

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



712

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín

other names/site number Finca de Trujillo Alto

### 2. Location

street & number State Road #877 Km 0.4

x

 not for publication

city or town San Juan vicinity

state Puerto Rico code PR county San Juan code 127 zip code 00926

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

   national    x statewide    local

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela  
Signature of certifying official/Title

August 16, 2011  
Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property    meets    does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register    determined eligible for the National Register

   determined not eligible for the National Register    removed from the National Register

other (explain):  
  
Signature of the Keeper  
for

9/29/2011  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	4	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
5	4	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

Not Applicable

Not Applicable

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC / single dwelling

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION / research facility

RECREATIONAL AND CULTURE / museum

LANDSCAPE / garden

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Modern Movement / International Style

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Concrete

Metal/ Iron

roof: Concrete

other: Wood, Glass

---

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

The **Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín's** district, located in a three and a half acre rural site along marginal road P.R. 877 in San Juan, is composed of the main house, library and personal office, administrative office and a ranch referred to as the *bohío*. An archival building, car museum and guard house are the noncontributing buildings presently used to house the Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation that support the now museum facility. The place was Luis Muñoz Marín's residence from the 1940s until his death in 1980. Luis Muñoz Marín was the first Puerto Rican governor elected by the people, considered the architect of the modern Puerto Rico and one of the most significant politicians in twentieth century Latin America's history.

---

### Narrative Description

Luis Muñoz Marín's residence is a district (**Fig. 1**) nestled in a three and a half acre rural site along marginal road P.R. 877, surrounded by dense vegetation. Composed of the main house, library and personal office, administrative office and the *bohío*<sup>1</sup> these form the contributing buildings on site. The first four buildings form a cluster around a paved area with the *bohío* a short walk down a gravel pathway. The main house and the office contain all the furniture, art, books and household items from the time Luis Muñoz Marín and his wife Inés Mendoza lived the property.

The main house is a 1,170 square foot concrete building with balcony, two bedrooms, living and dining areas, one bathroom, a kitchen and a library (**Fig.2**). Floors, stairs, walls, roofs and eaves are all made of concrete with the doors and windows made out of wood. Its spatial sequence is through the balcony and an exterior metal open weave platform added later by which the public can peek inside every room of the house. An L shaped 13'-6" wide balcony with four square concrete columns is reached by five steps and surrounds the living room area (**Fig. 3**). The floors on the balcony have terracotta colored hydraulic tiles. Centering of the home is the dining area that gives access to Luis Muñoz Marín's bedroom and Inés Mendoza's bedroom to the right and the bathroom and kitchen across. A side entrance to the dining room, through a smaller balcony, connects to the kitchen also. There is a pantry in the kitchen and each room has a small closet.

A two feet hanging eave surrounds most of the house. The parapet is adorned around the balcony area with recessed rectangles. An open storage area underneath the house was used for garden equipment and storage. Facades for the main house display narrow and high rectangular openings for windows and standard doors on walls. The windows have single or double pane solid wood shutters that open with wooden and glass interior windows that remain closed. Most of the windows are original with the exception of the ones at an expanded room. Early family photos show the windows where painted white, and instead of the glass panels used today, used to be screened panels that let the natural air flow through. Interior photos after 1980 show the windows in a varnished natural color. All floors are original hydraulic tile in a solid burgundy color.

---

<sup>1</sup>The building was called a *rancho* in Spanish by the family and later *bohío* by others. The translation in English has not the same meaning. *Bohío* has a cultural connotation in reference to housing units of Pre-Columbian period.

A prominent feature of the house is the main balcony around the living area with four square columns and supporting concrete beams with a surrounding eave beyond. A protruded base about three feet high from the ground can be seen in the side of the house. An image of the Providence's Virgin can be found next to the main entrance door. A low brick wall left to the secondary entrance stairs is original to the house. On the side and back of the house the windows have individual eaves in addition to the one above that runs along the house. Original rectangular shaped brick pavement can be found at the entrance of the main house and between the guest house, office and library.

During the time the family lived the house the middle bedroom expanded out to a portion of the L shaped balcony. This room first belonged to daughters Viviana and Victoria Muñoz, later it became Ines' room until she died (**Fig. 4**). Although this addition was made during the period of significance, other changes were done to make the house into a museum. One of the additions is a 36" inch high metal hand railing along the open balcony since the balcony had an original lower metal railing still in existence. A metal structure continuing the balcony floor surrounds the back of the house on its north and east sides enabling visitors to peek inside and appreciate the interior. This area has a terrain drop consisting of one storey where the house has a storage area below. The metal structure is made of square tubes of varying widths used for columns and beams. The columns are supported on concrete footings that surface about two feet above ground.

The back of the house has four windows at the expanded room making it very open to the outside (**Fig. 5**). The windows in that room of the house have changed at various occasions while the family lived there. Today all windows and doors match the originals in the shutter style and the same size. A central air condition unit was added to maintain a proper temperature for the objects in the house and is concealed in an existing pantry of the kitchen that is not visible from the windows.

The library and Muñoz Marín's personal office is an 887 square feet rectangular space made of concrete built in 1965. The spatial composition is divided in two areas, one that houses the books with sitting area and another smaller area that recedes back from the façade and has the office. For fenestrations there are metal Miami style windows, glass windows for the office, wooden doors and sliding glass doors in the library towards the paved area. Hanging eaves around the building are an extension of the roof protruding about 18 inches. The spaces have all the period furniture, books and items of its owner on display just as he left them when he died.

