

YLR: 5-16-72  
NRHP: 4-2-78

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Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>VIRGINIA</b>	
COUNTY: <b>RICHMOND ( IN CITY)</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**MAYO MEMORIAL CHURCH HOUSE**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**TAYLOR-MAYO HOUSE**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**110 W. Franklin Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Richmond (David E. Satterfield, III, Third District Congressman)**

STATE <b>Virginia</b>	CODE <b>51</b>	COUNTY: <b>(in city)</b>	CODE <b>760</b>
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**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"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<b>Church offices</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY** **Mr. E. Holcombe Palmer, Secretary**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Diocese of Virginia Episcopal**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**110 W. Franklin Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Richmond**

STATE: <b>Virginia</b>	CODE <b>51</b>
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Richmond City Hall**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Richmond**

STATE: <b>Virginia</b>	CODE <b>51</b>
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1957**  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Library of Congress**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**WASHINGTON**

STATE: <b>D. C.</b>	CODE <b>11</b>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: VIRGINIA

COUNTY: RICHMOND (in city)

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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
	(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

Facing south from the northeast corner of the intersection of Franklin and Jefferson Streets, the Mayo Memorial Church House is set into a narrow front yard enclosed by a decorative cast iron fence. Executed in stuccoed brick, the house is a two-story residence covered by a low hipped roof. The five-bay facade is dominated by a three-bay two-story Ionic portico. The bays flanking the portico were originally one story in height but were later raised to two. The portico's pediment encloses a delicately corrugated tympanum with a dentil cornice. The triangular design is echoed beneath the porch in the pediments over the first-story bays. On the second floor the windows are topped with console-supported cornices which are suggested in the flat hood moldings of the paired windows flanking the portico.

The symmetry of the portico's design is broken by the location of the entrance in the eastern bay. The east bay of the portico is approached by a sidewalk paved in black and white marble diamonds which lead from the lyre-patterned gate to the granite steps. The double door of the main entrance is emphasized by flanking pilasters and a pediment of slightly larger dimensions than those of the windows.

On the sides of the house, two-over-two sash windows light the full-basement while one-over-one sash is used in all other openings. The east side is six-bays long and is crowned by two paneled chimneys with molded caps. The opposite side of the house extends eight bays, the four rear bays of which project one bay from the house's side. The rear of the building is covered by a complex of enclosed porches.

Although the interior plan of the house has been altered, the basic layout of the main part includes three front rooms with a hall located between the east and middle room. The hall is separated from the vestibule by an elaborate partition with colored lights. Double sliding doors lead into the two rooms which flank each side of the hall, and the rooms on the far west side of the building must be entered from the rear. The wall between the two rooms on the west side of the hall has been taken out and the rooms on the hall's east side have been divided for office space.

The focal point of the hall axis is the elaborately carved Neo-Renaissance stairway executed in quartered oak. A carved griffin serves as a newel post to support the splayed curves of the mammoth handrail. The staircase is initiated by a short flight which rises to a low landing where the stairs then turn at a forty-five degree angle and climb east along the back wall. In this manner the carved balusters of the closed stringer are well displayed. The stairhall itself is fully panelled on both floors and is edged by a coved ceiling decorated with a plaster rinceau depicting griffins and Bacchus. The entire stairwell is lighted from above by a leaded skylight.

Another outstanding feature of the interior is the lavish use of exotic woods. The original interior was replaced during the 1880's by Peter H. Mayo who remodeled the house in the most elegant contemporary style. Throughout the interior the great panels of the doors are conceived in mahogany, olive, walnut, oak, and bird's-eye-maple. These woods are also used in elaborate Empire-scale hood moldings that frame the doors and the one-over-one sash windows. Much of the woodwork, however, has been painted over in recent years. Although most of the fireplaces have been filled in, the mantels of one first floor and two second floor fireplaces remain. The floors of the major rooms display various woods in their intricate parquet borders.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**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 type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1845**

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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	losophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although the motifs of the Greek Revival style were widely used in Richmond's nineteenth century architecture, only two private residences are known to have been constructed in the Greek Temple form. Built in 1845 and elaborately renovated during the 1880's, the Mayo Memorial Church House is the only one of these to survive.

Samuel Taylor purchased the block of land on the northeast corner of Franklin and Jefferson Streets in 1841. Four years later he built the present Greek Revival house for his son William F. Taylor who sold the property to Walter K. Martin in 1872. Martin lived in the house for eleven years and then sold it to Peter H. Mayo.

The second period of building was initiated in 1884, the year after Peter H. Mayo, one of Richmond's wealthiest tobaccomen, purchased the title to the house. Mayo, having reestablished the family tobacco fortune following the ruin of the War Between the States, was in a position to purchase and renovate this fine house. Fortunately the integrity of the original exterior design was maintained. While the original one-story wings were raised to two stories, the sash altered and a long addition made to the west side, the Greek Revival facade retained the two-story Ionic portico.

