"Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

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#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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The Textile Museum							
AND/OR HISTORIC:	7.7						
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STREET AND NUMBER:							
2310-2320 S Street,	N.W.						
CITY OR TOWN:			CONGRESSION	AL DISTRICT: Congi	cessman		
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXIS							
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ter of Historic Pla	ces recommende	d by the	Joint Com	nittee on Land	marke	-	ENTRY NUMBE
DATE OF SURVEY: March	7, 1968	▼ Federal	State		] Local	12	3
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CONDITION	_	(Check Or	1e)		(0	theck One)	
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Textile Museum is located on the south side of S Street, N.W., on land sloping downward to the west. Most of its neighbors are brick colonial revival houses. Several of them house embassies. The museum occupies a large lot, 175' wide and 195' deep, and consists of two red brick colonial revival houses connected by a second story, limestone faced bridge. South of the houses are large gardens and a brick garage facing Decatur Place. The two story garage, 75' by 20', is not visible from the houses. There is approximately a 30 foot drop from the garden level to the street at Decatur Place and the garage acts as a partial retaining wall.

The larger of the two houses, 2320 S Street, was erected in 1908 and designed by Wood, Donn and Deming. This building now contains museum exhibition space, administrative offices, a library, and storage areas. The house is typical of many colonial revival buildings where the colonial revival decoration is out of scale with the late Victorian proportions employed. The house is very large, 88'3" wide and 46' 3-1/2" deep. Due to the sloping character of the land the north (S Street) facade is 3-1/2 stories high while the south (garden) facade is only 2-1/2 stories. At the west is a stair wing constructed at the same time as the house. This wing which is 6'8" wide and 28'8" deep has a flat roof located 34' above the sidewalk at the eaves of the mansard roof of the main block. The wing's west wall is attached to the Woodrow Wilson House, a colonial revival house built in 1915 and now a National Historic Landmark. At the east a bridge at the first story level connects 2320 S Street with 2310 S Street. The bridge which has a segmental arched opening on the ground level was probably constructed in 1925.

The brick house has a concrete foundation with three brick footings. Walls are laid in Flemish bond. Trim is white Indiana limestone.

The S Street (north) facade is symmetrically divided into 9 bays excluding the one bay wide west wing. The ground or basement story is faced with Indiana limestone with smooth ashlar bonds and quoining at the corners. There are eight 6/6-light basement windows with metal grills. floor is 3'9" above the sidewalk and a plain cornice with Greek fret separates the first story and the basement. There is a stone string course approximately one foot above the cornice. The first story has eight 8/8light windows with shaped lintels. Between the first and second story windows are rectangular panels with carved garlands. The second story has 6/6-light windows with shaped lintels. Both first and second story windows have louvered shutters. The roof is broken by eight hipped dormers with 6/6-lights and a larger, central, hipped dormer with triply-divided window. The cornice has a full entablature with modillions and dentils. The facade's dominant feature is a slightly projecting 15'6" wide, central pavilion with pedimented, one-story, stone entrance porch, 8'9" wide. The porch has two free-standing Doric columns. The porch is bordered by 4/4 light windows flanked by flat Doric pilasters supporting a full entablature. Above the entrance porch, on the first and second stories of the pavilion, is an ornate triply-divided window with limestone trim. Ionic pilasters separate

(Continued on Form 10-300a)

S	IGNIFICANCE			
T	PERIOD (Check One or More as Ar	opropriate)		
	Pre-Columbian	16th Century	☐ 18th Century	🔀 20th Century
	☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	·
ľ	SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	and Known) 2320 S	St., erected 1908;	2310 S St., 1912-13
- [	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check	k One or More as Approp	oriate)	
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İ	Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
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	Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
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-	Communications	Military     Military	Theater	
	Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Joint Committee on Landmarks has designated the Textile Museum at 2310-2320 S Street, N.W., a Category II Landmark of importance which contributes significantly to the cultural heritage and visual beauty of the District of Columbia. The two houses in which the museum is located are elaborate colonial revival designs. They illustrate the popularity of the colonial revival style in the early 20th century and are symptomatic of that age's desire for architectural order and symmetry. The larger house, 2320 S Street, was erected in 1908 by Mrs. Martha S. Tucker. This nine bay wide house, designed by the Washington firm of Wood, Donn, and Deming, lacks the proportions and scale of colonial architecture. It is typical of many colonial revival buildings where classical details are awkwardly combined with Victorian scale. In contrast, the house erected in 1912-13 by George Hewitt Myers is a sophisticated, carefully proportioned design. house at 2310 S Street was designed by the well-known architect, John Russell Pope, and illustrates the refinement and elegance possible in a colonial revival design.

The property on which the Textile Museum is located was vacant until 1908 when Martha S. Tucker built her house designed by Wood, Donn and Deming at 2320 S Street. This firm, foundedin 1902, designed a number of important Washington buildings including the Masonic Temple (1908) and the Union Trust Building (1907). The house's building permit states that it was to cost \$43,000 and that Frank L. Wagner at 1413 H Street, N.W., was its contractor.

From 1910 to 1916 the house at 2320 S Street was owned and occupied by the Samuel Hills.

In 1912-13 George Hewitt Myers built his home at 2310 S Street. The building permit states that the house was to cost \$62,000 and its builder was W.P. Lipscomb and Company. The house was designed by John Russell Pope (1873-1937), one of the United States' most distinguished architects. The Myers House is a product of Pope's early career when he was designing a number of refined country and town houses. Pope is best known for his later, more monumental structures such as the National Archives Building, the National Gallery of Art, and the Jefferson Memorial. Nearly all of Pope's designs are in the Classic tradition.