An office and archive building is located across from the library building's entrance, used by administrative employees and archive for Luis Muñoz Marín's personal documents. Built by 1965, as well as the library, today is used as a media room for exhibition and guests' information center. Both the library building and the administrative office building are significant because these were the spaces which Muñoz used to write his Memoirs and the other where important documents were first stored and organized. The shape is a rectangle that used to be divided by a bathroom and wall to separate the storage area from the working area. Both dividing elements were demolished around 1986 to convert the space into one exhibition area. Inside there are four wood and glass cabinets that hold important medals, magazines, photos and objects of Luis Muñoz Marín's political career. The building is connected to the library/office by way of a slanted concrete roof and paved area with steps.

A short walk along a pathway to the east we can find the *bohío*, built in 1948, where the family gathered for activities and important meeting with dignitaries where held. Today's version is the fourth one since 1948. The *bohío* is a rectangular wooden shed supported by five columns wide, six columns in length and two center columns. All beams and rafters are wood with a rounded section. The floor has a concrete floor base in front with 2" by 4" beams that support a tongue and groove hard wood floor. A wooden railing has a diagonal cross pattern in each square. The ceiling is built with Palm tree foliage (*Palma de Sombrero*) covered in zinc shingles. The total area for the covered space is 912 square feet. An addition to the back for storage has concrete floor supported by round metal columns. Wood paneling with metal Miami style windows enclose the outside walls of this addition. This building had an evolution until our days because it was made bigger by the family and its subsequent destruction when a tree fell over it in 1998. The original dimensions were three columns wide by three columns in length constructed entirely of wood. The roof was finished with Puerto Rican Hat Palm leaves. Sequential and reconstruction photos by epoch can be viewed in the continuation sheets (Fig. 6-7-8).

Even with the construction development within the properties vicinity, the site where the district lies retains a rural, forest-like appearance that conveys its original rural setting. The buildings and property lines are surrounded by a garden of mature trees, shrubs and planting (Fig. 9). About ten mature Maga, Common yellow elder, Queen's flower and Flame trees exist in a planting area in front of the property behind a sidewalk. White orchid trees, more Flame trees, Elders, Maga, Queen's flower, are among the mature trees in front of the three buildings that compose side by side the Library, office and guest house. These buildings have their back towards the driveway because they face the main house a little further in. This way all entrances face each other, creating a central space with sidewalks among more trees of Queen's flower, Flame tree, Guayacán, Royal palms, Gardenias, Elders and Maga. Australian pine, Yellow elder, Royal Palms, Indian almond, Teak, Malay Apple and a few Maga trees surround the back of the main house. The concentration of mature trees can be found around the main house towards the front of the property with smaller newer ones to the end. Two Maray trees stand before the entrance of the *bohío*. There is a ravine that crosses north south at the east end of the property, hidden by bamboo trees.

Components near the *bohío* are the swimming pool converted into a fountain, the hearth and worship cove (Fig. 10). The swimming pool was built by the family around 1950. It is rectangular in shape measuring 17' 6" by 49' (feet) and made of concrete. When the family used the pool it was left as exposed concrete and had safety metal railings all around the inside and two metal ladders at opposite ends. In 1993, the pool was converted into a fountain for security reasons, but maintaining the original shape. Metal ladders were taken out and it was filled with concrete to achieve a 6" depth for safety reasons. A gravel finish with tile borders was added to the surface surrounding the pool. Now it has a water feature with rocks and sprinkler at the center. The hearth in front of the *bohío* is made out of bricks in a variety of widths and colors. The central part is squared with a nook for burning wood. Two rectangular extensions protrude towards the front leaving an open space to contain a metal grill and wood underneath. The worship cove is made of uneven edge rocks in a semi circular shape with a round nook for religious statue display.

Noncontributing buildings in the property include a second house (Fig. 11) and the Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation buildings. The second residence, located in front of the original house, is a 1964, 837 square feet, rectangular, concrete building. It has a front balcony the width of the house with four round metal columns for

support and ornate metal grilles for railings. Inside the original two bedrooms now serve as offices; the living room is a reception area, and the bathroom and kitchen remain. The front wooden doors are double pane with transoms and wooden jalousies. The back door is metal. The windows are wood with jalousies. All have glass panes on the inside.

In 1987, the firm *Sierra Cardona y Ferrer* designed the Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation buildings (**Fig. 12**). The three concrete buildings house the archives and offices, car museum and guard house. They are all close but separated from the contributing district. The main building's second floor houses the foundation's offices, investigation area for the public, bathroom, reception area and archives of Muñoz Marín and Ines Mendoza's personal documents. The first floor has an area for activities, kitchen, bathroom, storage area and mechanical room. This building appears as a one storey flat roof building because the terrain was dug to accommodate the first floor that has 3,030 square feet. The second floor has 2,663 square feet of space. The second floor is approached by stairs going up a cantilever pathway to the center of the building. Glass doors and fixed windows permit view inside the reception area while two precast concrete screens cover the glass windows of the offices. Scored horizontal lines are 2'-6" apart on the remaining solid walls. Outdoor terraces on either side of the building house activities on roofless paved areas. They are accessible through four sets of double doors made of glass and heavy wood framing in the same way as other exterior doors. There are detached public bathrooms accessible through a covered way to the west of the main building.