Mayo devoted most of his attention to the house's interior. An article entitled "The Finest Residences" featured in The Sunday State, on January 31, 1886, describes the condition of the house following renovation: "The handsome exterior is overshadowed by the elegant and costly-finished interior, which is of polished hardwoods. The parlors, library and dining-rooms are in mahogany. The main stairway is in quartered oak; the chambers in olive-wood, walnut, bird's-eye-maple, mahogany and oak. The bathrooms are finished in cherry and walnut, and the pantry in walnut. In the main story the inlaid flooring of different colored hardwood gives a beautiful finish to the rich surroundings."

After many years of association with the Mayo family, the house was given by Mr. Mayo's daughters Mrs. Benehan Cameron and Mrs. Thomas N. Carter to the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia to be used for various church functions. It is maintained by the church today.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Munford, Robert Beverley, Jr., Richmond Homes and Memories, Richmond: Garrett & Massie, Inc., 1936.  
 Scott, Mary Wingfield, Houses of Old Richmond, New York: Bonanza Books, 1941.  
 Scott, Mary Wingfield, Old Richmond Neighborhoods, Richmond: Whittet & Shepperson, 1950.  
 Files of Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission.

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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37 °	32 ' 42 "	77 ° 26 ' 43 "
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than ten acres.

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: May 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

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 James W. Moody, Jr., Director  
 Title Va. Historic Landmarks Commission  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation*

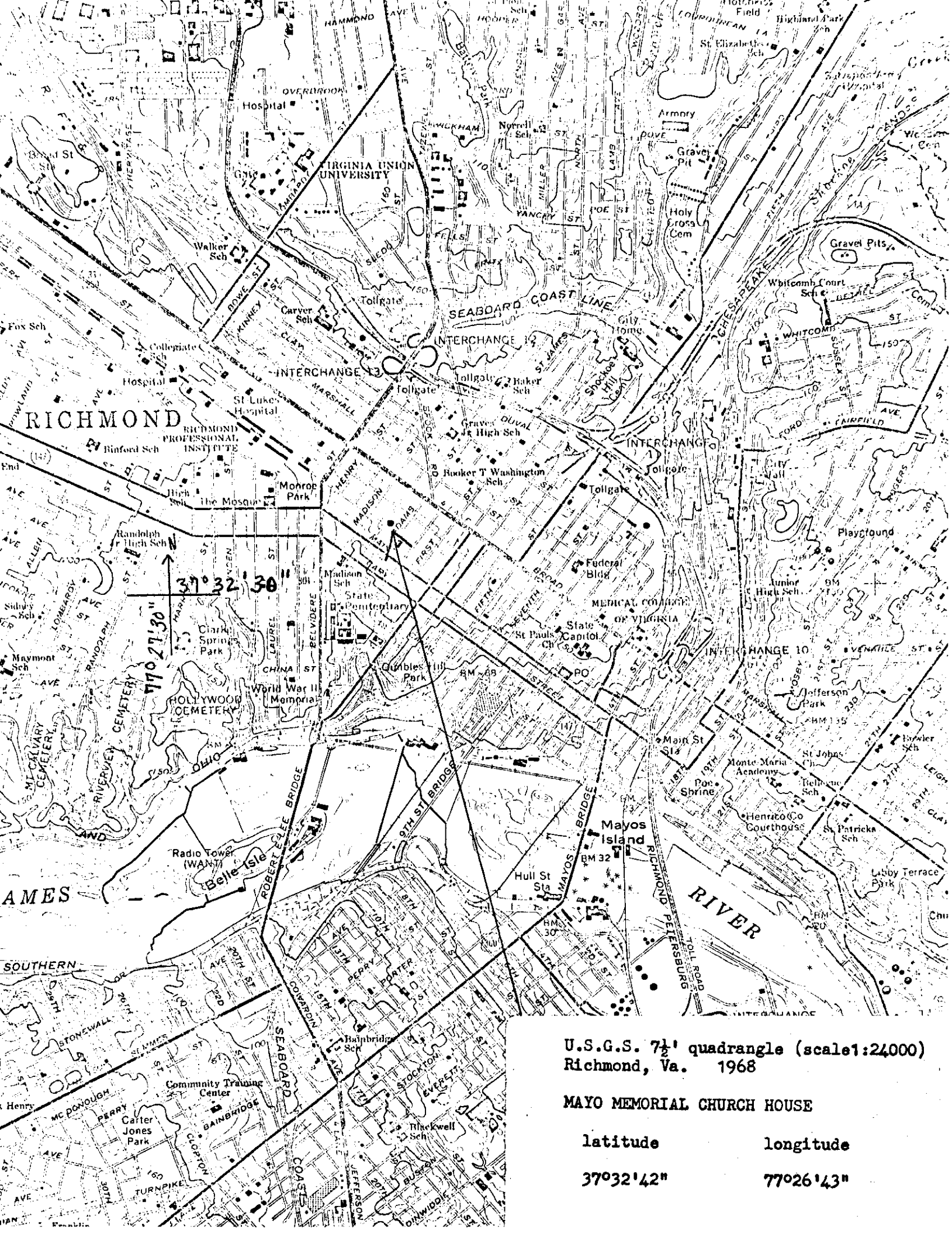
Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Keeper of The National Register*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (scale 1:24,000)  
 Richmond, Va. 1968

MAYO MEMORIAL CHURCH HOUSE

latitude	longitude
37°32'42"	77°26'43"