

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

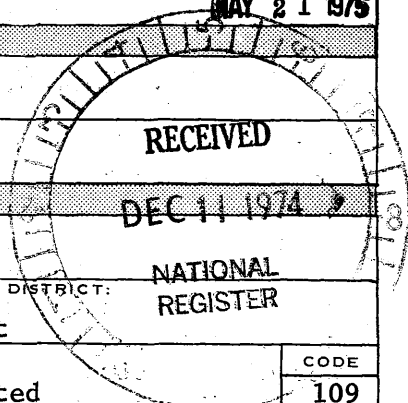
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Minnesota
COUNTY: Olmsted
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE MAY 21 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



1. NAME

COMMON: Plummer Gardens
AND/OR HISTORIC: Quarry Hill <i>use this</i>

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 1091 Plummer Lane			
CITY OR TOWN: Rochester		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First	
STATE: Minnesota	CODE: 22	COUNTY: Olmsted	CODE: 109

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>City cultural center and formal gardens</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Parks and Recreation Department	STATE: Minnesota
STREET AND NUMBER: 403 East Center Street	
CITY OR TOWN: Rochester	
STATE: Minnesota	
CODE: 22	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Olmsted County Courthouse	COUNTY: Olmsted
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN: Rochester	
STATE: Minnesota	
CODE: 22	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Statewide Historic Sites Survey
DATE OF SURVEY: 1973 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Minnesota Historical Society
STREET AND NUMBER: Building 25, Fort Snelling
CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul
STATE: Minnesota
CODE: 22

STATE: Minnesota
COUNTY: Olmsted
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Plummer House is located at 1091 Plummer Lane in Rochester, overlooking what is now Apache Mall from the area commonly known as "Pill Hill". In 1917 Henry S. Plummer acquired this tract of land, hilly and beautifully wooded, about a mile south and west of the then existent city limits of Rochester. At this time the city water supply did not reach his estate and this necessitated the drilling of wells. This part of the project became Plummer's first consideration. The pumps were contained in a building adjacent to a water tower known as the pumphouse. The watertower, located to the east of the house, is a beautiful circular tapering structure of native limestone with brick adornment in the general theme of the house and adjoining buildings. From the top of the tower, served by a circular staircase and visible from many areas of the city, a magnificent view of Rochester and its environs can be viewed. The homesite was named "Quarry Hill".

Besides drawing the architectural designs for his three story English Tudor style mansion Henry S. Plummer planned and developed beautiful spacious lawns, gardens and rock gardens on different levels of the property.

The exterior of this mansion is faced in limestone except for the second and third stories which are faced in stucco and brick with half timbers. Most of the limestone used in the construction of this mansion was quarried directly from this property. The steep-sided hipped roof is constructed of slate. Dormer windows decorate the third story.

Main entry to the mansion is gained through an oak door constructed in the Tudor arch motif. This door leads onto a magnificent reception hall. The floors of this hall are colorfully tiled and the walls are constructed partially of oak panelling and partially of white carrera marble. The formal living room, library and dining room are accessible from the reception hall. The formal living room, which spans the width of the main floor, is panelled in maple. Above this panelling is a frieze which contains decorative designs of molded plaster. The vaulted ceiling is also constructed of molded plaster. The library and dining room are panelled in maple. In addition to these rooms the main floor contains numerous sunrooms, closets, and an extensive kitchen and pantry.

To the right of the reception hall as you enter the mansion is an oak balustraded staircase which contains intricate scrollwork designs. Ten spacious rooms are distributed on the second floor, including bedrooms, sunrooms, and a sitting room. As on the main floor these rooms all retain the Plummers' original furnishings, paintings and decorative pieces. Of particular note is the profusion of ornate Oriental rugs throughout the house.

The third floor of the mansion contains a grand sized ballroom which the Plummers' used when entertaining large groups of people.

Noteworthy features throughout the mansion include eleven foot ceilings, five massive fireplaces, leaded glass windows designed in the Tudor arch motif, beautiful wood paneled walls, and interesting work of art.

(see continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1917 - present

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science/medicine | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1917 Dr. Henry S. Plummer began construction of this house which he named Quarry Hill. The construction of this English Tudor mansion was completed in 1924. Plummer personally formulated the plans for the spacious mansion and all its constructional and artistic details.

