

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

OCT 13 1993

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name: **Casa Delerme-Anduze No. 2 (Delerme-Anduze House #2)**

other names/site number: **Casa de don Rosendo Delerme, Antonio Mellado St. #355**

2. Location

street & number: **Antonio Mellado St. #355**
city or town: **Isabel Segunda** vicinity _____
state: **Puerto Rico** code: **PR** county: **Vieques** code: **147**
zip code: **00765**

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 _____ statewide X locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Arleen Pabón PhD

Signature of certifying official

October 4, 1993

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

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6. Function or Use
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Historic Functions

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Family Dwelling

Current Functions

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Family Dwelling

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7. Description
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Architectural Classification

other: Six-room creole house

Materials

foundation: wood
roof: metal
walls: metal
wood
other: brick
iron

Narrative Description

See accompanying continuation sheets.

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8. Statement of Significance
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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: **Architecture**

Period of Significance: **circa 1872**

Significant Dates: **circa 1872**

Significant Person: **N/A**

Cultural Affiliation: **N/A**

Architect/Builder: **N/A**

Narrative Statement of Significance

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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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

Name of repository: **Puerto Rico Deeds Register, Fajardo**

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreeage of Property: **less than one acre**

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	241650	2008460	—	_____	_____
2	—	_____	_____	—	_____	_____

— See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundary Justification

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11. Form Prepared By
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name/title: **Héctor Santiago Cazull / Architectural Conservator; Robert Rabin / Historian, Centro Cultural Yaureibo (Revised by PRSHPO)**

organization: **Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña** date: **September 30, 1992**

street & number: **Ulises Martínez St.** telephone: **(809) 850-1885**

city or town: **Humacao** state: **PR** zip code: **00791**

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Property Owner
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name: **Rosendo Delerme**

street & number: **Antonio Mellado St. #355** telephone:

city or town: **Vieques** state: **PR** zip code: **00765**

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Casa Delerme-Anduze No.2
Vieques, Puerto Rico

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Casa Delerme-Anduze #2
Antonio Mellado St. 355
Isabel Segunda
Vieques, Puerto Rico

The Casa Delerme-Anduze #2 is a wooden, six-room house, in the vernacular or popular style, located on an urban lot at the west side of Antonio Mellado St., between Muñoz Rivera and Víctor Duteil Sts., in the town of Isabel Segunda, Vieques Island, an offshore island of Puerto Rico. The house sits at the center of the front lot line, along the sidewalk, leaving narrow alleys at either side and a sizeable, backyard. A large, partially above-ground, brick masonry cistern occupies a part of the central portion of the yard. A wooden and corrugated sheet metal independent structure, housing both the kitchen and letrine, is located at the northwestern corner of the lot, also at the rear yard.

The principle building is a rectangular, one-story, ground-level wooden-frame house, in the vernacular or popular style, with a hipped, corrugated sheet-metal roof over the front, core volume and a single-pitched roof over the "lean-to" volume at the rear. The facade of the core volume consists of a series of three bays which open onto a front balcony in the form of a gallery. Each of the openings is closed by two sets of double doors: a pair of solid, outward-opening, solid shutters along the exterior, and a pair of inward-opening, wooden jalousie doors. A good part of the original hardware has been preserved. Plain and narrow wooden frames articulate each of the door openings. Similar, yet wider moldings define the northern and southern corners of the facade. The exterior wooden wall is covered with plain sheet metal. The balcony is roofed with a projection of the main, hipped roof, at a lower pitch. The balcony is supported by a series of six solid wooden posts which define five bays; the two posts at the center creating a narrower, central, entrance bay. Each post consists of a base or pedestal, a shaft with chamfered corners, and a small capital. A wooden rail with intersecting, diagonal "two by fours" enclose the balcony, leaving only the central entrance bay open. At the present time, the balcony is enclosed with the decorative, wrought-iron "rejas" or grates in a repetitive sun-like pattern formed by straight lines radiating from central circles.

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Casa Delerme-Anduze No.2
Vieques, Puerto Rico

Each one of the side facades display three aluminum, "Miami" type louvered windows. The rear facade received a treatment parallel to the front one.

The spatial distribution of the house follows the traditional six-room vernacular or popular adaptation, found in many houses in Vieques. The central bay of the front facade opens onto a rectangular living area along an east-west axis, which occupies the central portion of the core volume of the house. Each of the four walls of this room has a centralized doorway with wooden, panelled, double door and moldings. The doors at either side of the room open unto bedrooms which occupy the northern and southern portions of the core volume of the house. Each of these rooms has doors which open onto the front balcony, windows along the side, and doors which open unto the rooms immediately behind them, and the "lean-to" volume. The door at the far, or rear elevation of the living room opens unto the dining area, at the center of the "lean-to" volume of the house. To the right, or north, lies the kitchen, which has been expanded to the west, invading part of the original rear balcony. This expansion also shelters a bathroom. To the left, or south, is a third bedroom, which is used currently for storage. Each of the three rooms in the "lean-to" volume possesses doors which open onto the rear balcony.

The posts, rails and materials of the rear gallery are similar to those of the front gallery, although the former is not enclosed by wrought-iron grates.

A raised platform of stuccoed brick masonry, near-square in plan, occupies a large part of the yard, just behind the rear gallery. The platform responds to the roof of a semi-interred vaulted brick cistern. A square well curb projects above this platform, and is accessed by a set of steps at the northern side of the platform.

