National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received JUN | 6 1987 date entered JUL | 6 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Riverside

and or common Daly Mansion

2. Location

street & number Eastside Highwav N/A not for publication N/A vicinity of Hamilton city, town Montana 030 Ravalli 081 code county state code Classification 3. **Ownership** Status **Present Use** Category X public _ district _ occupied agriculture <u>X</u> building(s) ___ private _ unoccupied commercial park _ structure __ both _X_ work in progress educational _ private residence **Public Acquisition** Accessible _ site entertainment _ religious _ object X yes: restricted _ scientific in process government being considered __ yes: unrestricted industrial _ transportation N/A military other: no 4. **Owner of Property** Montana Historical Society name 225 North Roberts street & number Helena N/A vicinity of Montana city, town state Location of Legal Description 5. Ravalli County Courthouse courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. 105 Bedford street & number Hamilton Montana state city, town **Representation in Existing Surveys** 6.

7. Description

fair

| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----|
| excellent _X good | deteriorated | X_ unaltered | X_original site moved date | N/A |
| yoou | | ancieu | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

unexposed

Riverside is the country estate of Mrs. Margaret Daly located in southwestern Montana. The elegant Georgian Revival syle mansion with its grand portico and classical detailing was designed by the prominent Missoula architect, A.J. Gibson, for the widow of copper magnate Marcus Daly. Completed in August, 1910, the house is sited on a slight rise overlooking the Bitter Root Valley and the Bitter Root Mountains to the west. The mansion stands as the center of the 22,000 acre Daly-owned Bitter Root Stock Farm. In addition to the main house, a playhouse, a laundry and servants' building, greenhouse, swimming pool with change houses, a tennis court, and miscellaneous outbuildings are included within the nominated boundaries. Entrance to the estate is from the Eastside Highway and is defined by an ornate cast iron fence and gates set between brick piers topped with concrete finials. The house sits at the end of the 2200' maple and linden-lined drive. Included in this nomination are approximately 20 acres of landscaped grounds designed by the firm of Holm and Olson of St. Paul. Approximately 1/2 mile to the north of the estate, and not included in this nomination due to separate ownership, are additional landscaped grounds surrounding a large brick coach house, barns, small wood frame residential buildings, and other farm related outbuildings.

The Georgian Revival style Daly House is two and one-half stories with an Lshaped plan. The main rectangle measures 97' X 47' with a 42' X 49' wing to the west. The verandas extend the house to 122' X 68'. A one-story, mansard-roofed addition to the south dates to 1913. The house is constructed of buff-colored Hebron (North Dakota) brick with extremely tight mortar joints. The roof is hipped and covered with slate-simulated, asbestos shingles. The roof deck was topped with a balustrade (now in storage). A wide cornice with a frieze, dentils, and scroli-like modillions surrounds the house. Most windows are 1/1 double-hung (a change from the architectural plans which called for 12/1) with flat lintels and sandstone sills. Extensive porches and verandas almost completely surround the house. The house sets on a full concrete basement.

The main (east) facade exhibits formal symmetry with a four-columned, two story portico. The pediment encloses a half-circle lunette. Four gabled dormers with round-arch windows and exaggerated wooden keystones project from the roof. The facade has five windows to each side of the entry on each floor and a pair of windows over the entrance. The double mahogany entrance doors are flanked by sidelights and a transom of leaded glass set in a classical surround. An open veranda with balustrade (currently being removed for restoration) crosses the entire front of the house and is supported on brick skirting with decorative ventilation openings.

The north, west, and south sides of the house are all irregular in elevation. The front veranda wraps around both sides, terminating on the north with a portecochere and on the south with an enclosed sunporch. A covered porch and open veranda fit into the ell of the west side and provide outdoor dining areas. The covered porches with modified Ionic columns support decks off the second floor. The balustrades have been removed. The service entrance at the northwest corner is a simple arcaded porch.

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The interior of the house has seen few changes since its construction. The interior was decorated by the Baltimore firm of Hurlburt and Hurlburt in the Colonial Revival style. Throughout the first and second floor, the woodwork is painted a light ivory with wallpapers and stretched silks in soft shades of gold, brown, and green. Doors are of mahogany with round and faceted crystal knobs. The seven marble fireplace fronts are in varying designs.