The 1987 guard house, next to the front entrance, has an office with a bathroom. The same treatment as the fence wall decorates the surface and has a flat roof, the door and windows are glass and metal. The car museum, also from 1987, was designed to house a 1942 Packard Limousine Special Edition made for President F.D. Roosevelt and later donated to Luis Muñoz Marín for his personal use (**Figs. 13-14**). The single garage covered space has 643 square feet made of two solid walls of concrete in an L shape with scored horizontal lines on the solid walls, one short side with double doors for side car entrance. A metal flat roof covers the building and the facade wall has precast concrete screen with metal gates on either side.

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Politics/government  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1946 to 1980  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1946, 1948, 1952, 1980  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Luis Muñoz Marín  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

### Period of Significance (justification)

Luis Muñoz Marín rented the property from 1946 until 1952. He bought the residence in this last year and lived the property as his private residence until his death in 1980.

### Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

The private office, library and the administrative office buildings, were added to the residential premises between 1963 and 1965. As such, these resources are less than fifty years old. Nonetheless, the resources were extremely significant to the actions and activities conducted by Luis Muñoz Marín, an exceptional political figure, in the last two decades of his productive life: his last years as governor, his work as a Senator, the writing of his Memoirs and the organization of Muñoz's personal documents.

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

**Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín** is of statewide significance under Criterion B as the property was the residence of Luis Muñoz Marín, first governor elected by Puerto Rican voters. Considered the "Father of Modern Puerto Rico", a key figure in the development and implementation of Operation Bootstrap, one of the most revered leaders in Puerto Rico's history, Luis Muñoz Marín is one of the most important political figures of the Americas in the Twentieth Century.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

José Luis Alberto Muñoz Marín (**Fig. 15**) was born February 18, 1898 in Fortaleza Street # 152 in Old San Juan, Puerto Rico. Three days after his birth, the *USS Maine* was blown up in Havana harbor and the Hispanic American war started soon after. "*I was born under the Autonomic Regime that Muñoz Rivera directed*", Muñoz Marín wrote in one of his books.<sup>2</sup> Luis Muñoz Rivera, Muñoz Marín's father, one of the most significant politicians of late nineteen and early twentieth century, was designated titled *Ministro de Gracia, Justicia y Gobernación* by Royal Decree under the short-lived autonomic Constitution of 1897(**Fig. 16**). Muñoz Marín descended from a family actively involved in both politics and journalism. His mother was Amalia Marín Castilla from Ponce, daughter of Ramón Marín Solá, a journalist and owner of the newspaper *El Cronista*. Luis Muñoz Rivera would later take over and renamed *La Democracia*.

In 1900, Muñoz Rivera moved his family to the town of Caguas. Muñoz Marín studied his elementary school in Puerto Rico and the United States because of his father's continuous travels to New York and Washington, DC. The first time he went to the US was in 1901 and stayed there until 1905, where he learned English playing in the streets of New York City<sup>3</sup>. Back in Puerto Rico after the triumph of the Unionist Party, that Luis Muñoz Rivera presided, the son studied in public local schools.

In 1910, Muñoz Rivera was elected Resident Commissioner and the family moved to Washington DC. In 1911, Muñoz Marín attended Georgetown Preparatory School in Washington DC and in 1915, he began

<sup>2</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, *Historia del Partido Popular Democrático*, (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín, 2003), p. 79.

<sup>3</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, *Historia del Partido Popular Democrático*, p. 79.



(but never finished) law school at Georgetown University. In 1916, Muñoz Marín transferred to Columbia University to take journalism courses and soon after he was writing for newspapers in Puerto Rico, Latin America and the United States.

In 1916, Luis Muñoz Rivera died and his son came back to Puerto Rico for the funeral, remaining here until 1921. In 1919, he married Muna Lee, his first wife, and had two children with her, Munita and Luis. During this time Luis Muñoz Marín's name appeared regularly in the local press for the articles he wrote and also a public exposition on behalf of his father's commemorative birthdays. The occasions served as practice ground in the art of public speaking, something at which Muñoz became very proficient. The exposure helped to consolidate his image in the public consciousness while preparing him for life as a public figure.

In 1917, a year after Muñoz Rivera's death the Second Organic Law or Jones Law was approved for Puerto Rico. The Organic Law granted U.S. citizenship to all Puerto Ricans. Executive, Judicial, and Legislative branches of the Puerto Rican government were properly separated. However, the President of the United States, Congress and the Governor of Puerto Rico (appointed by the President) had the power to reject any law passed by the local legislature. At the same time the U.S. maintained control over fiscal and economic matters implementing authority over defense, immigration, mail services and other governmental matters.

Although Muñoz Marín had open doors to join the *Partido Unionista*, his father's party, he decided to join the Socialist Party and the Free Federation of Workers of Puerto Rico. Both groups were dedicated to fight against poverty and the inequality suffered by Puerto Ricans, causes that he fervently endorsed. For Muñoz, the struggle against the workers' abuses by the powerful landlords was the fuel that motivated him. He campaigned in almost every town for the *Partido Socialista* and he participated in workers strikes to better their conditions.<sup>4</sup>

Moving to the US again from 1921 to 1926 Muñoz Marín attended the Convention of the American Work Federation in Portland Oregon where he represented the workers of Puerto Rico.<sup>5</sup> Muñoz came back to Puerto Rico in 1926 as head of the newspaper *La Democracia*, founded by his father. A few months later he went back to the States where he tried to consolidate all party leaders in order to establish a decisive fight against worker's misery and exploitation.

