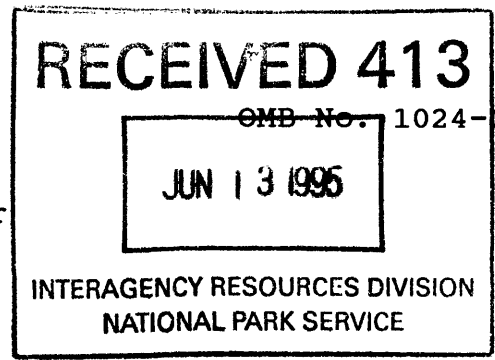


84-1

NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

historic name Plata Bridge

other names/site number Bridge #374

2. Location

street & number SR 167, km 0.9, Barrios Nuevo/Dajao, Naranjito/Bayamón  
not for publication  
city or town Naranjito vicinity x  
state Puerto Rico code PR county Bayamón code 021 zip code 00956

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally X statewide \_\_\_ locally. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Arleen Pabón PhD  
Signature of certifying official

May 25, 1995  
Date

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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): \_\_\_\_\_

*Edson H. Beall* 7.19.95

Entered in the National Register

Signature of Keeper *Edson H. Beall* Date of Action

5. 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>0</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing "Historic Bridges of Puerto Rico"

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions

Cat: Transportation Sub: road related

Current Functions

Cat: Vacant Sub: not in use

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification Parker truss

Materials

foundation	<u>N/A</u>
roof	<u>N/A</u>
walls	<u>N/A</u>
other	<u>superstructure - steel</u> <u>substructure - masonry</u>

Narrative Description

Plata Bridge lies parallel to the modern bridge crossing the Plata River on the road between Corozal and Bayamón (Photo 1). It is a Parker steel truss, two span structure (Photo 2).

It is supported by monumental rubble masonry supports, more than 40 feet in height, (Photo 3), which feature ashlar buttresses, ornamented bases, relief projections and cornices. Its deck is built of transverse and longitudinal joists and suspended domed plates with drainage in the center. Although a contiguous modern bridge has been constructed, the setting remains essentially unchanged since the period of significance. The bridge retains a high degree of integrity of design, workmanship, feeling, association, materials, and setting. A description of the structure follows:

span number:	2	construction date:	1908
span length:	42 meters	superstructure:	steel
total length:	84 meters	substructure:	masonry
roadway wdt.:	4.20 meters	current condition:	fair

=====  
8. Statement of Significance  
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance engineering, transportation

Period of Significance 1908-1944

Significant Dates 1908

Significant Person N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder American Bridge Co., Groton Bridge Co., José Lago

Narrative Statement of Significance

Plata Bridge is the only extant large multi span truss bridge in Puerto Rico. The trusses were made by the proficient firm American Bridge Co. and assembled by its subsidiary, Groton Bridge Co., at a cost of \$13,228. It has remarkable pier and abutments. The monumental rubble masonry supports were built by contractor José Lago for \$9,000. The construction of the bridge was financed by a 1906 public works bond issue. The bridge was built for a highway connecting several central mountain towns to the coastal road.

For further contextual information regarding bridge building in Puerto Rico, registration requirements, and property types, see related multiple property listing "Historic Bridges of Puerto Rico".

=====  
9. Major Bibliographical References  
=====

**Pumarada O'Neill, Luis. Los Puentes Históricos de Puerto Rico. Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo, RUM, Mayagüez 1991.**

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 #       N/A      

Primary Location of Additional Data

\_\_\_ State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency: **Puerto Rico Highway Authority**

\_\_\_ Federal agency

\_\_\_ Local government

**University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus**

\_\_\_ Other

Name of repository:

=====  
10. Geographical Data  
=====

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>19</u>	<u>794760</u>	<u>2026100</u>	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is a rectangular shaped parcel measuring 84 X 4.20 meters, which is centered on the coordinates listed above. Included within this rectangular parcel are the bridge's superstructure, substructure and floor system.

Boundary Justification

The nominated structure includes the bridge's superstructure, substructure, floor system, any approach spans and the property on which they rest. These boundaries encompass, but not exceed, all of the property that has been historically associated with this bridge.

=====  
11. Form Prepared By  
=====

name/title Luis Pumarada O'Neill, PhD (Revised and edited by PRSHPO)

organization Arqueología Industrial Caribeña date July 31, 1994

street & number 3-D-37 Villa Interamericana telephone (809) 264-4024

city or town San Germán state PR zip code 00683

=====  
Property Owner  
=====

name Public Works Department, Puerto Rico

street & number Minillas Government Center telephone (809) 729-1529

city or town San Juan state PR zip code 00907