Entrance from the portico is into a large reception hall with a balustraded stairway to one side. A music room (labeled parlor on the original architectural drawings) and living room open to the south. The enclosed sunporch to the south of the living room is accessed from a double pair of casement doors and in turn provides access to the trophy room. The northern portion of the house is made up of two bedrooms, an office, two bathrooms, the porte-cochere entrance hall, a morning room, butler's pantry, kitchen, rear stairway, servants' dining room, and pantry with walk-in coolers.

The reception hall stairway leads to the second floor sitting room. This floor has ten family and guest bedrooms, eight bathrooms, and two servants' bedrooms. The third floor includes the billiard room, four additional guest bedrooms with three bathrooms, five servants' bedrooms, a sewing room, storeroom, and two servants' bathrooms.

To the south of the house extending from the sunroom was a pergola of evenly spaced modified Ionic columns supporting an open framework. The pergola has been removed, but the concrete walk and steps still lead through a landscaped gully and back up to an open lawn where the swimming pool and tennis courts are located. The swimming pool (called "the plunge" by the family) is surrounded by a lattice fence painted white. Within the fence, a concrete walk surrounds the pool. Evenly spaced along the pool, and extending into it in half circles, are supports for large planting urns. A gable-roofed seating area, open on three sides, is centered along the south fence with wood frame, gable-roofed changing rooms to each side.

The back lawn, or terrace as described on the landscape plans, is raised above a lower lawn. A 300-foot long retaining wall of river stones, topped by a concrete balustrade and pierced by three sets of stairs, divides the two lawns. The lower lawn is surrounded by a chain link fence with a sprinkler system incorporated into the top rail. An elongated, clover leaf-shaped lily pond was designed to be centered in the lawn (if it was constructed, it no longer exists). Undulating concrete curbs provide raised planting beds around the perimeter.

To the south, a path leads to the playhouse and a boathouse, and on through cast iron gates to the "Duck Preserve," a ten acre manmade pond. The pond is not included in this nomination because it is under separate ownership. The playhouse is a three-room, wood frame, children's house constructed at threequarters scale. The house has a cross-gabled roof with jerkin heads; the gable

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ends are filled with fish scale wooden shingles. The facade has a full length porch with chamfered posts and a balustrade with square balusters, two one-overone, double hung windows and a central door. The kitchen of the playhouse was supplied with modern appliances, ca. 1960, to serve as a caretakers' house, but otherwise has seen little change. The house has a bedroom to the right of the entry, a living room to the left, a small bathroom behind that, and a kitchen behind the bedroom. The boathouse is a semi-buried, gable-roofed building of concrete and wood frame construction with a pair of swinging garage doors and an entrance door located in the west end.

To the north of the mansion, and separated from it by a hedge is the laundry and servants' building. The two-story, wood framed, shallow, gable-roofed building is entirely shingled. Half-circle colored glass windows taken from an earlier house are set in the gable ends. The east side has six evenly spaced double hung windows and the west side has five windows and one door on the second floor. A full length balustraded balcony runs across the westside of the building. Accessed by an exterior stair, it provides entrance to the second floor servants' rooms. Entry into the double-loaded corridor is gained through a small common space. The second floor contains eleven small rooms. The ground floor provided space for the laundry and lawn equipment. Entrance to the laundry is under the balcony. The laundry equipment shown in a 1942 photograph is still in place along with various architectural pieces from the original house. Double doors on the north provide access to a garage. A single door also provides access to a small room containing a single water closet.

To the north of the laundry and servants' building is the greenhouse. The westerly portion is a rectangular, gable-roofed building of brick, which matches the house. Beneath this room is a concrete basement containing a boiler. Three greenhouse bays extend to the east. The glass has been removed from the roof, which has been sheathed and covered with asphalt shingles.

To the west of the greenhouse are two wood frame structures joined by a lattice fence. The westerly most building is the ice house and the easterly building is a garage. A wood frame outhouse is located between the two buildings.