In the 1930's, Puerto Rico found itself immersed in an increasingly difficult socio-economic crisis caused by the Great Depression, the passage of two disastrous hurricanes, the conglomeration of lands in the hands of a few absentee sugar lords and the lack of political and economical powers on the part of the local population, among numerous other issues of the time. In a situation like this one, the leaders were challenged to think of new solutions to problems that although not new, never had such a great burden.<sup>6</sup>

In 1931 Luis Muñoz Marín returned to Puerto Rico and established himself definitively to assume the direction of *La Democracia*. By 1932, Muñoz joined the *Partido Liberal* (Liberal Party), established by the experienced politician Antonio R. Barceló, who took the young reporter under his wing. *La Democracia* became the official speaker of the Liberal Party. Although the Liberals lost the 1932 elections, Muñoz was

<sup>4</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, *Historia del Partido Popular Democrático*, p. 80.

<sup>5</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, *Historia del Partido Popular Democrático*, p. 81.

<sup>6</sup> Francisco Scarano, *Puerto Rico: Cinco siglos de historia*, (San Juan: McGraw-Hill, 1993), p.542.

elected as a Senator. In that very same year, Franklin D. Roosevelt swept the elections in the United States. FDR's New Deal would have a profound impact in the local political struggles.

In 1933, using his excellent political connections with the new administration, Muñoz wrote to Eleanor Roosevelt letting her know his vision for the future of the Island. Muñoz expressed his intentions for social justice and for an autonomous economy rather than a dependent one. Thus, he wanted to break the cycle of land monopoly by landholders and instead give it to the people who labored it. The promotion of industrial development was also a vital part of Muñoz's vision. Eleanor Roosevelt visited the Island in 1934 and was appalled by the living conditions of the poor.<sup>7</sup>

Luis Muñoz Marín and Carlos Chardón, President of the University of Puerto Rico, set out to create a proposal that would help boost the Island out of its economic weariness. With President Roosevelt's approval, a Puerto Rico Policy Commission, presided by Chardón, created a plan in 1934 to promote socio-economic reforms for the Island, focusing on agricultural rehabilitation. The Commission submitted to the President a document finally coined as the *Plan Chardón*. The plan defined Puerto Rico's economic and social problems as being the result of a large and growing landless class; chronic and grave unemployment; and a large and rapidly increasing population problem.<sup>8</sup>

The Chardón Plan established a series of measures to alleviate the situation in Puerto Rico. Measures limited the production of sugar in accordance with a quota just approved by law in US, to buy various sugar mills with public funds thus turning them into public corporations. Obtained an ample extension of land of 50,000 acres to sell, rent or provide them to individual farmers who would establish sustenance farms with fruits and vegetables in less productive soil were other measures. One of the local initiatives for relief enacted by the Puerto Rican Legislature, in response to the objectives of the Plan Chardón, was the 500 acre law, which established that no single landowner could own and operate more than 500 acres of land for sugar farming.

Through the strong and effective lobbying of Muñoz and associates like Chardón, relief programs were brought to Puerto Rico in the form of several Federal Agencies. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) was to provide construction jobs. In Puerto Rico, WPA workers contributed to the economy and development of Puerto Rico in the construction of military facilities, roads, schools, public buildings and social housing, among others.<sup>9</sup> In 1933, the Puerto Rico Emergency Relief Act was passed, with the aim to provide direct and temporary emergency relief to the poverty-stricken population.<sup>10</sup> The Puerto Rico Reconstruction Administration (PRRA) was created by Executive Order on May 28, 1935, to relieve unemployment creating new sources of wealth and income to increase the standards of living of the population.

PRRA used \$230 million dollars during the next five years to fund and build hygienic houses, orphanages, homes for the elderly, communal and vocational centers, schools, hospitals and public plazas. The programs were mostly dedicated to construction, but included other areas as well. The range of activities included rural rehabilitation and electrification, reforestation, slum clearance, low-cost housing construction,

<sup>7</sup> Aníbal Sepúlveda, *Puerto Rico Urbano: Atlas histórico de la ciudad puertorriqueña*, vol. 4 (San Juan: Carimar, 2004), p. 32.

<sup>8</sup> Francisco Scarano, *Puerto Rico: Cinco siglos de historia*, p. 680-681.

<sup>9</sup> Luz Marie Rodríguez, *New Deal Communities*, p.5.

<sup>10</sup> Luz Marie Rodríguez, *New Deal Communities*, p.3.

improvements to buildings for the University of Puerto Rico, construction of a cement plant, and cattle tick and coconut bud-rot eradication programs.<sup>11</sup> Hydroelectric plants, pluvial and sewage systems, industries, factories, irrigation and electrification systems and dockyards were part of the infrastructure and industry reforms the program was able to accomplish.

