

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received AUG 25 1986

date entered JEP 29 1986

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

**1. Name**

historic Rosalv or Batiz Residence

and or common Batiz Residence

**2. Location**

street & number 125 Villa St., Corner of Méndez Vigo St. N/A not for publication

city, town Ponce vicinity of N/A

state Puerto Rico code 072 county Ponce code 00760

**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 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Miriam Batiz

street & number Box 21596, U.P.R.

city, town Río Piedras vicinity of San Juan state P.R.

**5. Location of Legal Description**

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

street & number Ponce Government Center

city, town Ponce state P.R.

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Ponce Architectural Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date July 1984  federal  state  county  local

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

city, town San Juan state P.R.

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved      date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Batiz Residence is located on the southeast corner of Villa Street at Méndez Vigo Street. It occupies a plot of land 1145 meters square, bordered by Villa Street on the north and Luna Street on the south.

This structure of stuccoed brick and rubble consists of two stories set on a podium approximately four feet above street level. The property follows a "U" shaped plan, creating a rectangular courtyard enclosed at the rear by a garden wall. The roof is flat, of wood and brick construction.

The main facade is divided into five bays in an A-B-A rhythm established by a single-bay central section and flanking two-bay sections. Rustic quoins turn the east and west corners of the facade. An Italianate cornice spans the roof-line between the rusticated quoins.

At the first level, a recessed loggia is created by an arcade of segmental arches supported by diminished Doric columns on pedestals. Balusters enclose the arcade. The central bay is separated from the rest by a one storey pair of rusticated pilasters. This bay breaks the podium for access to the main entrance and incorporates a round arch beginning at a point lower than the other arches. Inside the loggia the central doorway is flanked by rusticated segmental arches with full-height, double-shutter jalousies.

A continuous string course separates the first floor from the second. At the upper level there are five rusticated openings similar to those of the first storey. The three inner bays open to a continuous balcony with wrought iron railing in intricate decorative patterns. Iron trellises support a decorative balcony roof.

The west facade is divided by rusticated pilasters into three sections of two, three, and one bay respectively, from north to south. South of the sixth bay extends a one-storey section which serves as a port-cochere. The fenestration at the west facade is similar to that at the main, except with circular arches at the upper level. At the lower level, another circular arch of larger proportions opens at the sixth bay.

The interiors are divided into three separate apartments: two similarly distributed residential units at the first level and a single large apartment at the second. The living quarters, kitchen, and servants' quarters of the upper floor are reached via a

# 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 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1897

Builder/Architect Miguel Domenech

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Batiz Residence was built in 1897 by the renown engineer Manuel Domenech for the Mayor of the City of Ponce, Don Pedro Juan Rosaly. A native of Ponce, Domenech graduated from the prestigious Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute of New York and was responsible for many of the island's most lavish turn of the century buildings.

Among his designs are the Caryatid House (1910) which faces the Ponce Cathedral and the "Asilo de Pobres de Mayagüez" (listed in the National Register - 12/02/85). Domenech was also Mayor of the City of Ponce and held many governmental positions in Puerto Rico.

Although a particular style cannot be attributed to Domenech, the vocabulary of his designs ranged from the purest neo-classical to the most intricate eclectic. In this case, Domenech referred to the Italian Renaissance Palazzo as a model, a theme repeated in other properties both in Ponce and Mayagüez. However stern, the Batiz Residence displays a greater degree of mannerism over eclecticism, resulting in one of Ponce's most distinguished structures.

The property was purchased in the 1920's as the city residence of Antonio Batiz Olivera, a wealthy coffee plantation owner. During his visits to Ponce the house was said to be filled with light and music. Great balls, concerts and intellectual gatherings characterized the Batiz Family and thus, the house.

The structure has never been altered. Only minor maintenance work has been carried out during its many years of forgotten splendor.

The Batiz Residence now is a monument to a great man and his works and a vivid reminder of the aristocracy of the years prior to the great depression.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

P.R.S.H.P.O. Files  
Ponce Historic Archives

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .278 acres (1145 m<sup>2</sup>)

Quadrangle name Ponce

Quadrangle scale 1:20000

UTM References

A 

1	9	7	5	2	0	5	0	1	9	9	3	0	0	8
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

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D 

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E 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

North - Villa Street East - Vacant lot (see enclosed location plan)  
South - Luna Street West - Méndez Vigo Street

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 / State Historian

organization P.R.S.H.P.O.

date 12/2/86

street & number Box 82, La Fortaleza

telephone 809-721-3737

city or town San Juan.

state PR

# 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 C. Verónas Castro

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 12/7/86

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

Amy Schlager  
Keeper of the National Register

date 9/27/86

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date

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series of louvered galleries that open to the courtyard. The living room boasts original crystal chandeliers and electric features. Floors are generally of polished wood and ceilings of ornate pressed sheet-metal. The living room windows open to the balcony which has marble floors and iron railings.

