

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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JUN 3 1988

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Picó Pomar Residence  
other names/site number Coamo Historic Museum

2. Location

street & number Corner of Mario Braschi and José Quinton St.  not for publication na  
city, town Coamo  vicinity na  
state Puerto Rico code PR county Coamo code 043 zip code 00640

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	_____ objects
			_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Mariano G. Coronas Castro May 24, 1988  
Signature of certifying official 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Amy Schlager 7/12/88  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/ Single Dwelling

Commerce/ Specialty Store/Warehouse

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
Recreation-Culture/ Museum

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Spanish Neoclassical

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof Brick

other

### Describe present and historic physical appearance.

This is a lime plastered masonry structure located at the north-western corner of the intersection of calle Mario Braschi and calle José Quinton facing the main Plaza of Coamo, one of Puerto Rico's earliest settlements. Its two storeys are divided into four bays on the Braschi facade and seven bays in the Quinton facade, all of comparable width and height. The four bays on the Braschi facade are equally spaced, but the southern facade is organized into two visual and spatial units: a staccato group consisting of bays 1-5, divided by a monumental Tuscan order pilaster from the more generously spaced unit composed of bays 6 and 7. A single storey height port-cochere extends westward at the extreme of the Quinton side. An acute curve turns the corner of the two facades

All bays at ground level are articulated with wide planar surrounds and outwards opening double-casement wooden doors. The present main entrance to the museum at the northern extreme of Calle Braschi contains double casement, glass and aluminum doors. A continuous string-course which divided the two levels engages individual balconies with wrought iron railings at each bay on the Braschi facade. At the continuous balcony the metal railings are interrupted by squared posts at intervals coinciding with the curvilinear brackets which support at intervals.

Upper level bays also have double casement wooden doors but are here articulated with molded surrounds and crowned by a hood supported by vertical brackets. A continuous cornice with decorative frieze and modillions and a parapet cap the composition.

The building follows 19th century Spanish urban tradition, incorporating store and storage space at ground level and residence above. In plan the structure follows a "U" shape with one wing shorter than the other creating an "L" shaped interior patio, lined at the second level by a wooden balaustered gallery.

Also typical of the larger houses of the period, the plan forms a rigid grid pattern focused on the living area and patio, with each additional room opening directly onto either one of these central spaces. Interiors have remained mostly unaltered aside from the modern day commercial facilities on the ground level. Original local hard wood and ceramic remain as well as doors transoms and ceilings. Also the original 19th C. furniture has been preserved and is in display. The building maintains its original integrity and all alterations have been minor and do not affect the properties integrity.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
Architecture

Period of Significance  
1840/1878

Significant Dates  
1878

Cultural Affiliation  
NA

Significant Person  
na

Architect/BUILDER  
José Camprabí, 1878 alterations

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The structure that houses the "Museo Histórico de Coamo" was built in 1840 for the wealthy merchant from Mallorca, Spain, Don José Pomar, in the then popular austere and elegant Spanish Mediterranean Neoclassic Style. This building is located on the main Plaza of the town of Coamo. The two storey structure is one of the best examples of its type and the best preserved in Coamo.

In 1863 don Clotilde Santiago, also a wealthy merchant from Mallorca, bought the property. By 1878 he had expanded and improved the original construction, maintaining the original architectural design and style.

Dedicated to commercial activities during the second half of the 19th C. the first storey was one of the Island's most active and important import-export, merchandise distribution centers and the most important in the south-central region of Puerto Rico. They imported manufactured goods from Europe and USA, and exported local products like coffee, tobacco and sugar.

The piano nobile served as residence to the owners family. In its elegant rooms the wealthiest families of the area gathered and enjoyed elegant balls, concerts and banquets.

The property and its contents were purchased by Coamo's Municipal Government and turn it into a museum which displays many of the Santiago family antique furniture, lamps, linen and works of art. It also exhibits a collection of historic portraits, paintings and photographs.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Santiago and Picjo family records.  
Register of deeds in Barranquitas  
Coamo's parish Records

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

State historic preservation office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Specify repository:

Archivo General de Puerto Rico

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property .185 acres ( less than one acre )

66° 23" W / 18° 04' 56" N

UTM References  
 A 

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21°

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 Zone Easting Northing  
 C 

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B 

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 Zone Easting Northing  
 D 

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See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

See enclosed location plan

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the entire city lot historically associated with the property

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Félix Julián del Campo (State Historian) / Hector Santiago ( Arch. Hist. )  
 organization Puerto Rico S.H.P.O date May 24, 1988  
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 city or town San Juan state Puerto Rico zip code 00901

PICO POMAR RESIDENCE  
MUSEO HISTORICO DE COAMO  
COAMO, PUERTO RICO

SCALE: 1:1125