Even with the significant assistance of the New Deal's programs in the island, poverty in Puerto Rico was such that two thirds of urban families and three fourths of rural families were living in subpar conditions, with substandard housing and diets, as well as insufficient opportunities for education and employment. It was among this population, that Muñoz Marín would found a fertile ground for his political discourse.

By 1938, Luis Muñoz Marín was ready to venture into the world of politics with his own political organization. For the last years, the young leader had been creating a brain trust, bringing some of the youngest and brightest minds around him. On July 22, 1938, Muñoz's new political force, the Popular Democratic Party (*Partido Popular Democrático*, PPD) was inscribed for the first time simultaneously in the towns of Barranquitas and Luquillo.

For the next two years, Muñoz Marín and his associates took their political campaign to every corner of the island, concentrating their effort in the farmers, laborers and the urban workers (Figs. 17-18-19). The poor, the landless and the dispossessed became the PPD's social base. The face-to-face strategy was supported by the massive distribution of a newly founded newspaper called *El Batey*.<sup>12</sup> The paper was distributed free of charge. It served to educate the people about the PPD's proposals for social and economic change. The paper circulated images that showed Muñoz talking to the farmers in the countryside, explaining the PPD's program in simple words, while sitting in the ground drinking coffee. These images became Muñoz's emblematic metaphors.<sup>13</sup>

On July 21, 1940, a PPD's Constituent Assembly was celebrated in San Juan with the participation of 4,017 delegates from all wards and communities of Puerto Rico. A group of Muñoz's associates composed of Dr. Francisco Susoni, Samuel Quiñones, Ernesto Ramos Antonini, Vicente Géigel Polanco, Benjamín Ortiz, Dr. Antonio Fernós Isern, Víctor Gutiérrez Franco, Juan Enrique Soltero, Rafael Arjona Siaca, Elmer Ellsworth, María Libertad Gómez, Andrés Grillasca, Vicente Medina, Miguel Guerra Mondragón and others, delineate the fundamental law projects of the Popular Democratic Party. The law projects were explained to the public via radio and each of the PPD candidates for the Legislature was sworn in to vote for the purposes of said projects.<sup>14</sup>

At the 1940 elections, the PPD won twenty nine out of the seventy-six municipalities.<sup>15</sup> The Popular Democratic Party elected ten senators and eighteen representatives and Luis Muñoz Marín was designated President of the Senate (Fig. 20). Simultaneously, Rexford Guy Tugwell was appointed Governor of Puerto Rico by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in September. The relationship between Tugwell and Muñoz was of mutual appreciation and friendship. In essence, Muñoz and the PPD wanted a program of radical change for Puerto Rico and Tugwell agreed in its fundamental points.

<sup>11</sup> Luz Marie Rodríguez, *New Deal Communities*, p.3.

<sup>12</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, *Historia del Partido Popular Democrático*, p. 84

<sup>13</sup> Libia González López, *Imágenes Muñoz y "el pueblo"*, p. 398.

<sup>14</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, *Historia del Partido Popular Democrático*, p. 84.

<sup>15</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, *Memorias II*, p. 175.

On December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor was attacked, resulting in the United States involvement in the Second World War. The Popular Democratic Party made it a policy in the years immediately after the war to lobby for important changes in the relationship between the United States and Puerto Rico. One of those important changes was the 1947 approval by the US Congress of the Elective Governor Law, authorizing Puerto Ricans to elect their own governor.

In the 1948 general elections, Luis Muñoz Marín became the first Puerto Rican governor elected by popular vote. His election as Governor stood up against hunger, injustice, ignorance, sickness and oppression. On January 2, 1949 Muñoz was sworn in amidst great celebration in front of the Capitol building in San Juan (Fig. 21). The PPD and Muñoz proceeded to work for what they had promised during campaign.

### Operation Commonwealth of Puerto Rico

Luis Muñoz Marín transformed Puerto Rico during his time in office (Fig. 22). During Muñoz sixteen years as governor (1949-1964) three major projects were created in the economic, social and political areas: *Operation Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (ELA)*, *Operation Bootstrap*, and *Operation Serenity*. On June 16, 1955, at Harvard University Commencement Day speech the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Luis Muñoz Marín, addressed the graduating class and explained the three operations the country was putting into effect to fight poverty and achieve freedom:

*"It's people have entrusted to their leaders three tasks, each basic, all inter-related: a fight to abolish poverty, a freedom, a dream of a good way of life, a way of life in which the energy generated to abolish poverty serves to deepen the human freedom that should ensue from its abolition rather than to bewilder and confuse it."*<sup>16</sup>

The first project was vital for the Popular Democratic Party's political agenda. *Operation Commonwealth of Puerto Rico* was the first task in order to achieve a political transformation towards a self-governing country. Explaining *Operation Commonwealth* at the Harvard commencement ceremony speech, Muñoz said:

*"Operation Commonwealth has worked out and is still working out a new kind of political status. It is a dynamic one. Its growth is not toward turning into something else – Puerto Rico is not on the road to becoming a federated state of the Union or an isolated republic outside the Union. Its growth is toward developing along its own lines and toward the fulfillment of its potential. In its essence, Operation Commonwealth consists of not forsaking creative attitudes toward new kinds of freedom in a brotherhood of peoples. New ways of political freedom should always be in the crucible of thought and action."*<sup>17</sup>

In 1950, President Truman signed Law 600 authorizing Puerto Ricans to write their own constitution. Muñoz perceived that this step was necessary to remove the stained colonial status Puerto Rico had maintained after the country was passed from Spanish regime to American hands, since the Spanish American War.

