Form 10-300 (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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COUNTY: NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES Hillsborough INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER O (Type all entries - complete applicable sections) 1 5 11972 I. NAME COMMON: El Pasaje Cherokee Club 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: 14ch CITY OR TOWN: Tampa STATE COUNTY: CODE CODE 157 Florida <u>Hillsborough</u> 3. CLASSIFICATION ACCESSIBLE CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS (Check One) TO THE PUBLIC District ☐ Public Public Acquisition: Occupied Yes: X Building (X) Restricted Private ☐ In Process Site Structure ☐ Unoccupied Unrestricted Both Being Considered ☐ Object Preservation work □ No in progress PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) Agricultural Government ☐ Park Transportation Comments Industrial ☐ Commercial Private Residence ▼ Other (Specify) ☐ Military ☐ Educational Hotel Religious Entertainment ☐ Museum Scientific OWNER OF PROPERTY ... OWNER'S NAME: 10 J. L. Avellanal STREET AND NUMBER: TT. 1318 Ninth Ave. da STATE: CITY OR TOWN: CODE Florida Tampa 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS. ETC: 11s Hillsborough County Courthouse STREET AND NUMBER: orod CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE 12 Florida Tampa 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TITLE OF SURVEY: ENTRY NUMBER None DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County ☐ Local Ċ DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: 1972 STREET AND NUMBER: ONLY CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE DATE

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٠.	DESCRIPTION							
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	CONDITION	☐ Excellent	□ Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed	
			(Check Or	re)		(Che	eck One)	
		∑ Alter	ed	☐ Unaltered		☐ Moved	🔃 Original Site	
	DESCRIBE THE PE	RESENT AND ORI	GINAL (if kno	wn) PHYSICA	L APPEARANCE			

El Pasaje is a two-story brick building which covers one half of a block. In 1925, a slight addition was made to the north side of the building. However, the quality of construction on this addition is inferior to that of the original building. There is an open arcade on the north and east sides of the building. This arcade is composed of thirty-eight brick columns with round arches springing from their capitals. Capitals and column bases are of granite. The building, as originally intended, had a wrought iron railing at the second floor level and iron finials dotting the roofline. All of the ironwork was removed in the late 1950's. The building was designed to accommodate twenty-two single bedrooms, six commercial stores within the arcaded area, four apartments with bedroom, bath, kitchen and large yard. On the second floor where the hotel accommodations were located, there was a large auditorium with a stage and bar at the north end. Today this area is used as a lobby or sitting room.

The general style of the building is modeled after the Italian palazzos of the Renaissance period. An open arcade exists on the ground level. A similar effect on the second level is achieved through the use of radiating voussoirs with a continuous stone label over the windows. each voussoir is a rectangular stained glass window inserted above the sash in a transom-like fashion. At the top of the building, in place of a classical cornice, there is a paneling of the wall surface which heightens the effect of the building. This layering of the surface is accomplished through the use of fancy brick work, recessed rectangular panels and a corbel table. The roof is a flat deck. the building at the roofline are low brick bases, alternating ones of which are topped by cast iron finials. All secondstory windows are double-hung movable sash, whereas those on the first floor are large fixed panes.

The interior of the building has not been radically altered. The stage in the auditorium has been removed and the bar converted to a small kitchen. Several of the original stained glass windows have been lost as has all the exterior iron work. On the whole, however, the building is structurally sound and in a constant state of use.



•	SIGNIFICANCE						
	PERIOD (Check One or More as A	(appropriate)					
	Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	18th Century	20th Century			
	☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🔀 19th Century				
	SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known)	1886	-11917s			
	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Approp	riate)	10)			
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cherokee Club, as the El Pasaje was originally known, was incorporated in 1895 with an authorized capital of ten thousand dollars. The object of the club as stated in the Articles of Incorporation was "the promotion of social intercourse amoung its members." / The original list of subscribers included eight of Tampa's most prominent business-

The building, intended for the exclusive use of the members of the Cherokee Club, was completed in 1886, nine years prior to the official incorporation of the group. Built by Vincent Martinez Ybor at great personal expense, the building aroused much interest among the city's workers. Brick edifices were scarce in Ybor City at this time. therefore it was logical for a brick building to capture people's curiosity, particularly if it had balconies and marble floors. In 1897, one curious immigrant from Havana wrote, "What is the value of the Club? It is not a building for education, for recreation, but for the happiness of living."

There is no doubt that the Cherokee Club served an elite clientele. When Jose Marti, leader of the Cuban Revolution, arrived in Tampa in 1891, he was lodged at the Cherokee Club. This would probably have been true of many prominent visitors to the area since the only other elegant lodging was H.B. Plant's Tampa Bay Hotel.

The existence of this building at a time when Ybor City's population was comprised primarily of factory workers must have had a profound effect on the attitudes of these immigrants. Located as it was, in the midst of multi-family dwellings and near the factories, it served as a constant reminder of the worker's place within the socio-economic structure.

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Hillsborough
FOR NPS USE ONLY
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(Continuation Sheet)

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Form 10-301 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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