A small, rectangular, wood and sheet-metal kitchen structure with a side-gabled, corrugated sheet-metal roof occupies the northwestern corner of the lot. The structure's eastern facade displays a series of two bays of solid wood and sheet-metal doors. The structure originally housed the kitchen and letrine, but is currently used only for storage.

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**Casa Delerme-Anduze No.2
Vieques, Puerto Rico**

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A wall of mixed materials (concrete block, wood and sheet-metal) defines the lot lines along the north, west and east. Segments of an original brick-masonry garden wall are still visible along the length of the southern and western lot lines.

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Casa Delerme-Anduze No.2
Vieques, Puerto Rico

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Casa Delerme-Anduze #2 is a 19th century, six-room house in the vernacular or popular style. It served as a service/guest cottage for the prominent Delerme-Anduze family of Vieques, adjacent to the family's principal home, located next door at the corner of Muñoz Rivera and Antonio Mellado Sts. Despite the house's simplicity and its secondary nature (if compared to the Delerme-Anduze House #1), the house is one of the most significant of Vieques' 19th century local vernacular buildings. It represents the best preserved example of the typical six-room plan Viequense house, a significant type in this island. The type and its morphology is associated with the French Creole population which emigrated to Vieques from the islands of Martinique and Guadalupe.

The Delerme-Anduze House #2 was built approximately in 1872 next door to the architecturally and historically significant Delerme-Anduze #1. Augusto Neré Delerme, a well-to-do plantation owner and immigrant from the Island of Guadalupe married Cecilia Mercedes Anduze, an immigrant of French origin from St. Thomas. Upon marrying Miss. Anduze in the 1850's, Mr. Delerme built a large, grand, house with a balcony at the corner of streets Condesa de Mirasol and San Francisco (now Muñoz Rivera and Antonio Mellado Sts.). According to the Delerme family's oral history, as related by Mr. Rosendo Delerme, the oldest remaining member of the Delerme Family, the house was built by Augusto Delerme-Anduze, the oldest son of Augusto Nere. It is possible, then, that at some time in its history, the house was used as his residence. It is documented also that it was also used as a guest house, or simply as a place needed for additional space. The house, after 1900 and upon the death of Mrs. Cecilia Mercedes Anduze, became the formal residence of many of the offspring of the Delerme family. Since then, the larger house has been rented for commercial purposes. Among the brothers that shared this structure was Julio Delerme-Anduze, son of Augusto Neré and father of Rosendo, current owner and inhabitant of the home.

The house's historical significance is related particularly to its architectural type and state of conservation. The house is one of the best preserved examples of the six-room plan, as defined in the historic context "The Immigrations to Vieques, 1823-1898," since it is almost completely in the same condition as when it was

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Casa Delerme-Anduze No.2
Vieques, Puerto Rico

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designed in 1872. The interiors maintain the original woodwork: chair-rails, architraves, doors, cornices and ceilings. The original balcony posts and guard-rails have been also preserved throughout the front and rear galleries. In addition, the doors conserve most of the original hardware such as hinges, locks, bolts, jalousies and postigos. In brief, the house is almost entirely in its original conditions, save for the conversion of one bedroom at the northeastern corner of the house into a kitchen. This room has also been expanded into the rear balcony, allowing for space for a bathroom. The two alterations described above allow for the installation of modern sanitary and cooking facilities within the core volume of the house. These functions were traditionally maintained outside of the house in separate outbuildings. Despite this almost historical alteration that it an extant proof of the flexibility of the original design, the Delerme-Anduze House #2 retains the original building housing the kitchen and letrine in the rear yard. Although the building has been converted and is now used as a storage area, its presence is very rare and significant in defining the typological integrity of the house.

The original, brick-masonry cistern, located in the rear yard has been also preserved. Although the cistern is not currently used, it still collects rainwater from the sheet-metal roof of the house.

A third and very significant element which the house conserves is the rear balcony-cum-gallery. Although modified slightly in order to accommodate the bathroom addition, it still preserves intact the spatial relationship to the rest of the house as well as its character-defining elements, such as the chamfered, wooden posts and the cross-pattern, "stick" rail. Among other six-room plan houses in good state of conservation on the Island of Vieques, particularly significant are the Smaine-Ortiz House on Antonio Mellado St. and Prudencio Quiñones St., and the Simmons-Emeric House, on 65th Infantry St. Both of these are good examples of six-room Vieques plan, since they both conserve the six-room core volume. The significance of these houses lies in their stylistic particularities (see respective nominations).

The state of preservation of the house, as well as of the outbuilding and the cistern, makes the Delerme-Anduze House #2 the best representative example of its type on the Island of Vieques.

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Casa Delerme-Anduze No.2
Vieques, Puerto Rico

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The small complex, defined by the main building and its related buildings and structures, thus serves as the best local example of the six-room plan, Vieques Vernacular or Popular House typology, and of the lifestyle of the urban families of Vieques. Because it is a very significant extant example of a typology that has long dissapeared and of a style that was indebted to the French architectural tradition, the house merits inclusion to the National Register, under Criterion C.

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**Casa Delerme-Anduze No.2
Vieques, Puerto Rico**

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

To the front or east, Antonio Mellado St.; to the north or right, the Víctor Duteil School; to the west or rear, the José Gautier Benítez School; to the south or left, the Delerme-Anduze House, property of Mr. Rosendo Delerme.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries correspond to those of the urban lot #6, block 20 of the town of Isabel Segunda, Vieques, Puerto Rico, the lot is historically associated with the property.

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Continuation Sheet

SITE PLAN
Casa Delorme-Anduze 2
Isabel Segunda
Vieques, P.R.
Scale: 1:1000



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