

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

JAN 25 1994

**NATIONAL
REGISTER**

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1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: **Vieques Pharmacy**

other names/site number: **Farmacia de Vieques; Farmacia "Liberty Drug";
Antiguo Correo de Vieques; Bar Plaza**

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2. Location

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street & number: **Carlos LeBrun St., corner of Víctor Duteil St.**
city or town: **Isabel Segunda** vicinity _____
state: **Puerto Rico** code: **PR** county: **Vieques** code: **147**
zip code: **00765**

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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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

January 7, 1994

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

Name of related multiple property listing.

N/A

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6. Function or Use
=====

Historic Functions

Cat: Commerce
Government

Sub: Specialty Store
Post Office

Current Functions

Cat: Commerce

Sub: Restaurant

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7. Description
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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th-century Vernacular Architecture

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: **Brick**
roof: **Brick**
walls: **Brick; Stucco**
other: **Wood; Metal**

Narrative Description

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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: Politics/Government
Architecture

Period of Significance: circa 1895 - 1910
1898 - 1902

Significant Dates: 1898
1900
1903

Significant Person: Víctor Molinary Duteil

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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Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>18</u>	<u>24160</u>	<u>2008530</u>	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	_____ See continuation sheet.					

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title: Héctor Santiago Cazull; Robert Rabin; Revised and edited by the Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office.

organization: Instituto of Puerto Rican Culture; date: September 30, 1992
Centro Cultural Yaureibo

street & number: 54 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: Mr. Manuel Cruz c/o Bar Plaza
Street & number: Carlos LeBrun & Víctor Duteil Streets Telephone:

City or town: Isabel Segunda, Vieques State: PR Zip code: 00765
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 1

Vieques Pharmacy
Vieques, Puerto Rico

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Summary

The old *Farmacia de Vieques* or Vieques Pharmacy, is a one-story, brick-masonry and stucco, vernacular commercial building with a flat roof. It is located at the corner of Carlos LeBrun and Víctor Duteil Streets, on the main public square of the town of Isabel Segunda, in the Island of Vieques, Puerto Rico.

The building is basically square in plan, and has three identical, symmetrically disposed doorways on its main east façade (Carlos Lebrun Street), and two similar doorways on the south façade (Victor Duteil Street), with only an additional, narrow, single-door, recessed module towards the rear. All the door units consist of tall, rectangular openings with heavy, planar surround moldings (*retallos*), traditional of Spanish Colonial architecture. Each doorway is crowned by a segmented-arch transom opening. The doors are all original: solid board and batten wood, covered with plain sheet-metal. They are divided into four vertical panels: two inward-opening doors, each, in turn, divided vertically into half units and hinged.

Both façades are framed by wide continuous molding around the edges of the façades. The doors are framed in a similar manner. Tapered pilasters, crowned by capitals, are placed inward from and adjacent to the corners on both façades. The arrangement is crowned by a simple classicizing cornice, and a parapet, with a small, curvilinear, pediment-like element marking the center at the Carlos LeBrun Street façade. The flat roof of the building is not visible from the street; it consists of local hardwood beams, covered with bricks and hydraulic cement stucco.

The volumetric simplicity of the building reflects its interior spacial disposition. The five doors open into a large, open room, originally used as display space, and currently used as a billiard hall. The length of the northern wall of the room is currently segregated from the main space by a bar; it retains some of the original wooden shelving units, currently used to store liquor.

A masonry wall separates the entire width of the room side-to-side, corresponding to the area projected from behind the recessed bay on the secondary facade. A rectangular opening approximately midway the length of the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7+8

Page 2

Vieques Pharmacy
Vieques, Puerto Rico

=====

wall leads into a vestibule and a bathroom, and to additional storage spaces on either side. A round-arch opening on the north end of this wall leads into a small room which is currently used for storage. At the far wall of this small room, a doorway was perforated at some unknown period, in order to facilitate access between the commercial building and the residence immediately behind the building, on Víctor Duteil Street.

The interior floors are of polished concrete. A recent, suspended ceiling of striated plywood panels hangs at a level immediately above the highest point of the doorway arches.

Integrity Statement

Other than its change in usage, the Vieques Pharmacy has suffered only the minor alterations mentioned in the description above. The overall condition of the building is good, for example, its original doors and finishes are still preserved (other than paint). The only apparent sign of deterioration occurs at the east (front) and north walls, where small segments of stucco have fallen off and remain unpatched. Despite the loss of its original furnishings, the building has retained its architectural integrity.

