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:		
West Virginia		
COUNTY:		
Kanawha		·.
FOR NPS USE ON	1L.Y	
ENTRY DATE		

	JUL 2 4 1974
NAME	
COMMON: Sunrise	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	
MacCorkle Mansion	
LOCATION	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
746 Myrtle Road	
	SSIONAL DISTRICT:
Charleston	ird
STATE CODE COUNTY:	
West Virginia 54 Ka	nawha 039
3. CLASSIFICATION	
CATEGORY	STATUS _ ACCESSIBLE
(Check One)	TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District 🖫 Building ☐ Public Public Acquisition:	X Occupied Yes:
☐ Site ☐ Structure 🔀 Private ☐ In Process	Unoccupied K Restricted
☐ Object ☐ Both ☐ Being Considered	Preservation work Unrestricted
	in progress No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)	
Agricultural Government Park	☐ Transportation ☐ Comments
Commercial Industrial Private Residence	Other (Specify)
⊠ Educational	Cinei (Specify)
Entertainment X Museum Scientific	
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME:	<u> </u>
Sunrise Foundation, Inc.	West
STREET AND NUMBER:	
746 Myrtle Road	Ħ
746 Myrtle Road	TE: CODE
CITY OR TOWN:	
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City or town: STA-Charleston We	est Virginia 54 2.
City or town: Charleston 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Kanawha County Courthouse	est Virginia 54 2.
City or town: Charleston United States Charleston Courthouse, registry of deeds, etc:	est Virginia 54 2.
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				(Check One)		
CONDITION	Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	□ Deteriorated	Ruins	☐ Unexposed
CONDITION		(Check On	e)		(Che	ck One)
DESCRIBE THE PRESE	☐ Altere		▼ Unaltered		☐ Moved	🕱 Original Site

Sunrise is a long, three-story stone mansion. Its gabled roof is dotted with dormers and chimneys and surmounts an intricate, but wide, cornice which gives the illusion that the house is smaller than it actually is. The Georgian structure rests on a bluff overlooking the Kanawha River, and from the northern portico one can see nearly the entire city of Charleston. On this northern side are four magnificent Doric, or neo-classic, columns which support the cornice and ashlar-finished pediment. In the center of the pediment is a six-sectioned lunette; a small second story wrought iron balcony is on each side of the frontispiece.

At first glance, the southern exposure appears similar to the northern one, but there are several important differences. The windows toward the north are symmetrically placed around the frontispiece while those to the south are not; an unmatched, large second story window with sidelights and an overlight rests in the western side of the southern portico. Of still greater difference are the types of stones used to comprise the south facade. These were collected by Governor MacCorkle while on his travels through the United States. Each has been carefully cut to fit into the building, and each is engraved to show its origin.



SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More a	s Appropriate)		
☐ Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	18th Century	🔀 20th Century
15th Century	☐ 17th Century	☐ 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applica	able and Known) 1905 (Bu	ilt)	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (C	heck One or More as Appropria	nte)	
Abor iginal	Education	▼ Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	Science	
X Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
☐ Communications	☐ Military	☐ Theater	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sunrise, a thirty-six room mansion surrounded by fifteen acres, was built in 1905 by West Virginia's ninth governor, William A. MacCorkle (1857-1930). Its architecture is somewhat significant because of the unusual collection of stones used in its construction; considering the public prominence of its builder and many of its guests, Sunrise is also politically significant.

The Virginia-born MacCorkle graduated from Washington and Lee University in 1879, and he immediately began to practice law in Charleston. Gaining political prominence, he was elected governor of West Virginia in 1892 at the age of thirty-five, the youngest chief executive in the state's history. A few years after his term expired he built his beautiful home overlooking the Kanawha River and metropolitan Charleston. MacCorkle did not simply retire behind Sunrise's unusual facade, however, for he served a term in the State Senate and wrote several books.

Just as those who visit the mansion today are impressed by the beauty of the building, so must have been those who visited Sunrise in the early 1900's when it was the showplace of the entire Kanawha Valley. Among the most notable visitors were Adlai Stevenson, Vice President under Grover Cleveland; Josephus Daniels, Secretary of War during the presidency of Woodrow Wilson; James L. Corbett of fisticuffs fame; Al C. Fields, noted minstrel of his day; William Jennings Bryan, prominent political figure, advocate of free silver, and special prosecutor in the Scopes trial; John Philip Sousa, world renowned composer-bandmaster; "Billy" Sunday, the great evangelist; and Evangeline Booth, national commander of the Salvation Army.

When he built his mansion, Governor MacCorkle incorporated in its construction stones he had collected throughout the United States, each carefully cut and engraved to show its origin. The interior of Sunrise is not to be outdone by the exterior. For example, the paneled livingroom is two stories in height and holds a very unusual fireplace, most of its seventy-five stones having come from places as widespread as London, Egypt, China, Rome and Versailles.

In 1961 Sunrise Foundation, Inc., was formed for the purpose of purchasing the mansion and grounds. The plans were successful, and as a result, the Sunrise of today is one of the most frequented attractions of the Kanawha Valley.

GPO 931-894

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES					
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