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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

MAR 22 1989

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 Escuela Brambaugh
other names/site number Puerta de Tierra Public School

2. Location

street & number San Juan Bautista St., corner to Ponce de León Ave. not for publication
city, town San Juan vicinity
state Puerto Rico code PR county San Juan code 127 zip code 00906

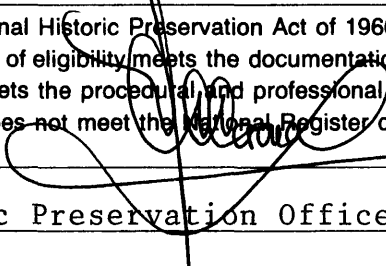
3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Early XXth century schools in P.R.
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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.

Mariano G. Coronas Castro  February 3, 1989
Signature of certifying official 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.

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. Amy Schlager 5/5/89
 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:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Educational/school

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Educational/school

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Institutional

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls concrete

roof concrete

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Escuela Brambaugh is a school located in a small rectangular city block between Ponce de León and Muñoz Rivera avenues in Puerta de Tierra sector. The building is 149 long by 61 feet wide. The city block (.33 acres) in which it is located is north-south oriented with an elevation variation of approximately 15 feet. The main building facades are oriented toward the east and west without a setback from the sidewalk. The north and south facades open towards two enclosed open areas serving as playgrounds.

This two-storey and raised basement reinforced concrete structure integrates in its design elements from various architectural trends thus producing an eclectic style with spanish revival influence. The east and west facades present a central entrance highlighted by the second floor balcony and spanish revival pediment. To each side of the entrance two bays are created using crowned piers to divide bays. Bays one and five contain 3 windows; bays 1 and 5 contain 3 windows; bays 2 and 4 contain 5 windows. Bay 3 serves as main entrance. Each set of second floor windows is covered by spanish tile hoods. Corners are treated in the same manner as the piers. The other facades are similar but lack the crowned piers and the second floor balcony which is replaced by two windows.

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)

Architecture
Education

Period of Significance

Early 20th century
Early 20th century

Significant Dates

1912-13
1913

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Significant Person

n/a

Architect/Builder

Gilmour, G. R. (Architect)
Hatch, Frank B. (Builder)

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

Brambaugh School is a good example of the institutional buildings erected during the second decade of the 20th century in Puerto Rico. Their planners and designers maximized the scarce resources available, creating modest but dignified urban landmarks in each town and city in Puerto Rico. Brambaugh School was built in 1912 on a small city lot north of Ponce de León on formerly military-controlled land in Puerta de Tierra. In fact, the site plan of the structure defined a new north-south access to the main facade of the school thus conforming a new addition to the urban texture in Puerta de Tierra.

In October, 1911 John A. Wilson, Commissioner of the Interior, announced the request for proposals to design the new school at Puerta de Tierra. Architect G. R. Gilmour won the competition. During 1912 a series of controversies concerning the building contractors retarded the construction process. Finally, in December of 1912, the firm of F.B. Hatch, with the lowest cost estimate, obtained the contract. The construction took place during 1913.

This was the first public school built to serve the community of Puerta de Tierra giving the children of this low income area of a chance to study their first grades. This was the only school in the area until 1923 when the "Escuela Graduada José C. Barbosa" (also being nominated) was inaugurated.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

-Archivo General de Puerto Rico, Fondo: Obras Públicas, Serie: Edificios Escolares, Caja: 1055, Legajo: 62C, Expediente: 2.

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:

Archivo General de Puerto Rico

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property .33 acres (less than one acre)

UTM References

A 19 806720 2044230
 Zone Easting Northing

C

B
 Zone Easting Northing

D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The school lot is rectangular in shape, bound to the north by Muñoz Rivera Avenue, along 18.8 meters, to the south by Ponce de León Avenue, along 18.5 meters, to the east by San Juan St., along 73.0 meters, and to the west by an unnamed street along 70.0 meters.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lot that was segregated for the construction of the school.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Aníbal Sepúlveda, Ph. D, and Jorge Carbonell/Architect

organization Centro de Investigaciones Carimar date February 3, 1989

street & number P.O. Box 4937 telephone 759-7819, 725-3073

city or town Old San Juan state Puerto Rico zip code 00905

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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The rectangular plan of the school in the first and second floor is divided along the north-south axis by a main central corridor that gives access to four classrooms on each side. On the central east-west axis, access and administrative spaces are located. Playrooms, sanitary facilities and storage area are located in the basement. The four facades of the structure reproduce the interior spacing distribution. The original windows were replaced, as in all public schools, by the more efficient storm resistant metal louvered windows we see today. These alterations do not contribute to the properties value but do not alter the building's architectural integrity.

