

PH0022527

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Florida	
COUNTY: Monroe	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973



1. NAME

COMMON:
Dr. Joseph Y. Porter House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
429 Caroline St.

CITY OR TOWN:
Key West

STATE: Florida CODE: 12 COUNTY: Monroe CODE: 087

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"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public 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
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) apartments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Arthur Poirier and Mrs. Caroline Lang

STREET AND NUMBER:
236 Edgewater Drive

CITY OR TOWN:
Coral Gables

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Monroe County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Key West

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1966 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
District of Columbia

CODE:
11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Joseph Y. Porter Home is a mildly eclectic, but uniquely Key West dwelling. It is in excellent condition today due to its constant maintenance. Believed to have been built in 1838, the house is two-and-a-half stories high and rectangular in shape. Foundations consist of brick piers and native quarried lime rock cistern. There is a half cellar of brick. The house has a heavy timber frame and short, hand-driven siding fastened with wrought iron nails. Porches, balconies and eaves all feature heavy timbered brackets. Second level balconies are canopied with wooden roofs. The house has one chimney. The windows are all topped with flat pediments. There are three dormers in the roof with typically wood louvered shutters, floor to pediment. All window openings onto porches and balconies are utilized as doors. The house has a mansard roof covered with V-jointed shingles.

The plan of the house is symmetrical with a main hall leading to the stairway at the center entrance. All rooms radiate off of this main hall. There is a one-story servant's quarters attached to the main house by an esplanade. The entire property is enclosed by stone walls and the grounds are elevated several feet above the surrounding elevation. The house is in excellent condition today due to constant maintenance.

Extensive alterations are known to have been made in 1896 by Dr. Porter. It was at that time that the mansard roof, Victorian trim and small balconies were added. In 1945, the home was converted into small apartments and the back porches were enclosed to provide kitchen and bath facilities.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



6. 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) **1838**

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

In 1837, Judge James Webb purchased the property on which the Porter House is located and it is presumed that he was the builder of the house. It is a fact, however, that the house was the birthplace and home of Dr. Joseph Yates Porter, III, who was Key West's first native born physician and a man who became outstanding in Florida's medical history. In 1845, Porter purchased the lot with the house already on it and since that date it has remained in the Porter family.

The Porter House combines architectural features of the Bahama house, of New England and of the French Mansard. What emerges is the rather eclectic, but no less significant Conch house of nineteenth century Key West. In purely practical terms, it also satisfied some important demands of climate and life style. The slatted shutters provided a blind to the hot tropical sun during the day, and at night they were opened to allow for maximum ventilation. The steep pitch of the Conch roof was a practical design as well for it caught the rain water and ran it down into cisterns below the ground level. The Porter House is perhaps the best example of Conch architecture at its most beautiful and most practical.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Monroe County Records, Monroe County Courthouse, Key West, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. (Subgroup: Deeds Book G18, p. 205).

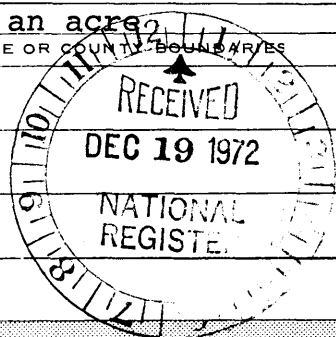
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		N 24° 33' 26"	W 81° 48' 17"	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than an acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mrs. Diane Greer and Miss Mary Evans, Historic Sites Specialists

ORGANIZATION: **Division of Archives, History and Records Mgmt.** DATE: **March, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Department of State, The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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: *Robert William*

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: 12/15/72

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

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/4/73

ATTEST:
W Bradford
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5/31/73