

PH0012131

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

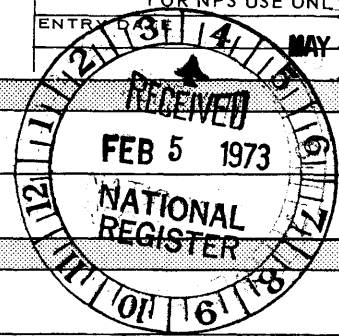
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Florida

COUNTY:
Duval

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE: **FEB 5 1973**



1. NAME

COMMON:
Epping Forest

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Alfred I. duPont Estate

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Christopher Point, off San Jose Blvd.

CITY OR TOWN:
Jacksonville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Fourth District

STATE: Florida CODE: 12 COUNTY: Duval CODE: 031

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
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 checked="" 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:
Estate of Jessie Ball duPont

STREET AND NUMBER:
1524 Barnett National Bank Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Jacksonville

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Duval County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Jacksonville

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

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

STATE: Florida

COUNTY: Duval

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: MAY 9 1973

DATE: _____

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

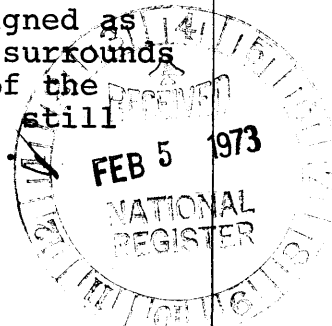
Epping Forest is an impressive stuccoed structure built in the eclectic Spanish-Mediterranean style which was popular in Florida in the 1920's and 30's. The house occupies a prominent place amidst beautifully landscaped grounds and it has a commanding view of the St. John's River. There are extensive docking facilities in the river in addition to a large boathouse. Other structures located on the grounds include a five-car garage with servants quarters above, a pumphouse and a guest house. Elaborate fountains, walkways and railings are found throughout the terraced gardens.

All buildings are constructed in like manner, with stucco exteriors and barrel tile roofs. The plan of the main house is an elongated rectangle with the main halls running north-south. The first story contains large living and dining rooms, library, porches and extensive food preparation quarters and pantries. On the second floor are the bedrooms, each with its own bath.

The exterior of the building has an abundance of surface ornamentation such as is found in the Spanish Plateresque style. The main facade is embellished with heraldic devices and bas relief decoration. Windows are haphazardly placed and in some cases protected by iron grilles. A square tower is the focal point of the main facade. It houses the main entrance which actually takes the form of a portal. Spiral columns on bases flank the doors and support a hood mould with heraldic motif below. At the tower's midpoint a blind ogee arch frames two round arched windows which are glazed. The tower is pierced at the top by triple ogee arches occurring on all four sides. The upper one third of the tower is defined by wide cornice mouldings which wrap like bands about it. Wrought iron lanterns hang on either side of the doorway. The double doors are heavy hand carved wood with the tympanum above being filled with a wrought iron grille. To the left and right of the tower a pavilion projects from the wings. This portion of the building is embellished with a small balcony with iron railing, French doors flanked by columns, heraldic motifs and a round window with tracery.

The interior of the house is as elaborately designed as the exterior. Massive ceiling beams, tile fireplace surrounds and a marble hall and staircase add to the grandeur of the structure. A portion of the duPont art collection is still kept in the house as well as the original furnishings.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

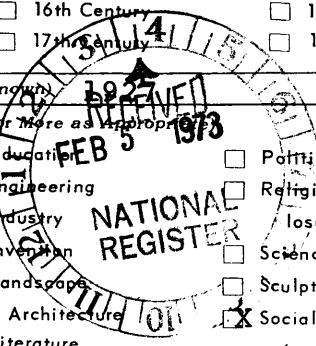
Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century

15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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/Phi-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy	<u>Associated with</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>the life of a</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	<u>prominent indivi-</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	<u>dual.</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Epping Forest was designed for Alfred I. duPont in 1927 by Harold Saxelbye, a prominent Jacksonville architect. The house was built at the time of Mr. duPont's marriage to Jessie Dew Ball, and was occupied by them until the time of their respective deaths. The plans and drawing for the house are currently in the possession of Saxelbye, Powell and Roberts, Architects.

