

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

For NPS use only

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

received APR 25 1988

date entered

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

1. Name

historic RESIDENCIA NAZARIO RIVERA

and/or common RESIDENCIA NAZARIO RIVERA (Nazario Rivera Residence)

2. Location

street & number POST STREET NO. 105, BLOCK 385 LOT 30 not for publication

city, town MAYAGUEZ vicinity of

state PUERTO RICO code PR county MAYAGUEZ code 092

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	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 checked="" 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 SUCESION JOSE NAZARIO

street & number CALLE POST NO. 105

city, town MAYAGUEZ, vicinity of state PUERTO RICO

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. REGISTRO DE LA PROPIEDAD, DEPARTAMENTO DE HACIENDA
(RECORDER'S OFFICE)

street & number GOVERNMENT BUILDING, BARRIO MIRADERO

city, town MAYAGUEZ, state PUERTO RICO

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title SURVEY AND PLANNING
PROJECT OF MAYAGUEZ

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date JULY, 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

city, town SAN JUAN, state PUERTO RICO

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This house follows the traditional layout of what can be called typical Puerto Rican house. All of the most "public" areas of the house face towards Post Street, where its main facade is found. Additional rooms and services run East-West from the main "body" of the residence.

Being L shaped within a slightly trapezoidal lot, the remaining space is used as garden. The house, as required by law, is raised from the ground, therefore a set of steps on its back allows access to the patio area. The wood structure rests on a concrete base, perforated for ventilation.

The front facade is symmetrical, with a balcony running all along its width. Steel columns over concrete posts support the balcony's zinc roofing. An ornate iron balustrade relates to the more elaborate doors (4 of them) which lead into the house. These doors are double ones, with movable louvers, colored glass in two colors and ventilating transoms.

The distinct personality of this one story single family dwelling is made evident, as in most houses in Mayaguez, in the living and dining room areas. The Nazario house bears witness to the city's predilection for high interior spaces, unmistakably higher than in any other location on the Island. A "mediopunto (also called "grillé" in Mayaguez, from the french word grille) articulates both areas; its columns rising higher than usual. Ceilings in both areas use continuous ventilating devices, carved in wood, with ornamental trimmings and mouldings.

The walls exhibit stucco decorations all over in floral, arabesque- type patterns highly evocative of Rococo taste, executed, of course, in a less sophisticated manner. The stucco was originally painted in gold leaf, walls were olive green; they are now beige and white. These decorative elements, unique in Puerto Rico was added on to the house after it was built by a local artist with Bayron as last name. Not much additional information is available.

The present owners condemned one of the house's rooms to house a jewelry store facing the street. This unfortunate decision has mutilated, in an almost "obscene" way, the serene facade. After that, any other alterations seems irrelevant; in fact, there are no others.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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 early 20th cent. **Builder/Architect** Don Joaquin Hernández

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Nazario house's significance becomes evident as its uniqueness in the panorama of Puertorican architecture is underlined. The Nazario residence houses one of the best interior spaces ever conceived and executed on the Island (its living room).

The house embodies all main characteristics of Mayaguez' architecture; an L shaped plan, adherence to local building construction codes, astonishingly high interior spaces, diverse ventilation devices, a "mediopunto", and so on.

And then there are the stuccoed walls... On one hand, the house relates to traditional building construction, on the other, it emerges with an identity of its own, a true treasure trove with no "kin" in the rest of the Island, because of this particular ornamental resource.

Unfortunately, no information on Mr. Bayron (the artist) or Mr. Hernández (the builder/architect) has emerged so far.

9. Major Bibliographical References

General Archives of Puerto Rico. Series: Municipalities and Public Works.

Laws Referring to Public Works. Department of the Interior, Puerto Rico, 1896-1939.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property (530 sq.mts.) less than one acre

Quadrangle name USGS MAYAGUEZ 1964

Quadrangle scale 1: 20,000

UTM References Lambert: 18°12'01"
67°08'29"

A

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET (SITE PLAN)

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Arch. Jorge Rigau

organization Colegio de Arquitectos de Puerto Rico date September, 1987

street & number Box 2299 telephone 809/ 724-1213

city or town Hato Rey, 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 April 11, 1988

For NPS use only

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

Keeper of the National Register

date 9-13-89

Attest:

date

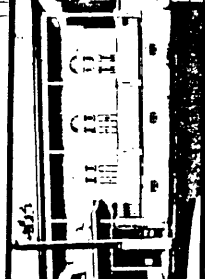
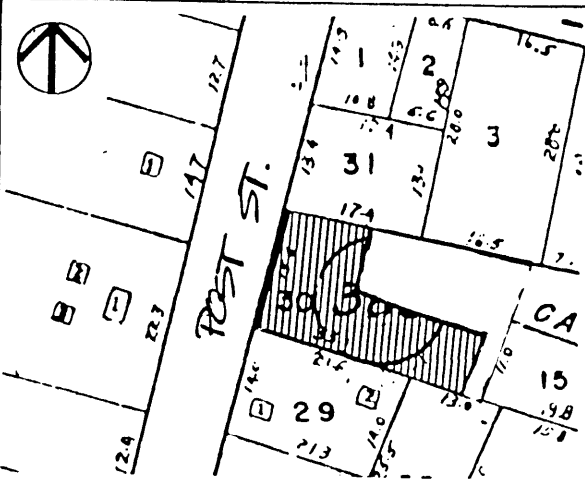

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

NOMBRE COMUN RESIDENCIA NAZARIO RIVERA	
NOMBRE HISTORICO	
ARQUITECTO DN. JOAQUIN HERNANDEZ	
DIRECCION POST #105 Parcela 385 solar 30	

INFORMACION GRAFICA		
		

PLANO DE SITUACION

Scale: 1:1000