VLR Listed: 7/6/1971 NRHP Listed: 12/16/1971

Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

| STATE: | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| VIRGINIA | |
| COUNTY: | HOLTIGHOD |
| RICHMOND (in cit.) |) |
| FOR NPS USE ON | ILY |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

| | INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM | | | | - | FOR NPS USE ONLY | | |
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| | (Type all entrie | es — complete ap | plicable sec | ctions) | 7 | ENTRY NUMBER | | DATE 13/1 |
| 1. | NAME | | | | - / | majono | ω_{0} | . 12/16 |
| | COMMON: | | | | | | 4 | |
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| | AND/OR HISTORIC: | . D.L.V. S. 1981 | 500 510 | 10 3/19; | is (Inc | MAKE STE RALUE | 100 | r bns |
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| | District K Building | X Public | Public Acqu | isition: | , | ☐ Occupied | Yes | .Larre |
| | ☐ Site ☐ Structure | ☐ Private | □ In | Process | enna | ▼ Unoccupied | - | stricted |
| | ☐ Object | ☐ Both | ☐ Be | ing Consider | ed | Preservation work | K | restricted |
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| | PRESENT USE (Check One or | More as Appropriate |) | | 100 X 12 | restored (s | SHPO U | tter 10. |
| | ☐ Agricultural ☐ G | Sovernment | X Park | | | Transportation | ☐ Com | ments |
| | Commercial I | ndustrial | Private Re | sidence | 8.86 | Other (Specify) | p name | al ed |
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| | City of Richmond, | , Department | OI RECTE | acton an | iu ra | iks aniwa bo | 8 Julia | CODE OF |
| | | The Mosque, Laurel Street | | | | | | |
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| ****** | COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: | | | | | | | |
| | Pichmond City Hall | | | | | | | |
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| | REPRESENTATION IN EXIS | TING CUDYEVE | | - V | TRGI | NIA | | |
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| 7. | DESCRIPTION | | | | | | | | |
|----|-------------|-------------|--------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|--|--|
| | CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | | | |
| | | ☐ Excellent | X Good | ☐ Fair | Deteriorated | Ruins | Unexposed | | |
| | | (Check One) | | | | (Check One) | | | |
| | | ☐ Altere | ed | 🔀 Unaltered | | ☐ Moved | ○ Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

MAYMONT

The eclectic mansion at Maymont, designed in 1890 by Edgerton S. Rogers, is a three-story structure of broken course sandstone. Its narrow straight windows with stained-glass "eyebrows," its tall, simple chimneys, and roof gables are reminiscent of the chateau style. The rough stone, the use of circular and polygonal corner towers, "eyebrow" dormers, bowed sections, and the one-story porch on the western facade are Romanesque in feeling, as is the overall massiveness and strength of the structure. A square, corbeled tower at one corner adds a medieval touch. On the southern entrance facade, there is a porte-cochere leading to a front hall lighted by a large stained-glass window which can be seen above and behind the porte-cochere. The roof of grey slate is a combination of hipped and gabled types.

The first floor of the interior of the house contains a spacious entrance hall, dining room and adjacent butler's pantry, a salon, and other smaller reception rooms. Opposite the front door, there is a chimneypiece decorated in a French Rennaissance manner with dark-stained wooden panels and caryatids. The exposed structural ceiling and the staircase continue the same period feeling. The salon beyond the hall is decorated with Louis XVI furniture and painted flower-tracery on the walls and ceiling. An adjoining parlour is Louis XV in decor and includes two Gobelins tapestries. All of the first floor rooms are filled with copies of paintings by European masters, glass front cabinets containing small boxes, sculptures, and plates brought from Europe by the Dooleys, and vases, mirrors, and larger sculptures from around the world.

The basement floor of Maymont housed the servants quarters, a kitchen, and a wine cellar. The second and third floors were for bedrooms the most famous of which is the Swan bedroom. This contains two swanshaped beds made for Mrs. Dooley's room in their summer home, Swannanoa.