<sup>16</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, Remarks by the Hon. Luis Muñoz Marín, Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico at Harvard University, June 16, 1955, Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation Archives, p. 3.

<sup>17</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, Remarks by the Hon. Luis Muñoz Marín, p. 5.

*"Prior to the establishment of the Commonwealth in 1952 the status of Puerto Rico was that of an unincorporated territory or possession of the United States. Its status was unilaterally determined by Congress; its constitution was a law of Congress." The people of Puerto Rico live now under a constitution of their own adoption, which only they can alter, and their happy and fruitful relationship with the United States is founded on a Compact submitted to them in referendum and overwhelmingly accepted by them."*<sup>18</sup>

On June 4, 1951, Puerto Rico approved Law 600 by referendum. The Constituent Convention, charged with the writing of the Constitution, was composed of seventy PPD's delegates, fifteen from the Statehood Party and seven from Socialist Party. Luis Muñoz Marín was one of the delegates at the historic Convention. In March, 1952, the people of Puerto Rico endorsed the Constitution and on July 25, 1952, the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was put into effect, officially establishing the *Estado Libre Asociado* (Fig. 23).

In a letter to President Truman, Muñoz explained that Puerto Rico was no longer a colony as its government arises from *"the vote of its people, emitted in free periodical elections, there is no discrimination between the rights of citizens of Puerto Rico and any federal state, no impediment to the development of economic activity, free education is encouraged by the government of the United States"*.<sup>19</sup> Therefore the Governor wanted the Island's removal from the list of non-self-governing territories of the US as where at the time Alaska, Hawaii, the Panama Canal Zone, Guam, American Samoa and the Virgin Islands. For each territory the United States was required to submit to the United Nations (UN) annual reports on efforts to de-colonize the territories. Luis Muñoz Marín wanted the Commonwealth status to be understood by the Federal government and the international community as an autonomous status with political and economical ties to the United States. Muñoz wanted to present the Commonwealth as a democratic solution to de-colonization process, as requested by the United Nations. On November 27, 1953, the general assembly for the UN held Resolution number 748 and ratified the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as a formula of self-government. Many saw was taking place as a profound political transformation that altered the relationship between the United States and Puerto Rico.

In 1966, Muñoz and the PPD obtained another significant political triumph. The United States Congress Status Commission recommended the celebration of a plebiscite between the Commonwealth and its opposition, statehood and independence. On July 23, 1967, 60.5% of the voters selected the Commonwealth status over the other two alternatives.

### Operation Bootstrap

The second major project for the island, *Operation Bootstrap*, went hand in hand with *Operation Commonwealth*. Its purpose was to elevate life expectations by way of a healthier economy. A steady political climate was needed in order to attract American Industries to Puerto Rico and once the Commonwealth was established the way was paved for *Operation Bootstrap* to really take off. Described in a simple way by Luis Muñoz Marín himself, *Operation Bootstrap* was the right to life.

*"An obvious task of any under-developed country is to increase its production. Development takes place by modernizing agricultural implements and techniques, industrial plants and methods, financial facilities,*

<sup>18</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, Remarks by the Hon. Luis Muñoz Marín, p. 4.

<sup>19</sup> A.W. Maldonado, Luis Muñoz Marín: Puerto Rico's Democratic Revolution, Editorial Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, 2006, p. 332.

*distributive agencies; and by modernizing attitudes, such as acceptance of more precise work disciplines, an interest in handling machinery, a willingness to invest in new ventures, to adopt and adapt new organizational forms, like the multiple ownership corporation, the mass market. In Puerto Rico it has meant the multiplication of factories, the expansion of agriculture; and through dynamic financial institutions, to make the use of money more energetic even while making its abuse more languid. It has and is expressing itself in dozens of new industrial activities, millions of kilowatt-hours, efficient airports, good roads, good harbor facilities, an improved marketing system.<sup>20</sup>*

In 1960, Muñoz Marín was described in New York's *Daily News* as the driving force behind the Island's world famous "Operation Bootstrap" or "*Fomento*". At the heart of Operation Bootstrap there were three essential engines: an aggressive taxes exemption policy, the existence of large quantity of cheap labor and a local stable government willing to provide substantial infrastructure assistance to the establishment of new industries, all provided under the protection of the US flag. The combination of these factors promoted an economic transformation of the island. Puerto Rico began to produce textiles, chemicals, electrical equipment, clothing and plastics. Big companies like Textron and General Electric, among many others, established branches in Puerto Rico (Fig. 24). The work force employed in factories climbed steadily from 28,300 employers in 1956 to 59,300 in 1962 to 93,200 by 1968.

Initially, emphasis was given to high intensity work and low capital investment whereas later in the 1960's high intensity capital and lower work intensity were promoted in order to offset the migration of the first kind of factories to Latin America and the Orient. Petrochemicals and pharmaceuticals where industries encouraged by the local government as they tended to be more permanent, invested more money and provided more secure jobs. In the 1950s, in addition to manufacture factories, the hotel industry was another project propelled by the government, one that took advantage of the island's tropical location in order to promote tourism (Fig. 25).

