

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received OCT 9 1986

date entered NOV 19 1986

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Gonzalo Marín 101

and or common Citibank

2. Location

street & number 101 Gonzalo Marín St. N/A not for publication

city, town Arecibo vicinity of N/A

state Puerto Rico code 072 county Arecibo code 0090

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Citibank de Puerto Rico

street & number G.P.O. Box 4106

city, town San Juan vicinity of N/A state Puerto Rico

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Arecibo Registry of Deeds

street & number Arecibo Government Center

city, town Arecibo state Puerto Rico

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Hist. Arch. Survey of Arecibo has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date July, 1985 federal state county local

depository for survey records P.R.S.H.P.O.

city, town San Juan state Puerto Rico

7. Description

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Gonzalo Marín 101, at the southeast corner of Calle Hostos, is a two-storey plastered masonry building housing a bank at ground level and conference spaces above. Originally constructed for banking and residential purposes, the building's exterior maintains the neoclassical design appropriate for its intended usage. Characteristics of the late neoclassical architecture of Puerto Rico during the early 20th century, pastel colors and smooth, delicate decoration give the facade the simple elegance it preserves.

Because of its corner, through-lot location, the building exhibits three facades, the north and east of which flow together at the corner by an acute curve. The north, main facade consists of three evenly-spaced bays, the central entrance bay emphasized by its greater width. The eastern and southern facades each consist of four equal, evenly-spaced bays.

At ground level, a continuous plinth supports the structure, increasing in height toward the rear of the building to accommodate a downward slope in the south direction. A modern course of marble sheathing, approximately four feet high, also surrounds the north and east facades, interrupted completely only by the main entrance doors.

All ground storey bays originally housed wooden, double-doors, functioning as access to the commercial space at the main entrance bay and as door-windows with waist-high iron railings at all other bays. Today, commercial glass and aluminum double-doors access the main entrance. All other bays now house glass and aluminum crank-type windows, save the central two bays of the south facade, which have been completely sealed with concrete for security reasons. Original molded, eared surrounds, each with a keystone, continue to gracefully articulate the bays, echoing the full-height windows of the period of design. A continuous stringcourse divides the ground level from the upper level, encircling a cantilevered continuous balcony with decorative iron railings along the length of the main facade. At the upper level, the central bay of the main facade consists of a pair of wooden, louvred, coupled door-windows, articulated by a greek-temple motif consisting of three Tuscan pilaster-jambes which support a classical pediment. Most other bays consist of wooden, louvred, double-door windows with glazed transoms, each articulated with a molded surround and architrave. Each opening also houses waist-high, decorative iron railings. Only the first and fourth bays of the rear facade, although similarly articulated, consist of standard rectangular window openings rather than full-height door-windows pilaster strips the full height of the building define the corners of the facades. These support a continuous cornice and a parapet with a series of oval-shaped apertures which, together, cap the composition along all facades.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1908 - 1930 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Built in 1908, only 10 years after the United States acquired Puerto Rico from Spain, Gonzalo Marín 101 was one of the last buildings designed in the Spanish neo-classical vocabulary. Although this building can be attributed to this significant 19th century style, it represents more so a period of transition from the rigid, volumetric Spanish mode to a more scholarly, Beaux Arts articulation of the classical elements, widespread by this time in the United States. The use of a pediment, keystones, and eared surrounds with decorative moldings, in contrast to the traditional flat, unarticulated surround of the 19th century, exemplify this transition like no other building on the Plaza Mayor of Arecibo. In addition, its design elements contribute significantly to the urban context of the Plaza itself, a neo-classical, 19th century composition consisting of the Cathedral, City Hall, and additional surrounding buildings, usually the homes of prominent families.

Since its construction, the building has housed Arecibo's most important banking institutions. The building was constructed and utilized until 1929 by this local institutions, when it suffered the consequences of the Great Depression. In the 1930's, the First National City Bank opened its Arecibo Branch here, becoming the first United States bank in the Northwestern region of Puerto Rico. The bank quickly achieved significance in the economy of the region as the nucleus of financial services to most of the American-owned sugar plantations which became the crux of the region's economy.

Citibank continues to operate the branch, maintaining the original upper level residential spaces intact as conference rooms and preserving the building in good conditions. Today, it remains as a good example of its period and a compliment to the great urban space it faces.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Del Campo Blanco, Félix Julián; Un Paseo por el Arecibo de Ayer; ed. ALMACA, Arecibo, 1985
Limón de Arce, José; Arecibo Histórico; ed. Rosado, Manatí, 1935

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property (less than one acre)

Quadrangle name Arecibo

Quadrangle scale 1:20,000

UTM References

A

1	9	7	4	1	2	1	0	2	0	4	4	0	0	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

B

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D

Zone			Easting					Northing						

E

Zone			Easting					Northing						

F

Zone			Easting					Northing						

G

Zone			Easting					Northing						

H

Zone			Easting					Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification SEE ENCLOSED LOCATION PLAN

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Félix Julián del Campo Blanco/Héctor Santiago

organization State Historic Preservation Office date August 26, 1986

street & number Box 82, La Fortaleza telephone (809) 721-3737

city or town San Juan state Puerto Rico

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Mariano G. Coronas Castro

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