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

The *Farmacia de Vieques* or Vieques Pharmacy, remodelled in 1903, is one of the few remaining buildings of its style on the Island of Vieques. It is currently the most architecturally significant and best preserved example of the type, and is therefore eligible to the National Register under Criterion C, for its significance to the architectural heritage of Vieques.

Don Víctor Molinary Duteil was born in 1855, son of Don Nicolás Molinary and Doña Eugenia Duteil, local merchants and prominent citizens of Vieques. He studied in San Juan and in the Island of Guadalupe, where he perfected his skills in French and later traveled to Paris, where he began his studies in Medicine. He then moved to New York, where he received his degree in Pharmacy. After working for sixteen years in the United States, Molinary returned to Vieques at the end of the nineteenth century.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 3

Vieques Pharmacy
Vieques, Puerto Rico

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In 1896, Molinary bought a pharmacy on the corner of San Juan and Esperanza Streets, facing the Public Plaza. On that year, he was appointed Vice-Consul of Denmark in Vieques, a position on which he served until 1911. As Consul, he promoted commercial links and migration between Vieques and neighboring islands, particularly St. Croix and St. Thomas. The cultural ties between the islands were, thus, strengthened.

In 1898, during the United States occupation of Puerto Rico, Molinary was selected to serve as the official translator between the United States authorities and local authorities in Vieques. As a result, Molinary participated directly in many significant political matters during the transfer of sovereignty in 1898. One of the most significant matters in which he intervened was the transfer of the local government of Vieques to the forces of the United States. Molinary was named the first Chief Postmaster of Vieques, a position which he served between 1900 and 1902, and as such was in charge of the establishment of the United States Postal system on the Island of Vieques. Molinary's prominence in local political matters continued to grow during subsequent years, until 1910, when he was elected Mayor of Vieques, a position which was interrupted by his death, only six months later, in July of 1911.

The significance of Victor Molinary Duteil's contributions to the history of the Island of Vieques is particularly important regarding the establishment of the United States' governmental institutions in the Island. These events reveal the influence and prominence which this native-born citizen of Vieques had in the Island's public life, and most significantly, in the establishment of relations between Vieques and Puerto Rico, and St. Croix, St. Thomas, Denmark and the United States.

Records show that Molinary remodeled his pharmacy in 1903. Although there is no documentation to show what these alterations entailed, physical evidence suggests that it was at this time that the building was connected to the one-story, wooden Vernacular style house located immediately behind the Pharmacy, which served as his residence until his death in 1911. The building is the only remaining, architecturally integral example associated with the contributions of Molinary to the political history of Vieques.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 4

Vieques Pharmacy
Vieques, Puerto Rico

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The building is also significant architecturally, as it is one of only four commercial buildings on the Island of Vieques, and the more elaborate and decorative example of all. The edifice retains all of its original exterior doors, wood and brick roof structure, and other details, such as some of the original shelves belonging originally to the Pharmacy.

Stylistically, the building combines classically-inspired detailing (such as the pilasters) with more common Spanish Colonial elements. Its location, facing the town square, contributes to the historic integrity of the Plaza, making the Pharmacy an important component of both the urban and architectural contexts of the town.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9+10

Page 5

Vieques Pharmacy
Vieques, Puerto Rico

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Buisenet, David. Historic Architecture of the Caribbean. London: Heinemann, 1980.

"V́ctor Molinary Dutiel," in El Carnaval. Revista Puertorriqueña Ilustrada. Año 21, Número 19 (23 de mayo de 1920).

Rabin, Robert and Héctor Santiago. "The Immigrations to Vieques, 1823-1898," a historical context prepared as part of a "Survey and Planning" project for the Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office, Office of the Governor, 1992, as part of the "Inventario de Recursos Históricos y Arquitectónicos de Vieques, Puerto Rico, 1843-1941."

Gjessing, Frederik and William MacLean. Historic Buildings of St. Thomas and St. John. London: MacMillan Caribbean, 1987.

Jopling, Carol F. Puerto Rican Houses in Sociohistorical Perspective. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1988.

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office. Historic Architecture Inventories of Puerto Rico.