By the 1950s an "economic miracle" was taking place in Puerto Rico. The island went from a rural agricultural society to a modern urban-industrial one. Puerto Rico became a show-case in the Americas, where economists and political analysts from all parts came to observe and study the Puerto Rican experiment. Practically overnight, the Island seemed to be joining the developed countries.<sup>21</sup>

### Operation Serenity

Satisfying the basic needs of the people was a first priority at the beginning of Muñoz Marín's political career. Cultural activities were considered luxuries. While there where basic needs to be fulfilled, public funds could not be allocated for cultural activities<sup>22</sup>. Once the economic project and the political reform were well on their way, Muñoz Marín understood that there had to be a balance between the cultural and education areas for the people of Puerto Rico. The effort to equip the people with organisms, entities and infrastructure that could maximize Puerto Rican culture was known as *Operation Serenity*. Luis Muñoz Marín described this operation on his speech at Harvard University Commencement:

<sup>20</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, Remarks by the Hon. Luis Muñoz Marín, p. 3.

<sup>21</sup> A.W. Maldonado, Teodoro Moscoso, p. xii.

<sup>22</sup> Idsa E. Alegría Ortega, La Gobernación de Luis Muñoz Marín: una mirada a sus resistencias, Picó Fernando (ed.), Imágenes de la Memoria (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín, 2008), p. 204.

*"Operation Serenity is undoubtedly the most difficult of the three. We might say that it aims to give some kind of effective command to the human spirit an effective ruler, albeit a constitutional one limited by a strong parliament of economic forces. It aims at making high objectives for man's earthy life real, familiar and simple in the daily life of the community." "A society in which Operation Serenity had been successful would use its economic power increasingly for the extension of freedom, of knowledge, and of the understanding imagination rather than for rapid multiplication of goods, in hot pursuit of still more vertiginous multiplication of wants."<sup>23</sup>*

How to balance moral ethics and material wellbeing was one of the dilemmas Muñoz faced and pondered during his administration as both were important facts of progress. He knew that with manufacturing production came material excesses and leisure time. It was important to employ that leisure time with activities that cultivate and develop the mind. Muñoz Marín believed that a proper balance between education and culture was the foundation for a positive civilization.

During Muñoz Marín's time in office multiple cultural agencies were created. In 1949, the Division for Community Education was established as a program to alphabetize adults in rural and urban areas. In 1950, the Conservatory of Music and the Free Schools of Music were created by Ernesto Ramos Antonini, President of the Legislature, to facilitate that Puerto Rican students could develop their musical talents. The Casals Festival was created in 1958, with the arrival of famed cellist Pablo Casals to the Island (Fig. 26). The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, through Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company promoted this Festival that was given international recognition. In 1955, the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture was also established to conserve, preserve and diffuse all local cultural manifestations. In 1947 and 1958, respectively, public radio and television services were established becoming a vital element in the exposé of the Puerto Rican culture.

In 1964, after sixteen years as governor, Muñoz decided to step down. On August 24, 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson sent a letter on occasion of the Governor's decision not to run again as candidate:

*"To me, it represents your selfless devotion to the welfare of the people of Puerto Rico and a deep abiding faith in the democratic process. Your willingness to give up virtually certain re-election as the most popular and revered political leader of the Commonwealth to demonstrate how strong democracy is in Puerto Rico has properly been hailed as an act of true statesmanship."<sup>24</sup>*

Although Muñoz stepped down from the governor's position he held for four consecutive terms, he remained very much involved in Puerto Rico's political arena, becoming a Senator until the 1970s. In 1973, Muñoz retired from his political life completely, dedicating his remaining time to work on his Memoirs and organizing his private documents at his home in Sabana Llana. Luis Muñoz Marín died in April 30, 1980.

In 1963, Luis Muñoz Marín was honored with the highest tribute conferred to civilians by the United States government, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The medal was presented by President Lyndon B. Johnson a few months after Kennedy's assassination (Fig. 27). The wording in the award summarizes the essential truth about Muñoz Marín significance:

<sup>23</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín, Remarks by the Hon. Luis Muñoz Marín, pp. 5-6.

<sup>24</sup> General Correspondence, Series 1, Section V, Folio 16, Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation Archives.

*"Poet, politician, public servant, and patriot. He has taken his People to new heights of dignity and purpose, transforming a stricken land into a vital society".*

### **La Finca de Sabana Llana**

In a *Time Magazine's* article of May 22, 1949, titled "*Man of the People*", it is mentioned that:

*"Muñoz does not feel at home in La Fortaleza, the government palace which the 16th Century Spaniards intended to be a fort. "La Fortaleza," he says, "is beautiful, but it's not really a place to live or work in. It's for an old Spanish governor, writing a letter to the king—with a quill pen." He prefers Jácome, the Governor's summer residence in the hills north of Ponce, or his own rented (\$52 a month) cottage at Sabana Llana, twelve miles outside San Juan".*

In 1946, Luis Muñoz Marín and his family moved to the above mentioned cottage. The rented house consisted of a concrete building with three bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen and bathroom. It was a segregated parcel from a ten-and-a-half-acre farm owned by William Sinz, a professor at the University of Puerto Rico. Muñoz and his wife, Inés Mendoza, discovered the property on a day while driving along the road from San Juan to Trujillo Alto and were lured by the manicured grass and large beautiful trees.<sup>25</sup> In 1946, Luis Muñoz Marín began renting the place for \$52 a month.<sup>26</sup>

