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7.	DESCRIPTION								•
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Rosedale, a frame eighteenth century house with four rear wings, is located on a hill in the Cleveland Park section of Washington on a block bounded by Newark Street on the south, 34th Place on the east, Ordway Street on the north, and 36th Street on the west. Standing in spacious grounds surrounded by trees and boxwood this rambling house has the quality of a country farmhouse not often found within Washington's boundaries. In the late 1960's a brick, two-story dormitory was erected near the house and today the older building is slightly in front of and in the courtyard of this U-shaped dormitory. The dormitory is visually subordinate to Rosedale and, due to this and the large terraced front (south) yard, the house retains a secluded, rural setting. Adjacent to Rosedale's grounds are freestanding residences and visible from the south windows of the house is the tower of the Washington Cathedral.

The wings give Rosedale an informality and a rustic charm which are enhanced by its setting and yellow painted weatherboard and rubble walls. The two story, rectangular main block was built before 1794. The longer axis of this 53' by 15' mass is the east-west one. Attached at the west rear (north side) of this block are a series of wings. The first is a two story frame The second is a narrow one and one-half story frame one which links the building with two stone wings, probably of an earlier date. The first stone wing is one and one-half stories while the second is one story. pole of the gable roof of the first frame wing is at the height of that of the gable roof of the main block. The ridge poles of the gable roofs of the other wings are successively lower. All sections have simple boxed cornices. The frame wings are approximately 23 feet wide, except the west wall of the narrow wing was moved out after 1920. The stone wings are approximately 22 The total length of the rear additions is around 75 feet.

The main block has the symmetry and order usual in Federal period archi-It also has a vernacular character reflective of its rural location when constructed. The one story porch with shed roof extends the length of the five bay wide south facade and is a distinctly rural feature. brick floor of recent origin separates this porch with six slender square columns on pedestals from the yard around it. ightharpoonup Opening onto the porch is the central doorway with a four-light transom and windows with nine-over-nine The second floor windows have six-over-six lights. Each gabled end has a brick chimney with one step and two horseshoe-shaped vented caps. east end has one window with four-over-four lights on either side of the chimney on the first story. The west end has no windows south of the central chimney but north of it has one window on the first story and one on the second. Because of the wings, only the east part of the rear facade is This has no first story openings and on the second story there in one window with six-over-six lights and a grouping of three windows each with six-over-six lights. The grouping of windows was probably added when bathrooms were added on the second floor after 1920.

The first rear wing is believed to have been constructed at the same time as the main block. However, the gabled roof has a much gentler slope than that of the main block and interior woodwork dates from later periods. It is known that some woodwork was modified after original construction. This wing has two interior brick chimneys with mortar caps. The east and west facades each have three bays. The greater space between the most northern bay and

(Continued on Form 10-300a)

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Joint Committee on Landmarks has designated Rosedale a Category II Landmark of importance which contributes significantly to the cultural heritage and/or visual beauty of the District of Columbia. The main house was built around 1793 by Uriah Forrest, one of the nineteen original proprietors of the District of Columbia, a Revolutionary War leader, and a prominent civic leader. The frame house with frame and stone wings retains its vernacular farmhouse character and represents a rare survivor of this type in the District of Columbia.

Uriah Forrest was born in St. Mary's County, Maryland, in 1756. During the Revolutionary War he served as an aide-de-camp to Washington. He lost a leg during the War. He settled in Georgetown where he was a member of the firm of Forrest and Stoddert, tobacco exporters. In 1786-1787 he served as a delægate from Maryland to the Continental Congress. In 1792 Forrest was mayor of Georgetown and in 1793-94 he was a Representative from Maryland.

In 1790 Forrest and Benjamin Stoddert, the first Secretary of the Navy, purchased 990 acres between Wisconsin Avenue and Rock Creek. This land at the time was in Montgomery County, Maryland. The property called "Petty Prospect" by its new owners was originally part of the "Rock of Dumbarton" patented by Henry Darnell, Keeper of the Great Seal of the State of Maryland. The Forrests summered on the property. A small stone house possibly dating from 1740 was already on the property. Around 1793 Forrest built the frame house which he named Rosedale, after the Forrest home in England. Forrest bought out Stoddert and moved his family permanently to Rosedale. Rosedale at this time was located in the country but within reasonable proximity to Georgetown.

The Morris-Nicholson bankruptcy in 1797 hurt Forrest and he had to sell all his land except for 130 acres around his home. Drawn into government service by necessity he was appointed clerk of the circuit court of the District of Columbia in 1801 and held this position until his death in 1805.

After Forrest's death his brother-in-law, Philip Barton Key, brought the 130 acre tract for Mrs. Forrest at a public sale. Mrs. Forrest, the former Rebecca Plater, daughter of the Governor of Maryland, lived at Rosedale for a number of years after her husband's death. Eventually she found the maintenance of the country home too great and moved to Georgetown and rented Rosedale. In 1827 Mrs. Forrest conveyed Rosedale to her daughter, Ann, the wife of John Green. The house was occupied by members of the Green family until 1917. The acreage around Rosedale was gradually sold and in the 1890's this area of the city underwent rapid development.