The Batiz Residence has not been altered, thus it remains a magnificent example of the architectural trends of the aristocracy of Ponce.

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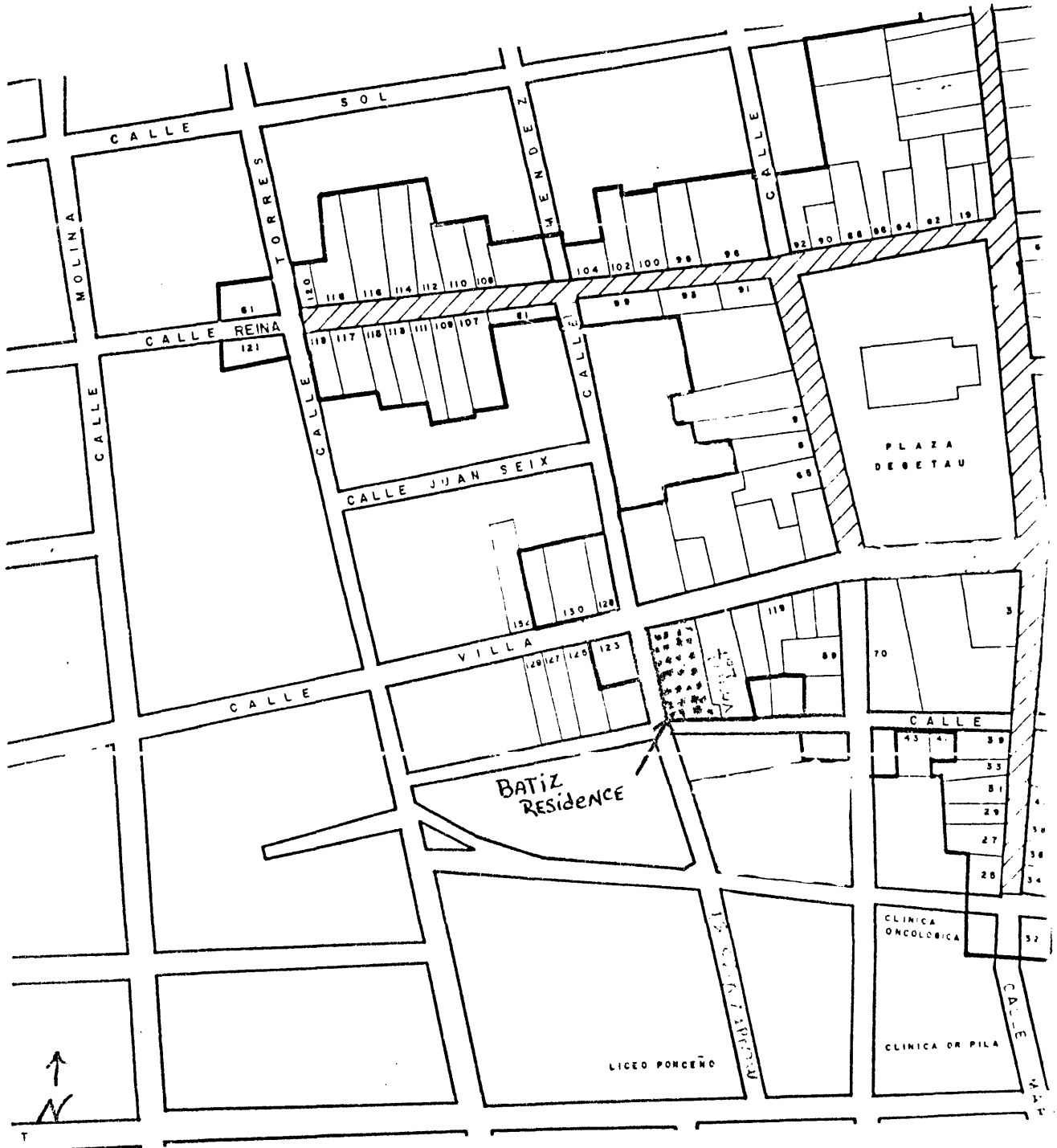
received

date entered

Continuation sheet / 1

Item number 10

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SCALE 1:3000