Dr. Henry S. Plummer has generally been honored as the real genius of the Mayo Clinic. As a medical colleague of both Dr. Plummer and the Doctors Mayo once stated -- "The Mayos created the clinic. Henry made it tick." Dr. Plummer joined the Mayo brothers in 1901 as a member of the Mayo Clinic's permanent staff. He was hired to supervise the laboratory of the Clinic and immediately set about reorganizing and revolutionizing the workings of the laboratory. He was a motivating power in the development of clinical and laboratory research. Plummer initiated electrocardiography at the Mayo Clinic, determined the establishment of the laboratory of basal metabolism and its accessory functions, the organization of the laboratory of biochemistry, to mention only a few phases of the research program. His vision was an important contribution to the scope of medical education which prevails in the Mayo Foundation today.

As a clinician, Dr. Plummer was superb; he was a student of thyroid disease, and differentiated the adenomatous from the exophthalmic goiter. He inaugurated the preoperative use of iodine which decimated the surgical mortality diseases of the thyroid. Plummer was the first at the Mayo Clinic to call attention to and emphasize the fact that organic disease neurosis were commonly co-existent in the same patient. He taught the modern concept of hypertension at least fifteen years before it was universally understood and accepted. Perhaps Plummer's most far-reaching medical accomplishments were in the field of radiology; he was a pioneer in the development of x-ray diagnosis and therapy.

Dr. Henry S. Plummer was an architect, a building contractor, and an engineer, as well as a superior clinician and medical investigator. He designed the buildings, the hospital laboratories, and the clinics in which the Mayo staff worked. "In designing Mayo Clinic buildings he studied the workings of the Clinic, the role of medicine, surgery and the laboratory, coordinated the whole, and devised the means whereby all could work together most harmoniously and effectively."¹ He introduced the patient history sheet, the envelope, the desk system for each unit, the records, and the filing system. The Mayo Clinic was run on the "Plummer system" which has become the prototype for all ensuing clinics working on the group system. (see continuation sheet)

1. Leonard G. Rowntree, M.D., Amid Masters of Twentieth Century Medicine, p.286

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Clapesattle, Helen, The Doctors Mayo, (Mpls.: 1941)
Physicians of the Mayo Clinic and the Mayo Foundation, 1923 and 1937,
 (Mpls.: 1923 and 1937)
 Rowntree, M. D., Leonard, Amid Masters of Twentieth Century Medicine,
 (Springfield, Ill.: 1958)
 Willius, M. D., M. S., Frederick A., Henry Stanley Plummer: A Diversified
Genius, (Springfield, Ill.: 1960)

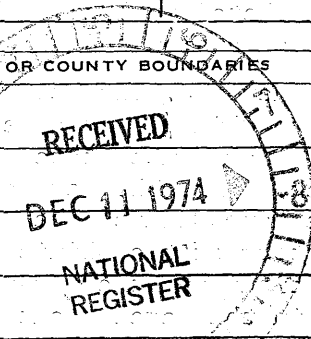
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . . "	0 . . "		44 0 00 . 37 . "	92 0 28 . 47 . "	
NE	0 . . "	0 . . "				
SE	0 . . "	0 . . "				
SW	0 . . "	0 . . "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Lynne VanBrocklin, Survey Specialist

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Historical Society DATE: 5 November 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Russell W. Fridley
 Russell W. Fridley, Director
 Title: Minnesota Historical Society

Date: December 7, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Cannally
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

MAY 21 1975

Date: _____

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5/20/75

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Olmsted	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 21 1976

(Number all entries)

7. Description

In 1968 the house and approximately eleven acres of land were conveyed to the Rochester Art Center by Daisy Plummer. During 1969 a trust agreement was established to assist with maintaining the property. In December of 1971 the city of Rochester assumed ownership of the land and began maintenance of the grounds. The Park Board has recently named the area Plummer Gardens and have instituted plans to maintain the grounds as a formal garden. The building has received very limited use during the past three years. Recent improvements to the house have included city water line installation, construction of a fire escape from the third floor, water sprinkling system installation, and demolition of the greenhouse. These alterations have not altered the integrity of the house.

8. Significance

Dr. Henry S. Plummer was a member of many medical organizations, the American Medical Association, the American College of Physicians, the Southern Minnesota Medical Association, the Minnesota Pathological Society and the Medical Library Association, to name only a few. He was chief of the Division of Medicine, The Mayo Clinic, and professor of medicine, the Mayo Foundation, until his death. He received the degree of D. Sc. honoris causa in June, 1935, from Northwestern University.

Without Henry S. Plummer the Mayo Clinic would not exist in the form it does today nor in the buildings it inhabits. His accomplishments in the field of radiology, thyroid disease, hypertension and in the field of architecture are closely tied with the success of the Mayo Clinic. The Plummer House, which he designed and resided in during his most productive working years, is worthy of national recognition.

