

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Washington
COUNTY:	Klickitat
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	DEC 31 1974

DEC 31 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Maryhill Museum ~~of Fine Art~~

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 669, Box 23 *SW of Goldendale on 65 177*

CITY OR TOWN:
Goldendale *WA*

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
#4 - Honorable Mike McCormack

STATE: Washington CODE: 53 COUNTY: Klickitat CODE: 039

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 type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

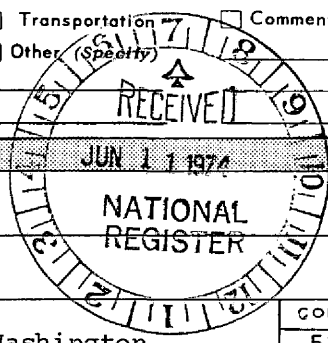
OWNER'S NAME:
Maryhill Museum of Fine Art

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 669, Box 23

CITY OR TOWN:
Goldendale

STATE:
Washington

CODE:
53



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
Klickitat County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:
Goldendale

STATE:
Washington

CODE:
53

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
STATE:
CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

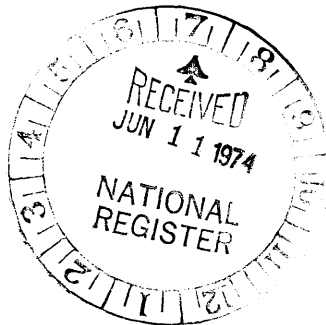
Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A stately building perched on a bluff over 800 feet above the Columbia River, the Maryhill Museum of Fine Art is located in a desolate area of the state far from any population center. Its appearance on the edge of the Columbia Gorge has been described as incongruous and unexpected as "a cowboy entering Windsor Castle with spurs jangling", but with a dignity that fits the grandeur of its surroundings.

The museum is a moderately sized two and a half story building in a Renaissance Revival style with long approach ramps on the east and west leading to entrances on the second floor. The regularly placed second floor windows are tall and rectangular with entablatures; those above and below are fitted with iron grilles. A balustrade rests upon a predominant cornice and two chimneys extend from a low roofed structure on the flat roof of the main building.

The building is a stucco covered rectangle of reinforced concrete, 65 feet by 80 feet. No exterior changes have been made although the interior was completed as a museum space rather than a residence as originally intended.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

#7 - Description
Maryhill Museum of Fine Art

The structure was developed by the architectural firm Hornblower and Marshall of Washington, D.C. The firm also designed the Tuckerman House, the Phillips Gallery, the Iraqi Embassy, the Museum of Natural History, Marine Barracks and Commandant's House (additions) and the Lothrop Mansion, all in the city of Washington.

An unusual feature of the building is the use of long, gently sloping approach ramps to the east and west entrances, each ramp terminating in a circular terrace some 60 feet in diameter. Rising about five feet above the surface of each terrace is a circular skylight about 25 feet in diameter; slit windows in the side provided light for interior spaces below although the windows have now been blocked. The flat top surface of the skylights once served as a large planter but earth and plants have long since been removed. The ramps and terraces are evidence of Sam Hill's interest in the automobile; they are in effect roadways which would bring visitors to Maryhill directly to the massive double doors of the east and west facades and enable them to leave with the same convenience. In the late 1930's the east ramp was paved with small square tiles to eliminate leaks into spaces below the ramp; the west ramp surface was not finished and was covered with tar and composition material. Only the east ramp is used by the public. The ramps and terraces are visually well joined to the main structure by a drip course or moulding which forms a band running from the ramp entrances and indicating the roadway elevation, across the circular terraces and above the windows on the lower floor. The line is interrupted only by small balconies projecting from the outside windows on the north and south walls.

Although not in any sense a tall building, it is equipped with an elevator, the only structure so furnished in this particular county. A shaft for a second elevator was provided but no elevator was installed; shaft positions are marked by towers rising from the roof on the east and west sides. Hip roofs cap the towers and associated equipment structures and a large rectangular base for the two chimney stacks. The roof of the base is concrete finished to resemble shiplap, apparently a technique to provide adequate seating and placement for roofing tiles. The purpose of the base is totally visual and intended to eliminate unpleasantly spindly chimney stacks; it is finished only on the three sides from which it can be seen and is completely open on the south.

The structure remains largely as built but the concrete has suffered from what appears to be a combination of frost damage and cement failure. Large portions of the finished surface on the west ramp have spalled off exposing a coarser aggregate below; repairs have not been always successful. In an attempt to provide protection for the entire structure, the building was sprayed with gunite shortly after World War II.