Outbuildings included in the original estate were the stable and carriage house. The stable continues the rough stone strength and massiveness of the main house. The diamond-shaped glass panes in its windows and dormers give a feeling of Jacobean England. The stable has a central cobblestone courtyard and a roof of medium-hip and gable types. The carriage house is a half brick-half stone construction with a gabled hip roof containing a large dormer on one side.

Also on the property is a manager's cottage with an octagonal tower. The extensive use of shingles in the upper stories of the main part of the house and the tower make this outbuilding reminiscent of the shingle style popularized by the architect H. H. Richardson.

Major and Mrs. Dooley are buried at Maymont in a small, stone, Greek temple-style tomb with a pedimented distyle-in-antis Doric portico.

The James River borders Maymont on the southern side. The one hundred acre grounds contain an Italian parterre garden, complete with a columned pergola and an elaborate cascade surrounded by a serpentine Renaissance staircase of stone.

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

| STATE | |
|-------------------|-------|
| VIRGINIA | |
| COUNTY | |
| RICHMOND (in cit. | .) |
| FOR NPS USE ONL | Υ |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| 11 12 51 1021 | 12/16 |

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

7.

A natural waterfall parallels the staircase, then falls into a Japanese garden below. This garden is composed of waterways, arched stone bridges, Japanese plants and trees, and a pagoda. Elsewhere about the property are little summer houses for the taking of the view.

| SI | GNIFICANCE | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----------------|-----------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| T | PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | ☐ Pre-Columbian | ☐ 16th Century | ☐ 18th Century | 20th Century | | | | | | |
| | ☐ 15th Century | ☐ 17th Century | X 19th Century | | | | | | | |
| | SPECIFIC DATE(S) (It Applicable and Known) House built 1890 | | | | | | | | | |
| Γ | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Abor iginal | Education | Political | Urban Planning | | | | | | |
| 1 | Prehistoric | Engineering | Religion/Phi- | Other (Specify) | | | | | | |
| 1 | ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | losophy | | | | | | | |
| | ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | Science | \$400 to | | | | | | |
| | | | X Sculpture | | | | | | | |
| 1 | ☐ Art | Architecture | Social/Human- | | | | | | | |
| | ☐ Commerce | Literature | itarian | | | | | | | |
| | Communications | ☐ Military | Theater | | | | | | | |
| | Conservation | ☐ Music | Transportation | | | | | | | |
| - | | | | | | | | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE MAYMONT

The mansion at Maymont was built in 1890 by Major James H. Dooley, wealthy industrialist and member of the Virginia House of Delegates. The site was a former dairy farm, purchased by Dooley from Dr. C. A. Crenshaw as a present for his wife, Sallie May, for whom the property was named. The architect was Edgerton S. Rogers, son of the sculptor, John Rogers. He was brought up in Rome and received his education at the Academy of Architecture there where he practiced for three years before coming to Richmond around 1888.

James H. Dooley was born in 1841, the son of a wealthy hat manufacturer. He graduated from Georgetown University, though his education was interrupted by the War Between the States, in which he served with distinction. In 1869, he married Sallie May, later authoress of Dem Good Old Times, a nostalgic recollection of life in the old South. She was a lover of plants and flowers of all kinds and when the couple travelled extensively in Europe, brought back rare plants and shrubs to develop the gardens at Maymont and works of art for the embellishment of the thirty-eight room house.

After the death of Major Dooley in 1922 and Mrs. Dooley in 1925, the house and grounds at Maymont were willed to the city of Richmond for use by the general public. Over the years, a wildlife exhibit has been established in one section of the park, and a nature center has been opened in the former carriage house. The one hundred acres of gardens, open to the public during all seasons of the year, form a valuable natural resource in the center of the city. The grounds are maintained by the Department of Recreation and Parks.

At the Dooleys' death, the every day furniture was given to family members. The interior is thus furnished with rarer and more valuable period pieces, some of which were brought from the Dooley's summer home Swannanoa in the Blue Ridge Mountains. At present, the house is undergoing restoration on the inside. Both the interior and the exterior of the mansion are illustrative of the eclectic tastes of a nineteenth century industrial millionaire. Along with its gardens, Maymont is a total environment where a visitor can witness the grandeur and lavishness of the Edwardian Era.

DEC 7

Date