Alfred Irene duPont was born May 12, 1864, the great-great-grandson of Pierre Samuel duPont de Nemours, the French statesman and founder of a distinguished American family, and great-grandson of Eleuthere Irene who established the powder mill which grew into one of the largest explosives companies in the world. Alfred attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and subsequently entered the family's powder works. After thoroughly learning the process for the production of explosives he applied his mechanical ingenuity to the improvement of the machinery and processes employed. In 1890 he purchased a tenth interest in E. I. duPont de Nemours and Co. and when the business was incorporated in 1899 he was elected a director of the company. His interest having extended beyond the explosives industry, duPont withdrew from its management in 1915 after having greatly increased the company's assets.

During the depression, Alfred I. duPont brought new enterprise to Florida. After many vacation visits to the State, he established his legal residence here in 1926. At the time there were many valuable properties available to large investors at fairly low prices. In 1926, duPont bought huge quantities of timberland in West Florida which became the basis for the present St. Joe Paper Company. In addition, he acquired control of the Florida National Bank in Jacksonville and in 1929 he became the principal owner of a group of Florida banks. In 1930 when "the banking structure of the state was tottering on the edge of near ruin", duPont had the resources to protect his banks from the crisis. duPont's entry into the banking field was seen by many as a cause for economic upturn in the State. During this period, he was one of the largest single investors in Florida real estate and he is credited with

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

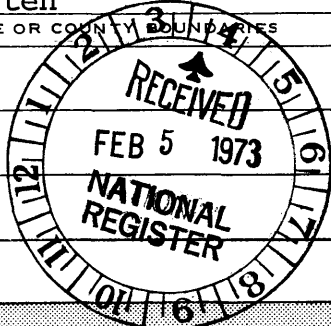
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds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

N 30 ° 14 ' 55 " W 81 ° 38 ' 26 "

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than ten**

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



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Diane D. Greer, Historic Sites Specialist

ORGANIZATION: **Division of Archives, History, & Records Mgt.** DATE: **August, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Department of State, The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 *Robert William*

Title State Liaison Officer

January 3, 1973

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

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

Date 5/9/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date 5 7 73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Florida	
COUNTY	Duval	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		MAY 9 1979

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

-2-

having increased property values in Florida by many millions of dollars.

During Mr. duPont's later life he was involved with many projects of a philanthropic nature. He gave vast sums of money for the care and treatment of crippled children. Alfred I. duPont died at Epping Forest on April 29, 1935.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Florida	
COUNTY	Duval	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		MAY 9 1970

(Number all entries)

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Duval County Courthouse, Jacksonville, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Duval County Records. (Subgroup: deeds).

James, Marquis. Alfred I. duPont, the Family Rebel. New York: The Bobbs--Merrill Company, 1941.

Saxelbye, Harold (Architect). Original drawings in possession of Saxelbye, Powell and Roberts, Florida National Bank Building, Jacksonville, Florida.

Tebeau, Charlton W. A History of Florida. Coral Gables, Florida: University of Miami Press, 1971.



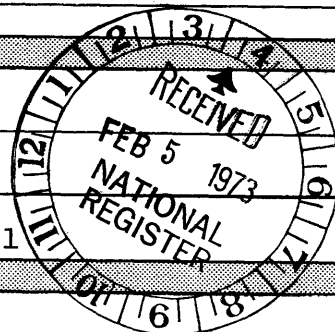
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Duval	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 9 1973

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Epping Forest			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Alfred I. duPont Estate			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Christopher Point, off San Jose Blvd.			
CITY OR TOWN: Jacksonville			
STATE: Florida	CODE 12	COUNTY: Duval	CODE 031
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: USGS Orange Park Quadrangle			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1964			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



ORANGE PARK QUADRANGLE

FLORIDA

MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NW/4 ORANGE PARK 15' QUADRANGLE

46°44' 1 SE (ARLINGTON)

40'

437

SOUTH JACKSONVILLE (U.S.)

4.7 MI.

R. 27 E.

439

300 000 FEET

81° 37' 30"

30° 15'

Christopher Point

SAN JOSE

San Jose

2 150 000 FEET

GOODBYS 2.8 MI.

HP 7CC

FEB 5 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER

RIVER



Towers Piney

Piney Point

Black Point

ST JOHNS

Huckley 2

Beaulerc Bluff

Beaulerc Gardens

Water Tank

3 MI.