

## Tours

Tours are scheduled every Wednesday during the months of June, July, and August from Noon to 6:00 p.m. Individual group tours of the house and grounds may be arranged by contacting the Parks & Recreation Department at 328-2525.

Group Tour Rates & Wednesday Open House  
Tour Rates will apply.

Hours subject to change.



Foyer

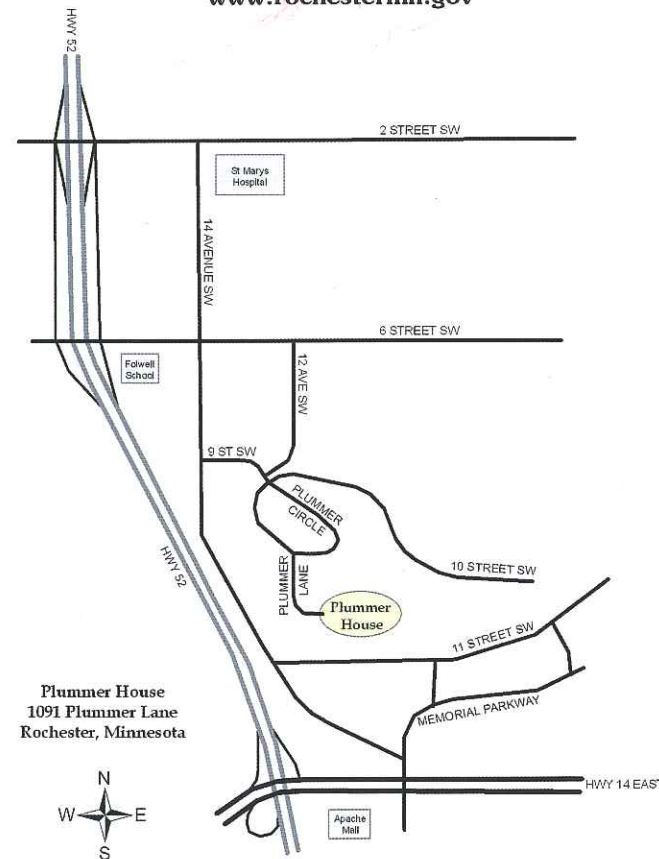


Library

## Interesting Facts and Figures

- The house has 49 rooms, 10 bathrooms, 9 bedrooms, five fireplaces.
- The house is over 300' long and is 5 stories high.
- Innovative features that were built into the house included: central vacuum system, underground sprinkler system, inter-communications system, security system, dumb waiter, electricity and gas lighting, first gas furnace in the city, garage door openers, heated pool, water tower, and many other special features.
- When the house was built the property included 65 acres.
- Twenty-five percent of exterior stone was mined from the property.

**Plummer House of the Arts**  
1091 Plummer Lane  
Rochester, Minnesota  
[www.rochestermn.gov](http://www.rochestermn.gov)



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Rochester, Minnesota



# Plummer House of the Arts

In 1917 Dr. Henry S. Plummer and his wife Daisy, began construction of "Quarry Hill" later to be known as the Plummer House. Dr. Plummer personally formulated the plans for the house which included many innovations that were far advanced for that day and age.

In 1924 the 65 acre estate consisted of the house, greenhouse, water tower, garage and gazebo. Today 11 acres remain and are maintained by the Rochester Parks and Recreation Department.

In 1901 Dr. Mayo asked Dr. Plummer to join the Mayo Clinic staff. This relationship was to last for the next 35 years to the mutual benefit of both parties. Dr. Plummer is given credit for many innovative ideas that were implemented during his tenure. Among the most outstanding was his invention of the pneumatic tube, the communication system, and the record keeping system.

Daisy Plummer, a gifted musician and friend to all, was a remarkable individual in her own right. A concert pianist and patron of the arts, she was very fond of promoting cultural activities in the City.

With Dr. Plummer's death in 1936, Daisy Plummer and family continued to live at the Plummer House until 1969. At that time the house and grounds were given to the Art Center for all to use and enjoy. Three years later the house and grounds were turned over to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Dr. Plummer, once described as "the diversified genius" and Daisy "a patron of the arts" built a home that was always open

to friends and relatives. Today this memory lives on at the Plummer House of the Arts.

## The Grounds

Eleven acres of beautifully landscaped grounds, formal gardens, bird trail, quarry, and water tower highlight the features of this park. The grounds are open to the public from sunrise to sunset.

## Facilities Available

The home serves as a tourist attraction, a facility for weddings, receptions, meetings, instructional classes, and parties. The facility is under the general supervision of the Director of Parks and Recreation. Rental of the house includes the use of the grounds.

## Rental Fees

Fees for rental of the Plummer House may be obtained by calling the Parks and Recreation Department at 328-2525.