Registro de la Propiedad de Vieques, Fajardo, Puerto Rico.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary includes all the area belonging to lot number (9), located in urban block number fourteen (14), town of Isabel Segunda, Municipality of Vieques, Puerto Rico.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries are those historically and currently associated with the property.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

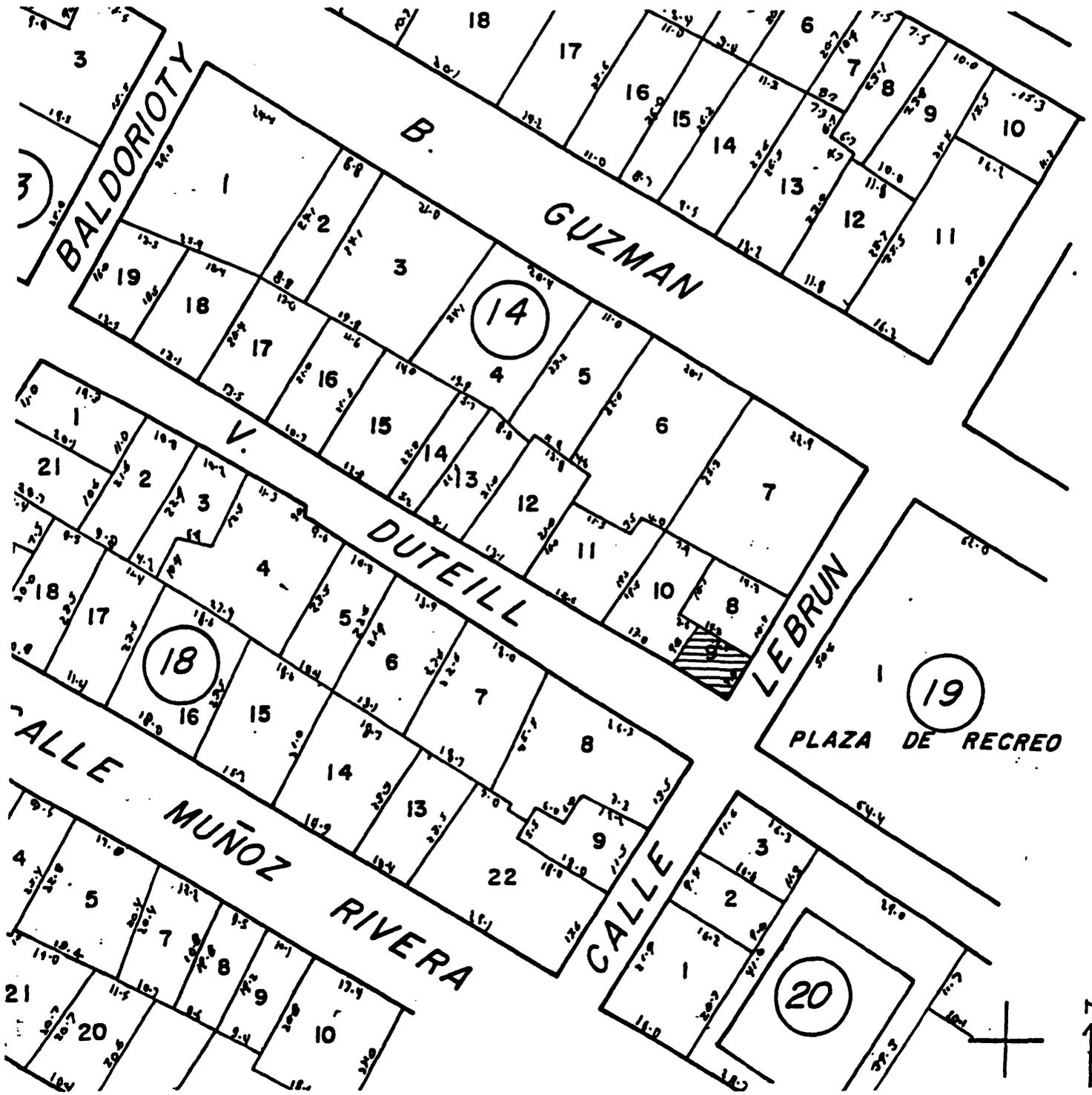
Section number 10 Page 6



SITE PLAN
Farmacia de Vieques
Isabel Segunda
Vieques, P.R.
Scale: 1:1000

FARMACIA DE VIEQUES
VIEQUES, PUERTO RICO

SCALE 1:1000



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 94000061

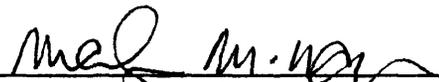
Date Listed: 3/2/94

Vieques Pharmacy
Property Name

Vieques PUERTO RICO
County State

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.



Signature of the Keeper

3/14/94

Date of Action

===== Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 10

This nomination is amended to show that the UTM coordinates for the property are Zone: 18, Easting: 241610, Northing: 2008530.

This amendment was confirmed by phone with the Puerto Rico SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

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