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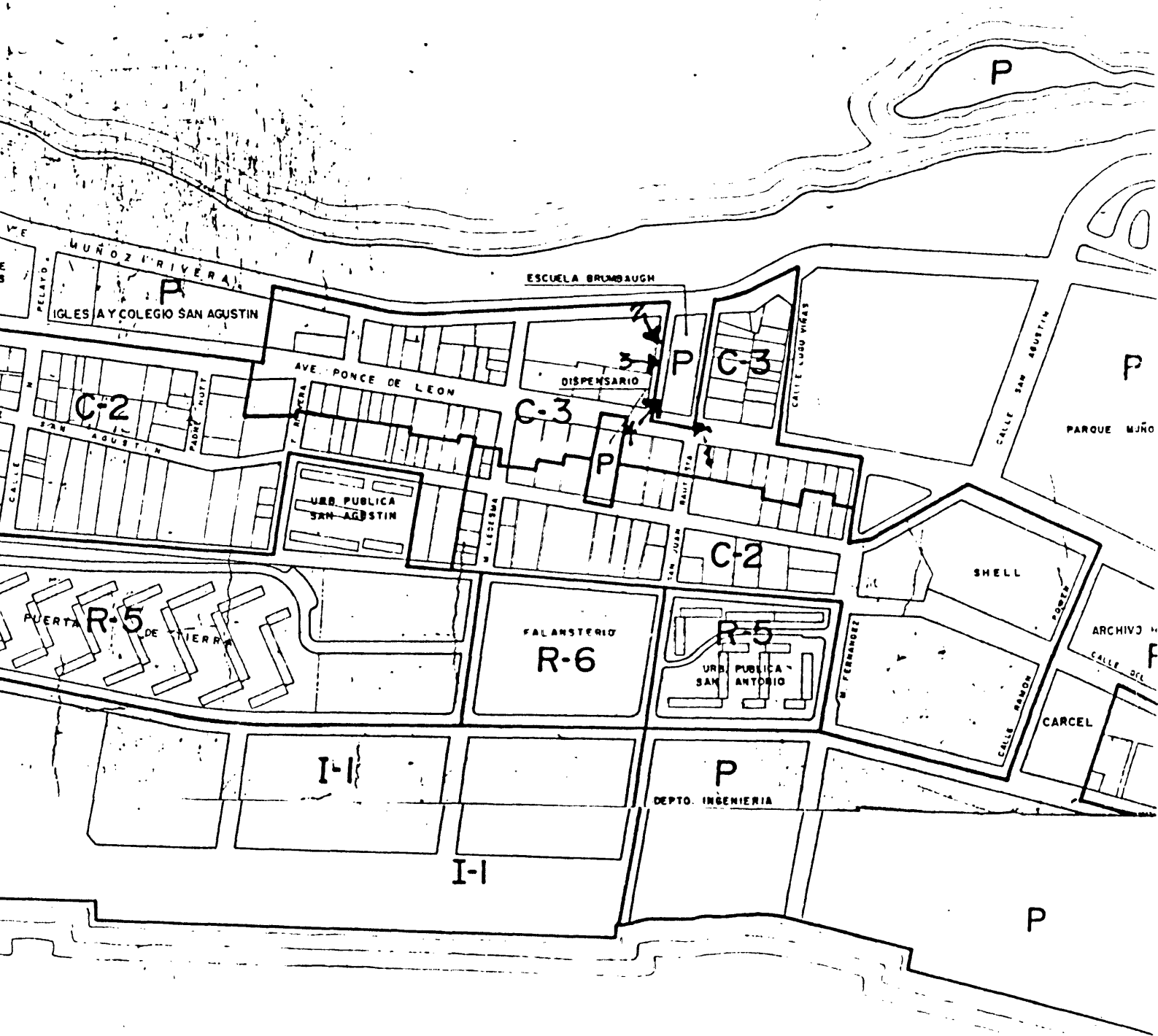
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The Brumbaugh School has been used as an important community education facility since its construction and still serves this mostly low income family area.

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 89000324

Date Listed: 5/4/89

Escuela Brambaugh

San Juan

PR

Property Name

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.

Ray Schlager
Signature of the Keeper

5/5/89
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Criteria A should be checked to refer to the Area of Significance, "Education," noted in the cover form.

Discussed and concurred in by Puerto Rican SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

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