(Continued on Form 10-300a, page 3)

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFEREN	
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Assessments, Atlas, Directories, and Newspaper Clippings. Washingtoniana Collection. D.C. Public Library.

Blueprints, plans, and scrapbooks. The Textile Museum. Columbia Real Estate Title Company. County Cases, Square 2517.

District of Columbia. Building Permits, 2320 S Street, N.W.: No. 446.

	Aug. 5, 1908; 2310 S Street, N.W.: No. 2841, Dec. 5, 1912.														
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# JUN 1 2 1973 NATIONAL REGISTER

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## JUN 1 2 1973 PHATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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. Description - Textile Museum

the 9/9 light central opening from narrow, four light openings. These pilasters carry a full entablature with cushion frieze and dentil cornice and a broken scroll pediment with central oval window and carvings of cornucopiae.

The principal feature of the end (east and west) facades are the paired gable chimneys. On the east side yellow brick is used on the basement level. It is laid with channels to simulate stone.

The garden facade has been greatly altered. On the first story most of the openings have been bricked in. Some second story windows have also been changed. The roof is broken by seven hipped dormers which are not aligned with second story openings. There are few decorative features and the brick work is of a lesser quality than that of the main facade. Decorative features include the cornice, a belt course between the first and second stories, and a brick and stone balustrade around the terrace. The basement extends under the terrace.

The interior has been extensively modified in the adaptation of the house to its functions as a textile museum. Openings have been bricked-in to create additional display space. In the western part of the house part of the second floor was removed to create a balconied, two story high exhibition gallery. Interesting features include colonial revival Adamesque mantels and the low ceiling basement lobby with colonial revival trim and spiral stairs leading to the main floor.

The more architecturally significant of the museum's houses is 2310 S Street. This handsome three story, red brick building was designed by John Russell Pope and erected in 1912-13. It has a concrete foundation and a full basement. Walls are laid in Flemish bond and trim is white limestone. The 60'4" by 54' building is symmetrically divided into three bays on the north, east, and south facades. The west facade has irregular fenestration. The house is 50'3" high and has a flat roof covered with slag. The roof is hidden by a brick parapet.

The main (S Street) facade has as its focal point the central slightly projecting entrance porch with Palladian window above. This central motif is carefully integrated into the total design so that the effect of the house is one of geometric order and balanced proportions. Emphasis is given to the base, or the first story, by quoining at the corners and around the porch. The first and second stories are separated by a string course. The second and third stories read as a unit and are separated from the parapet by a full entablature cornice. Two centrally located chimneys increase the symmetry of the facade. (There is also a chimney at the east.) All windows have wooden louvered shutters. First and second story windows have metal balconies. The

(Continued on Form 10-300a, page 2)

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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(Number all entries)

7. Description (Cont.)

first story windows have shaped lintels with carved garlands and rosettes. Second story windows have shaped lintels with rosettes. The smaller, third story windows have brick flat arches with limestone keystones.

The garden facade is similar to the street facade except the central motif has been modified. It has a two-story recessed porch accented by an open arcade of similar proportions and arrangement as the porch and Palladian window of the street facade. The garden facade of the Woodrow Wilson house has a similar arrangement and the two houses complement each other.

The interior of 2310 S Street is well preserved and has outstanding panelling in first floor rooms. The first floor has a central hall plan with two rooms on each side and a stair hall at the west. The kitchen was in the basement, but has been remodeled into a textile storage area. The second and half of the third floors were used as family and guests bedrooms. The half of the third floor nearest S Street was servants quarters. Today the first floor is occasionally used for lectures and exhibits. The second and third floors have administrative offices and storage space.

The garden of 2310 S Street is laid out formally in geometric designs and is bordered by brick arcades with lattice in their open arches. The garden, or yard, of 2320 S Street is informal. Both houses are near the street and their front yards are largely paved.

The garage is behind 2320 S Street but was designed by Pope and built at the same time as 2310 S Street. It now houses a textile conservation laboratory.

The museum hopes to build a building behind 2310 S Street and facing Decatur Place. This building would house a new laboratory and more functional exhibition and storage space. The plan is to use the first floor of 2310 S Street as reception areas and use its other floors and 2320 S Street for administrative offices and museum services. The gardens of the two houses are to be joined.

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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8. Significance - Textile Museum

Myers (1875-1957) was a director of Mergenthaler Linotype Company and one of the founders of Y.E. Booker and Company, an investment banking firm which merged in 1943 with Alexander Brown and Sons. While a student at Yale he began collecting rugs and became a prominent collector of non-European rugs and textiles.

In 1925 Myers opened the Textile Museum in 2320 S Street. He had purchased this house in 1916 and until 1925 Adolph C. Miller occupied it. In 1925 part of the house was occupied by Myers' mother.

In 1957 Myers left the building at 2320 S Street and his textile collection to the Textile Museum. On his wife's death in 1960 the Myers House at 2310 S Street was bequeathed to the museum.

The museum, which is open to the public, houses an extensive collection of textiles from the Near and Far East and from North and South America. It has a research library on textiles and changing exhibitions. The former garage serves as a fabric conservation laboratory.

#### 9. Bibliography

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Williamson, S.H., ed. Who's Who in the Nation's Capital. Washington: Ransdell, 1929-30, p. 526; 1934-35, p. 671.

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