

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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MAY 3 1988

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Residencia Duran Esmoris

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Mendez Vigo B204 L204

not for publication na

city, town Mayagüez

vicinity na

state Puerto Rico code PR

county Mayagüez

code 097

zip code 00708

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>1</u>	_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing: na

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register na

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Arq. Mariano Coronas Castro

March 21, 1966

Signature of certifying official
P.R.S.H.P.O.

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Amy Schlager

9/7/88

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/ single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/ single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls concrete

roof wood/metal

other stained-glass

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Built circa 1921, this fairly rectangular one story, single dwelling dates from the reconstruction period of Mayagüez after the earthquake of 1918. The house is located in Mendez Vigo Street, main avenue where the most exclusive residences of the period are found.

Reinforced concrete was the main material used; wood for ceilings and zinc for roofing. The house is elevated about 3' from the ground level in response to a legal requirement at the time. A balcony, one of the house's main elements, curves from the front facade into the lot, leading vehicles inside the adjoining carport. The prefabricated concrete balustrade is finished with colored glass surface inserts. The original kitchen is in the structure's basement and is finished with white tiles and marble counter and table tops. This space has been used as storage in recent years.

The house is organized around a long, high hallway to which all rooms connect. At its south side we find the living and dining areas. At its northern part we can see a large family room with bar, next to which is the access to the basement kitchen. A "mediopunto" or wood screen separates a small foyer from the family room. All rooms ventilate by louvered doors and windows and perforated transoms which allow air to flow freely. The living room is the house's most striking feature. It includes another "mediopunto" that articulates the space into two areas. It is carved in dark wood, evocative of classical elements. It is a unique version of this architectural device. Different geometric mosaic patterns enhance the quality of the space, as do stained glass windows and doors of Art Nouveau influence. A wide cornice makes the transition between the concrete walls and the elaborate stucco ceiling of Rococo influence.

See continuation sheet

Main alterations include the change of floors from wood to cement tile

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture

early XX C

1921

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Significant Person

n/a

Architect/Builder

Luis Fernando Nieva

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Both the scale and detailing of the Duran Esmoris Residence make it one of Mayagüez's most impressive and important structures. It is one of the few remaining houses that succeeds in recalling the original character of Mendez Vigo St.

In its proportioning of interior spaces this house reaffirms the predilection Mayagüez has traditionally had for tall halls. The presence of two mediopuntos, the excellence in craftsmanship, the use of stained glass and mosaic are all essential to the nature and architectural value of the house.

The people related to the house, architect and dwellers, have all been prominent members of the city's society. Architect Luis F. Nieva was a well known figure in his own time and his work has just recently begun to spur interest among scholars. His work reflects the architects classical ideas integrating vernacular building tradition. The scale and proportion of spaces makes this structure truly characteristic of its milieu. Nieva owned a factory, La Mayagüezana, which produced mosaic tile, prefabricated architectural elements and other decorative building devices.

The Duran Esmoris family arrived from Spain in 1844 and settled in Mayagüez in 1860 where they developed a construction material business and wholesale food products. They have played an important role in the economic and civic life of Mayagüez and are one of the cities main employers.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

El Reportero, "Cinco Generaciones en los Negocios Esmoris Inc." May 1983
Rivas, Matei, " Mas altas mas esbeltas" periódico El Nuevo Dia, March 8 1984

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Colegio de Arquitectos de P.R.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre (1,131 M²)

Lambert: 18°12'22"

UTM References

67°08'44"

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See enclosed location plan

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lot historically associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Architect Jorge Rigau / Félix Julián del Campo historian</u>
organization	<u>Colegio de Arquitectos de Puerto Rico</u>
street & number	<u>box 2299</u>
city or town	<u>Hato Rey</u>
date	<u>September 1987</u>
telephone	<u>809-724-1213</u>
state	<u>Puerto Rico</u>
zip code	<u>00925</u>

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

10

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NOMBRE COMUN		RESIDENCIA DURAN ESMORIS
NOMBRE HISTORICO		
ARQUITECTO		LUIS F. NIEVA
DIRECCION		MENDEZ VIGO Parcela 204 Solar 35

INFORMACION GRAFICA		

PLANO DE SITUACION

Scale: 1:1000

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 88000655
Esmoris, Duran, Residencia
Property Name

Date Listed: 9/7/88
Mayaguez PR
County State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Amy Schlager
Signature of the Keeper

9/7/88
Date of Action

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Amended Items in Nomination:

Date of signing by SHPO should be 1988; SHPO wanted to indicate his opinion as eligible under State Certification item #4.

Discussed and concurred in by Puerto Rican SHPO on September 7, 1988.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)