hollywood' as the horses paraded in.

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### Arthur Froehlich

Arthur Froehlich was born in 1909 in Los Angeles; his father was a cattle and dairy farmer. He attended the University of California. His first job was as a draftsman for the structural engineer working on Santa Anita racetrack. That sparked an architectural practice designing racetracks. In addition to Hollywood Park, they include Aqueduct Racetrack (1958) in New York, Belmont Park (1967) in New York (a job he won over Frank Lloyd Wright's NY office), Keeneland in Kentucky, Golden Gate Fields, Garden State Park and the Hipodromo La Rinconada National Track (1959) in Caracas.



### Stiles O. Clements

Architect Stiles O. Clements was very influential in creating some of the iconic Los Angeles Art Deco buildings of the 20's. He designed the El Capitan (1926), Mayan (1927), Leimert (1931) and Wiltern Theaters (1931). Towers include the Pellissier Building (1931) and the Richfield Tower (1929). A lot of his work was demolished such as the streamline Moderne Coulter's Department Store (1938) which was destroyed before it could be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

### Frederick Barlow, Jr.

After studying landscape design at UC Berkeley, Fred Barlow moved to Los Angeles and lived in Baldwin Village for about 30 years. He formed a practice with Katherine Bashford except for a 2-year sojourn at the National Park Service. In addition to the Racetrack, he designed the landscape for over 40 housing



Top Photo & Previous page : Club ca 1960

Middle Photo: Fire May 5, 1949

Bottom Photo: Aerial May 1977

Next Page: May 1977

All Photos Inglewood Public Library Collection



## **Edward Huntsman-Trout**

Edward Huntsman-Trout was one of the pioneers of Landscape Architecture in Los Angeles. He lived from 1889-1974. Some of his significant projects include Bullocks Wilshire, the LA County Arboretum and Botanic Garden (1955) and the 30 acre campus for Scripps College (1926).