The construction history of the mansion is shrouded in local legend and conflicting newspaper accounts. A major question which has not been clearly resolved is whether the present Georgian Revival house is actually a remodeling of the earlier Queen Anne style house, which itself may have been a remodeling of a yet earlier house. The earliest photographs of the Daly-occupied house from the early 1890's show a house with one wing with Stick style characteristics and the remainder with Queen Anne style characteristics, supporting claims that in 1889 Daly remodeled and enlarged the previous owner's house. Later photographs of this house show extensive exterior modifications including an arcaded addition, wrap-around porches, and an additional corner turret. In 1909, the local newspapers announced Mrs. Daly's intention to construct a "mammoth

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residence." The newspaper articles noted her intention to incorporate the old house into the new construction for its "many pleasant associations."¹ Other newspaper articles report the house being or having been removed.² The original architectural drawings for the Riverside house do not clarify the controversy. They make no mention of existing materials, but also, provide no explanation for a difference in wall materials shown on the plans. Physical inspection verifies a difference in wall thickness, possibly indicating older walls. Whatever the final resolution of the construction history of the house may be, the mansion today bears no semblance to the earlier Queen Anne style house.

² The Ravalli Republican, August 2, 1909, p. 1. August 26, 1910, p.1.

¹ <u>The Ravalli Republican</u>, April 23, 1909, p.1.

8. Significance

| 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 | Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture x architecture art commerce communications | community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement | Iiterature IIItary IIIItary IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII | science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| Specific dates | 1910 | Builder/Architect A.J. | Gibson, architect | |

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Riverside, or the Daly Mansion as it is more commonly known, is significant as an unusual, early 20th century expression of the tremendous wealth and resultant social status enjoyed by the family of one of Montana's preeminent mining magnates of the previous century. This "country home" - definitely opulent by Montana standards - was built by Margaret Daly, widow of the Butte "copper king" Marcus Daly, and remains today the finest high style, Georgian Revival residence in the region. The estate grounds contribute to the significance of the property and are also the only known, professionally-designed, residential landscape of the period in Montana.

Architectural Significance

Riverside, is a unique example in Montana of the turn-of-the-century historic period revival styles, used at their ultraism by America's "captains of industry" as immoderate displays of their wealth. The mansion was described by the decorators from the Baltimore firm of Hurlburt and Hurlburt as the "finest mansion in the West." Although that and the similar encomium by the architect can be challenged, Riverside does rank with the finest residential architecture of the Northwest -- most certainly in the context of summer residences. Today it stands as one of the most intact examples of the period. The house, the interior decoration, the professionally landscaped grounds, and the appurtenant structures remain virtually unchanged from their ca. 1910 designs.

Riverside was designed by the prominent Missoula architect, A.J. Gibson, in the Georgian Revival style, complete with a monumental, classical portico, symmetrical facade, hipped roof, and balustraded roof deck. The choice of the restrained Georgian Revival style likely says much about the business acumen of Mrs. Daly and the appearance she wished to present to the world as one of the nation's wealthiest widows.

In retrospect, the architectural design of Riverside may represent a compromise between the two very different worlds in which Mrs. Daly lived. The house is sufficiently refined and elegant to accommodate the tastes of her socially elite guests, yet not so ostentatious as to offend rural Montanans. In fact, Riverside is dwarfed in comparison to the palatial, French Barogue style "confection" built in New York City by William Andrews Clark, Daly's perennial foe in the war of the copper kings, or the Newport summer "cottages" of Mrs. Daly's social circle. Nevertheless, Riverside is, by a considerable margin, the largest residence ever built in Montana.

Although late 19th century mining profits produced a plenitude of Victorian period mansions in Montana, such exuberant expressions of wealth abruptly ceased with the passage of the Silver Purchase Act in 1893. Great fortunes were lost

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

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| 10. Geographi | cai Data | ····· | | |
| Acreage of nominated property _ Quadrangle name Hamilton N UTM References | 46.56 orth | | Quadrangle | scale 1:24,000 |
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| 11. Form Prep | ared By | | | |
| name/title Mrs. Kathleen C | ook/Lon Johnson | | | |
| . D- 1 . M D | reservation Trus | st | e May 6, 1987 | |
| - 3 | | | (400) 000 | 3-1781 |
| street & number | | tele | phone (406) 36. | 5-1701 |
| city or town Hamilton | | sta | te Montana | ·· · |
| 12. State Hist | oric Prese | ervation C | Officer Ce | rtification |
| The evaluated significance of this | property within the s | tate is: | ** | • |
| national | _Xstate | local | | • • |
| As the designated State Historic I 665), I hereby nominate this prop according to the criteria and proc | erty for inclusion in th | e National Register a | nd certify that it has | |
| State Historic Preservation Office | r signature | marcal | - Derly | |
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| title SHPO | | | dafe | June 12, 1982 |
| For NPS use only I hereby certify that this pro | perty is included in th | e National Register | | • |
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| Keeper of the National Regist | | 7485 D DAW | date / | |
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during this financial panic as a result of the depressed metal prices, along with the free-wielding confidence that inspired grandious residential construction in Montana. When large scale mining resumed at the turn-of-the-century, it was most often backed by out-of-state capital and resulted in an out-flow of profits. The Daly family, as opposed to the majority of the 19th century mining magnates, was not perceived by Montanans as having abandoned the State with their wealth. Riverside stands as an most unusual, post-19th Century monument to the tremendous fortunes gleaned from the Montana mining frontier.