The Maryhill Museum is placed on the southern portion of an estate of some 5,000 acres. It was intended that a colony be established in the area and the land would be put to cultivation. Sam Hill believed that the country was perfect for vineyards and although the colony never began, grape arbors and peach orchards were established as well as ornamental plantings and wind breaks. Some of these plantings do remain although they have been replaced in many instances

#7 - Description
Maryhill Museum of Fine Art

with other materials. The present nomination includes the structure and approximately 34 acres of grounds in the immediate vicinity which were cultivated or planted in various ways. The acreage is justified in that it had been planted in the past in accordance with Hill's plans and that the structure and grounds form a cogent and unified visual whole.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1914

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 type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The Maryhill Museum of Fine Art was designed as a home for enigmatic Samuel Hill, lawyer, financier, road builder and humanitarian. It was, however, to be known as a road builder that Hill was most proud. He was founder of the Washington Good Roads Association and organizer of the world's first Good Roads Association. Hill was the vital force in the construction of the original Columbia River highway and with characteristic thoroughness, he sent Samuel Lancaster, engineer for the project, to study highways in Europe. Stone masons were imported from Italy to construct the bridges and tree surgeons were employed to heal damage to trees injured during construction. Samuel Hill served on President Hoover's Food Relief Program following World War I, and was asked by the Russian government to consult on the Trans-Siberian Railroad project. These efforts led to his friendship with Queen Marie of Romania, granddaughter of Queen Victoria, and granddaughter of Czar Alexander II.

Hill built Maryhill (named for his wife, daughter of James J. Hill, Great Northern Railroad tycoon) as a home in which to entertain his school friend King Albert of Belgium. America's entry into World War I led to a halt in construction and Maryhill was never used as a residence. Hill was a close friend of Adolph Spreckels of San Francisco and he emulated his friend by establishing a museum at Maryhill in the manner of the DeYoung Museum and the Legion of Honor in San Francisco. Hill invited Queen Marie of Romania to dedicate the building, which dominates the landscape, as a Museum. On November 3, 1926, the first reigning queen to visit the United States dedicated the building to beauty, and as a symbol of international peace, which would house an international collection of art. It was opened to the public on May 13, 1940. The Museum collections contain original bronze and plaster casts by Rodin, Tanagra figures donated by the Queen of Greece, antiquities from Crete, European and American paintings of the 19th and 20th Centuries, the Royal Romanian throne from the Summer Palace, and primitive art.

The building has inspired a great deal of comment from visitors and writers. It is so incongruous with its bleak surroundings that it is universally called a castle although its appearance is far more that of a Roman-Tuscan design of the Renaissance Revival than anything as formidable in scale and weight as a castle. Some have called it a Flemish castle, others a "German Gothic-type castle", and at least one has dismissed it as a "barnlike hall".

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Clipping file, Portland Public Library

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

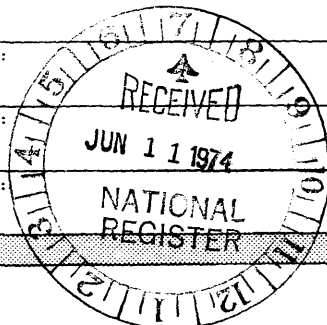
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		45 ° 40 ' 40 "	120 ° 51 ' 47 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
10/666400
5060250
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than one**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Mr. Robert Campbell**

ORGANIZATION: **Friend of Maryhill Museum** DATE: **March 14, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER: **11312 S.W. Riverwood Road**

CITY OR TOWN: **Portland** STATE: **Oregon** CODE: **41**

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: Charles H. Odegaard
 Charles H. Odegaard
 Title: Director - Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
 Date: June 7, 1974

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

Robert M. ...
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: DEC 31 1974

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of the National Register

Date: DEC 31 1974

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

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COUNTY Klickitat	
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(Number all entries)

#8 - Significance
Maryhill Museum of Fine Art

Hill himself piqued similar attempts at classification and with even less success. As one person familiar with regional history has commented, "one knows as much about Sam Hill as Sam Hill wished one to know"; certainly few sources contain the same information about the man. Described as a direct descendant of Cromwell's Minister of Finance Samuel Hill, Hill had a variety of professions and handled them all with alacrity. His facility in transportation is well demonstrated and probably began with his experiences in the Great Northern and the close contact to James J. Hill by his marriage to Hill's daughter Mary. He has also been claimed as a Quaker and responsible for an unsuccessful attempt to bring 6,000 sect members to the State of Washington. Quaker or not, his interest in peace as well as his fondness for royalty made him a figure of prominence in the state. He has been called a "citizen of the world", "an unpaid public servant.... [working]....for the common benefit of mankind", a legend, a genius and a "....raving American eccentric with a penchant for building ramshackle monuments to pipe dreams." If peace be a pipe dream, then Sam Hill is guilty: near Mary Hill he built a full scale replica of Stonehenge as a reminder of the sacrifices of many during World War I and on the Washington-Canadian border, he promoted the construction of a gateway 70 feet tall -- the Peace Arch -- commemorative of the peaceful relations between the U.S. and Canada. The Peace Arch, Stonehenge, Maryhill and his home in Seattle are monuments all, but hardly ramshackle. In an apparent carry-over from his concern for good roads, all are built of reinforced concrete.