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

9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGRA	PHICA	LRE	FERENCES								
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	Biographical Directory of the American Congress. "Uriah Forrest." Busey, Samuel. The City of Washington in the Past. pp. 166-168.												
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7. Description - Rosedale

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the next one reflects the location of the chimneys. All openings are windows with six-over-six lights except in the northern bay of the first story of the east facade there is a doorway with transom and the two southern windows of the first story of the west facade have nine-over-nine lights reflecting the more formal function of the room they light. Originally a one-story porch with shed roof was on the west facade but this was removed after 1920. There is one window with four-over-four lights at the east second story corner of the north facade.

The date of the construction of the narrow frame wing which connects the L-shaped two story house with the stone wings is not known. Its east facade has a door with transom and a gable dormer with double windows. The extended west wall now has three windows. The roof on the west side is broken by a gable dormer. On the north facade of the extended area there is a door.

The exact dates of the stone wings are not known. Traditionally they are believed to predate the main block. The south stone addition's brick north wall has a massive chimney with mortar cap. All openings are set in arches in the uncoursed rubble walls. The west facade has a door and a window with eight-over-eight lights. The east facade has a similar window and one with four lights. On the east side the roof is broken by a gable dormer. The final wing also has uncoursed rubble walls. On the west its gable roof extends over a porch. This facade has only one opening, a central doorway. The east facade has a small six-light window at the north and a window with eight-over-eight lights to the south. The rear (north) facade has a small two-light window and a doorway with four lights in the gable. Above the first story there are weatherboards in the gable. The stairs to the doorway there were removed after 1920.

The interior of Rosedale has been modified over the years so that features date from many periods. The main block on the first floor has a central hall plan with one room to each side. The room to the east has a fireplace with black marble surround and an Adamesque mantel with shouldered architrave, frieze with fluting and central panel, and consoles supporting a cornice with dentils. The hall has an open quarter-turn stair with landing and panelling to the dado. The west room has horizontal panelling to the dado and a simple mantel with architrave, frieze, and cornice. This room is believed to originally have had wood panelling. A doorway in the west room opens on the long central corridor of the rear wings.

In the first wing to the east are a bathroom and a room with a crude mantel with Tudor arched opening and bookcases added in the 20th century. At the west is a room with pilastered bookcases added by Avery Coonley after 1920. The chair rail, pilasters, and mantel have bead-and-reel and leaf-and-tongue moldings. The capitals of the pilasters have egg-and-dart moldings. Behind this room is the kitchen. The narrow frame wing contains part of the kitchen and a hallway which runs east-west and has the back stairs at the east. The first stone wing has two rooms separated by a brick wall. In the east room, the original kitchen, a large fireplace and oven are under a brick arch in the south wall. The west room has vertical wood panelling to the dado and on the ceiling. This panelling probably dates from the second half

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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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### 7. Description (continued)

of the 19th century. A curving passage at the ceast connects the kitchen with the store room in the second stone with wing has one large room and two small rooms at the north. In the south wall of the large room there is a battered brick fireplace which shares the chimney of the other wing.

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The second floor plan has been modified by the addition of bathrooms. The ceilings of second story rooms are appreciably lower than those of first floor rooms. The west bedroom of the main block has a simple mantel with architrave, two panels in the frieze, and a mantel shelf. Other rooms have crude mantels probably dating from the mid nineteenth century. Above the stone wings there is an attic.

Rosedale through modification and accretion continues to serve its original function as a residence. The function of its grounds as the residence campus of a girls school should insure that the house retains its appropriate rural setting.

### 8. Significance

Rosedale is connected to Mexican history by the marriage on June 9, 1855, in its parlor of Alice Green to Don Angelo de Iturbide, second son of Don Augustin de Iturbide, the first and last native emperor of Mexico. Alice's son, Augustin, born in 1863, was adopted by Maxmilian, Emperor of Mexico. His parents tried to regain custody of their child and in 1867 after Maxmilian's execution they succeeded.

In 1917 Mr. and Mrs. Avery Coonley of Chicago rented Rosedale. Coonley, a prominent educator and philanthropist, brought the house and approximately ten acres of land in 1920. Coonley died soon after but the house remained in his family until 1959 when Mr. and Mrs. Waldron Faulkner sold it except for three acres to the Protestant Episcopal Church.

In 1933, the house was rented to the Undersecretary of State, William Phillips, and, in 1959 to the Assistant Secretary of Defense, John N. Irwin, II. In 1960, the Episcopal Bishop of Washington, Rt. Rev. Angus Dun, planned to occupy the house until 1962. Since the late 1960's it has served as a faculty residence for the National Cathedral School for Girls and a dormitory has been built on its grounds.

#### 9. Bibliographical References

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