Historical Background

The economic, political, and social history of late-nineteenth century Montana is irrefutably linked to Marcus Daly and his attempts to dominate the world copper markets. Marcus Daly's arrival in America as a penniless Irish immigrant and the story of his rise to fortune has become legend in the West. He made Butte, Montana famous as "the richest hill on earth," and founded the town of Anaconda where he built the largest smelter in the mining world. Daly began buying land in the Bitter Root Valley in 1887, eventually holding 28,000 acres. An avid horse lover, Daly believed that horses trained and exercised at high altitudes would develop the stamina to outrun those trained at lower elevations.³ The Bitter Root Stock Farm was home to Daly's world renowned stables. In 1889, Daly constructed (or remodeled) a large Queen Anne style house on the Stock Farm for his family,⁴ ending speculation that they would locate in Anaconda. Coinciding with Daly's expansion into the Bitter Root Valley were his business dealings which, over the period of one decade, propelled him to the presidency of the Standard Oil Company-controlled Amalgamated Copper Company. Daly's position at the head of one of the world's most powerful corporations ended with his death on November 12, 1900.

Little is written of Daly's widow, Margaret, their four children, and the family's international social connections, forged by wealth and marriage. Locally, Daly was often credited with construction of Riverside, although Margaret actually had the mansion built as her country home ten years after Marcus' death. Newspaper reports around the time of construction of the mansion indicate that Margaret Daly was actively involved in managing the local family properties,⁵ and, one might also assume the remainder of her late husband's estate. She spent winters in New York City and each summer at

³ Rudy Kratofil, Thesis.

⁴ Corvallis <u>New Idea</u>, February 2, 1889, p. 3.

⁵ See <u>The Ravalli Republican</u>, June 18, 1909, July 23, 1909, August 27, 1909, and November 5, 1909.

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Riverside. She died at the mansion on July 14, 1941.⁶

The Daly wealth permitted the family to associate in the most elite social circles throughout the world. The Daly's daughter Mary, married James W. Gerard, a New York attorney, in 1901. Gerard served on the New York Supreme Court and as Ambassador to Germany from 1912 until the United States entered World War I. Mr. and Mrs. Gerard formed a "family syndicate" with Mrs. Daly and Marcus Daly II to invest in mining ventures and to further the family's financial status. Mr. Gerard states in his autobiography that while in New York, Mary usually visited her mother three times a day, and "stayed with her [mother] during the summer at her [mother's] estate in the Bitter Root Valley of Montana, which her mother loved, but which was hardly a substitute for the stimulating social life of Europe or Newport." When Franklin Roosevelt offered Mr. Gerard the post of Ambassador to the Argentine Republic, he declined because of Mrs. Daly's dependence on his wife, and because "Mrs. Daly refused to go to Argentina, and since we couldn't leave her." He also turned down the post of Ambassador to Russia, Dut did serve many years as an arbitrator under the Bryan Arbitration Treaty.⁷

In 1910, Harriet Daly married Count Anton Sigray, "a magnate of Hungary and a hereditary member of the upper house." Count Sigray was later head of the Monarchist Party, which tried to restore rulership of the royal family during World War II. In 1944, a speech by Count Sigray in the Hungarian Upper House in favor of peace was considered to be anti-German by the Nazis and he was imprisoned, first in Hungary, and later in the Austrian concentration camp at Mauthausen. Harriet remained on the family's estate in Hungary even though the house was first occupied by Germans and later by Russians. She eventually fled to the United States where she joined Count Sigray who had been released by the advancing American army.⁸ The couple's daughter, Countess Margit Sigray participated in the resistance efforts against Nazi control of Germany and provided protection for some of the famous Lippizaner stallions rescued from Austria after the Nazi occupation. She came to the United States in 1946, aiding Hungarians fleeing their country after the Russian occupation. She shared her grandfather's love of horses, eventually acquiring total ownership of the Bitter Root Stock Farm. She married Baron George B. Bessenyey, another Hungarian refugee, in 1958.

