

Homes Will Occupy Site of Noted Prep School

Chaminade, historic Los Angeles preparatory school, is vanishing from its picturesque setting in the Beverlywood-Cheviot Hills section under the sledgeball blows of wrecking crews. Upon demolition of the stately Florentine building, the site will be utilized for construction of 41 private residences for James Pelton & Associates, developers.

The property is bordered on the north by Beverly Dr. and Beverlywood St. and on the south by Cattaraugus Ave.

Need for expanded facilities at Chaminade, a Catholic institution, brought about its demise at the west side location, the preparatory school having moved to a new campus in Canoga Park. The old structure, built in 1929, originally housed the Pacific Military Academy, which had been founded by Col. Harry Culver four years previously. That institution closed at the onset of World War II, an Army and Navy Air Corp unit taking over the building as a locale for top - secret photographic work.

The property was purchased in 1946 by Frank Brick who reinstated it as a military school under the name of Cheviot Hills Military Academy. In 1952 it passed into the hands of the Marianists brothers who converted it into a high school for boys. Among its resident students were youths from Central America and the Orient.

Transforming the site into a residential community will entail more than \$2.5 million in land and building costs, it was learned from Pelton. It will permit the first expansion of the fashionable Beverlywood section which surrounds the acreage.

Homes to be constructed on the site will be in the \$50,000 and \$60,000 price class. Floor plans will be one and two-story types and will include three, four and five-bedroom designs.