

The property at 10050 Cielo Drive was designed by renowned architect Robert Byrd in 1942 and completed in 1944. Sitting high above California's Benedict Canyon, the 3,200 square-foot home and 2,000 square-foot guest house sat on a 3.3-acre plot.

Designed to look like a European cottage, it was first owned by the French actress [Michele Morgan](#). She lived in the property until only 1945, before returning to France at the end of World War II.



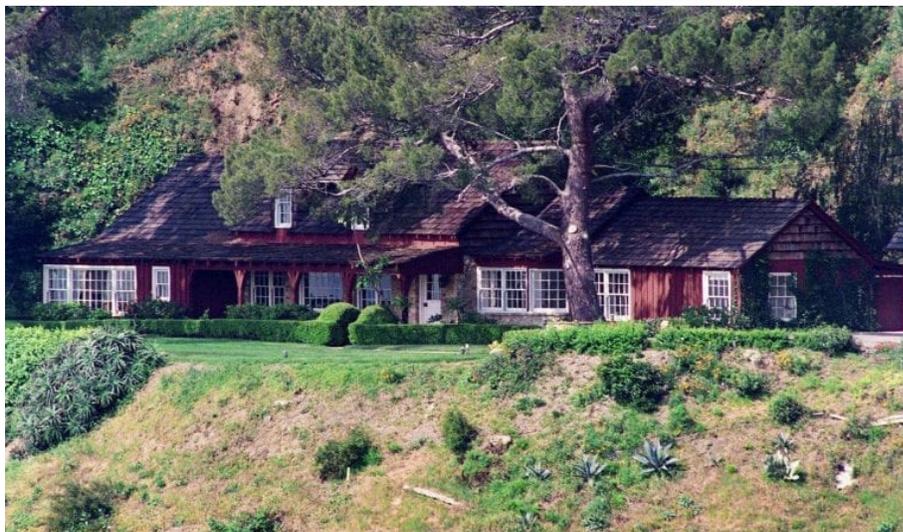
French Actress Michele Morgan at the front door of 10050 Cielo Drive. The same door that would become infamous some 25 years later.

In 1946, American actress Lillian Gish lived in the property while filming *Duel in the Sun*. After that period the ownership of the property is pretty sketchy. However, it is known that music and film talent manager Rudolph Altobelli bought the house for \$86,000 in the early 1960s and then rented the property out.

Celebrity residents over the next few years included Cary Grant, Henry Fonda, George Chakiris, the American rock band Paul Revere & the Raiders as well as a number of other famous faces.

In February 1969, the French-Polish film director Roman Polanski and his wife [Sharon Tate](#) began renting the home from Altobelli. Just six months later, while Roman Polanski was working in Europe, Sharon, her unborn child, and four other people would be

slaughtered in the house. The property would quickly become one of the most infamous murder scenes in the history of the USA.





After 10050 Cielo Drive was torn down in 1994, a new mansion was built on the site. The new property looks nothing like the property Sharon Tate was murdered in. The property was also given a new address, '10066 Cielo Drive'.