6 The Ravalli Republican, July 17, 1941, p. 1.

⁹ Ravalli Republic, October 26, 1984, p. 1.

⁷ James W. Gerard, <u>My First Eighty-Three Years in America</u>, pp. 83-85,135,154,323-324.

⁸ Gerard. pp. 144-145.

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Marcus Daly II was the director of a variety of the Daly estate companies. He was an international trophy hunter; the trophy room addition to the mansion exhibited many rare and exotic heads. He died on a hunting trip in Virginia in 1930. If this only son, Marcus Daly III became a ward of his grandmother and spent summers at Riverside. Margaret Augusta Daly married H. Carroll Brown, a Baltimore banker. She died in 1911.

¹⁰ Anaconda Standard, November 11, 1930, p.1.

¹¹ The Ravalli Republican, May 5, 1911, p. 1.

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Gerard, James W., <u>My First Eighty-Three Years in America</u>. Garden City, NY: Double Day & Co., 1951.

Kratofil, Rudy, "Copper Kings." History 300, Montana State College, Seminar paper (unpublished manuscript), Winter, 1957.

Newspapers

Anaconda Standard, (Anaconda, Montana), November 11, 1930.

The Daily Missoulian, (Missoula, Montana), September 3, 1942.

- New Idea, (Corvallis, Montana), February 2, 1889.
- The Ravalli Republican, (Hamilton, Montana), April 23, 1909, June 18, 1909, July 23, 1909, August 2, 1909, August 27, 1909, November 5, 1909, August 26, 1910, May 5, 1911.
- Ravalli Republic, (Hamilton, Montana), October 26, 1984.

For general histories of Marcus Daly, see:

- Freeman, Harry C., <u>A Brief History of Butte, Montana: The World's Greatest</u> <u>Mining Camp</u>. Chicago: The Henry O. Shepard Company, 1900.
- Glasscock, C.B., The War of the Copper Kings: The Builders of Butte and Wolves of Wall Street. New York: Grosset & Dunlop, 1966.
- Malone, Michael, P., <u>The Battle for Butte: Mining and Politics on the Northern</u> <u>Frontier, 1864-1906</u>. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1981.
- Malone, Michael P. and Richard B. Roeder, <u>Montana: A History of Two Centuries</u>. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1980._

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The boundary of the nomination is the entire land area owned by the Montana Historical Society and includes the main house, all related domestic structures, and the professionally landscaped estate grounds described as that portion of the north half of section 19, Township 6 North, Range 20 West, P.M.M., wholly within the County of Ravalli, State of Montana, described as follows:

Commencing at the Northeast Corner of Section 19, T6N, R2ØW, P.M.M.; thence $S\emptyset^{0}14'51"$ W along the Section Line a distance of 1463.41 feet; thence N $89^{0}45'09"$ W a distance of 50.00 feet to a point on the west right of way line of the Eastside Highway (Star Route 269) and the BEGINNING; thence S $30^{0}13'25"$ W a distance of 45.54 feet; thence S $86^{0}54'40"$ W a distance 65.40 feet; thence N $65^{0}05'40"$ W a distance of 1597.71 feet; thence N $29^{0}19'49"$ E a distance of 355.00 feet; thence N $58^{0}21'27"$ W a distance of 221.92 feet; thence N $64^{0}19'16"$ W a distance of 193.36 feet; thence N $11^{0}32'29"$ E a distance of $32^{0}05'09"$ W a distance of 193.46 feet; thence N $69^{0'}28"$ W a distance of 133.46 feet; thence S $21^{0}06'38"$ W a distance of 770.06 feet; thence S $59^{0}48'32"$ W a distance of 225.63 feet; thence S $28^{0}49'14"$ E a distance of 288.26 feet; thence S $87^{0}28'33"$ E a distance of 601.62 feet; thence S $66^{0}45'48"$ E a distance of 78.56 feet; thence S $65^{0}14'21"$ E a distance of 2006.18 feet to the aforesaid west right of way line of the Eastside, Highway; thence N $0^{0}14'51"$ E along said right of way a distance of 750.84 feet to the BEGINNING. Containing 46.56 acres, more or less.



Corres.