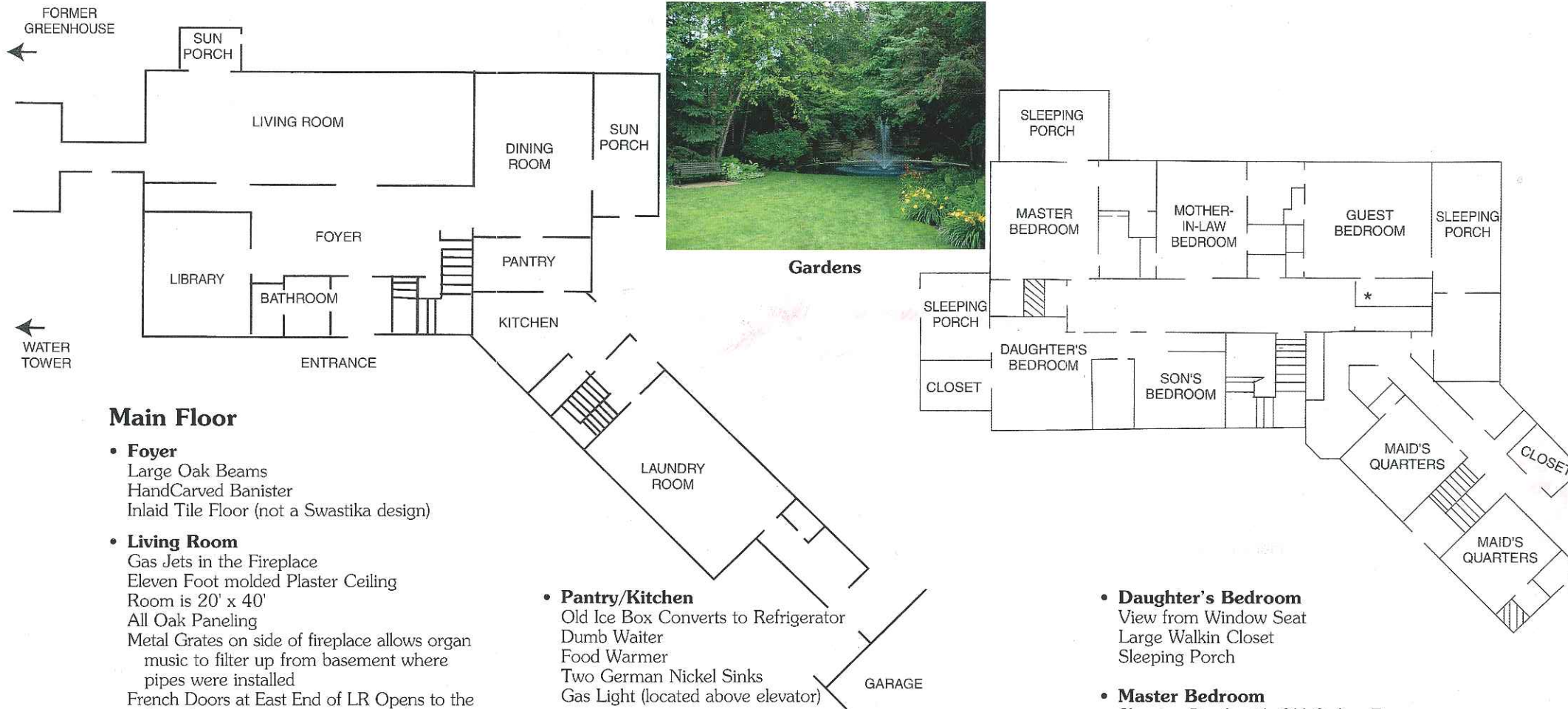
## Self-Guided Tour

A map of the interior of the Plummer House is featured in this brochure. It will enable you to tour the house and inform you as to the location of various rooms and points of interest.



Living Room

# Plummer House - Self-Guided Tour



## Main Floor

- Foyer**  
 Large Oak Beams  
 HandCarved Banister  
 Inlaid Tile Floor (not a Swastika design)
- Living Room**  
 Gas Jets in the Fireplace  
 Eleven Foot molded Plaster Ceiling  
 Room is 20' x 40'  
 All Oak Paneling  
 Metal Grates on side of fireplace allows organ music to filter up from basement where pipes were installed  
 French Doors at East End of LR Opens to the Greenhouse  
 Original Oils (all made to family specifications)
- Study**  
 Carving Around Fireplace  
 Adjustable Book Shelves  
 Control Center (intercom, phone, electricity, page system)
- Dining Room**  
 Radiator Covering made to appear like furniture

- Pantry/Kitchen**  
 Old Ice Box Converts to Refrigerator  
 Dumb Waiter  
 Food Warmer  
 Two German Nickel Sinks  
 Gas Light (located above elevator)

## Second Floor

- Guest Bedroom**  
 Sleeping Porch  
 Trap Door leads to bathroom pipes
- Henry's Mother's Bedroom**  
 later was dedicated to Tom Ellerbe, a renowned architect and close friend of the Plummers, who with Dr. Plummer designed the Plummer House.
- Son's Bedroom**  
 Custom Desk Unit

- Daughter's Bedroom**  
 View from Window Seat  
 Large Walkin Closet  
 Sleeping Porch
- Master Bedroom**  
 Sleeping Porch with Old Ceiling Fan  
 Original Furniture  
 Two Large Walkin Closets  
 Example of Intercom System
- Third Floor Ballroom**  
 Hard Rock Maple Floor  
 Small Closets for Storage  
 Carving on Fireplace Mantel



Courtyard

## Facts About the Plummer Family & Home

Dr. Plummer began working at the Mayo Clinic in 1901 and was there until his death in 1936. He was a physician, architect, tool and die maker and inventor. He set up the record keeping systems at the Mayo Clinic, designed many of the buildings and invented the pneumatic tube.

Daisy Plummer was a gifted musician. Her mother's maiden name was Mayo. Daisy lived at the Plummer House until 1969. She and Dr. Plummer had two adopted children, Robert and Gertrude.

The house is an English Tudor Mansion and was constructed between 1917 and 1924. The roof is made entirely of slate. Today the house, water tower and grounds occupy 11 acres.

There are two caves on the property, one going into the house and the other under the water tower.

The house is now owned by the City of Rochester and managed by the Parks and Recreation Department.