The Muñoz Mendoza family lived at the Trujillo Alto property as renters from 1946 until 1952, when they bought the house. Muñoz applied for a Federal Housing Administration loan on the residence. The cost of the property was \$15,000. The mortgage loan of \$10,000 was with the *Banco de Crédito y Ahorro Ponceño*, and \$5,000 were given as a down payment.<sup>27</sup>

The first inscription<sup>28</sup> of the segregated property the Muñoz family bought in 1952 is described as an urban parcel of land in the Sabana Llana ward of San Juan with 15,793.44 meters or almost four acres of land. Inés Mendoza wrote in an unedited essay that the house was made by a builder for \$3,000, but the original house plans have not been found nor the specific date of construction.<sup>29</sup> The rooms are small as the house is just 1,170 square feet with all the necessary conveniences of a modest home and no extravagant luxuries. The house flows from one space to the next without hallways or compartmentalization. Inés Mendoza recalled that her husband practically lived outside the house from daybreak to late in the evening. He would walk barefoot on the lawn and have breakfast under the trees; work, have conferences, and light a fire at night all outside in the garden.<sup>30</sup>

After the Muñoz-Mendoza family acquired the property, the construction of other buildings followed. The first construction was the wooden hut or bohío, built in 1948. Inés wanted to maintain the privacy of their small

<sup>25</sup> Inés María Mendoza, *La Casa de Trujillo Alto*, unedited essay (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) undated, p. 1.

<sup>26</sup> Mendoza, Inés María. *La Casa de Trujillo Alto*, p. 1.

<sup>27</sup> The property was segregated from a larger one that was described in 1935 as a rural with 12.4 acre superficial parcel of land that used to belong to Edgar G. Vivell who sells to Dorothy Helen Wehmiller later the wife of William Sinz. There is no mention of any house in the 1935 inscription. Property number 5467 book 109, folio number 197, of Río Piedras, Deeds Register of San Juan

<sup>28</sup> Property 12,508, folio 220, book 502, Section II, Río Piedras, Deeds Register of San Juan

<sup>29</sup> Malena Rodríguez Castro, *Casas Entrañables: "La finca de Trujillo Alto"*, Picó Fernando, Ed. Imágenes de la Memoria (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín, 2008), p. 469.



home from the meetings and press conferences her husband's work demanded. Muñoz Marín used the bohío for his cabinet meetings and held them there whenever possible (Fig. 28). Conscious of its place in history, it was Inés who first suggested that the hut was a historic place, as important decisions to the country and numerous meetings with significant personalities were conducted there.<sup>31</sup> Due to the fragile construction material used in the bohío, today's version is the fourth one in line since 1948.

During the early 1960s, Muñoz's private office, library and an administrative office buildings, were added to the residential premises. The exact construction date for each one of the buildings is unknown, but they were all completed by the time Muñoz announced he was stepping down as a governor in 1963. These buildings became the vital location for Muñoz's work as a Senator after stepping down as governor, and were the main facilities used by Muñoz while working on his Memoirs and organizing his personal documents.

The garden that surrounds the district plays an important role in the feeling conveyed by the resource. Muñoz liked to spend the day in the garden, becoming one of his favorite places to hold cabinet meetings, especially when the Yellow Elder Tree was in bloom. Inés Mendoza recalled the importance of the garden for her husband. Inés wrote that they had more than a hundred trees and shrubs in the garden with fruit trees of lemon, star apple, red currant, Mamey Tree and aromatic trees of Ylang-ylang, gardenias, Indian Coffee Tree, and Spanish Jazmin. The house had an entrance of Flame trees, Royal Palms, and two old mango trees. Next to the balcony there was a white cedar and Malay Apple, and almond tree, and a poisonous Wild Fig tree.<sup>32</sup> The property resisted being a formal garden as far as arranged, intervened or disciplined nature is concerned.<sup>33</sup> There is no apparent logic to the organization of the garden as a more innate approach to nature was preferred over a formal manicured one.

One of the later added buildings was constructed around 1964 for one of the daughters, Victoria Muñoz Mendoza, who moved there with her family. The secondary dwelling was placed facing the main house, thus having its back towards the main entrance of the property. The logic for the placement seems to be a more familiar intimate one not preoccupied with the formality of a grand entrance.

The district that compose the Muñoz-Mendoza's residence have been preserved since 1980, after the ex governor's death. Inés María Mendoza remained in the house after Muñoz's death. In August 19, 1980, the property was sold to the *Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation* with a clause that let the widow live in her house until her death. Inés converted the house itself into an album filled with family portraits and official photos during Muñoz's political trajectory. In 1990, when she died, the house became part of the museum complex and was retrofitted for this purpose. The property has the mission to preserve and disseminate Luis Muñoz Marín's history, values and philosophy. Today, people visit the property in the same informal way they did when Luis Muñoz Marín and Inés Mendoza were alive.

*In 1987, Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation* commissioned and built a concrete building to be used as the archives of Muñoz personal papers and the Foundation's offices. The building was designed by the firm *Sierra, Cardona y Ferrer*. Describing the concept for the project, the designers stated that the "main design

<sup>30</sup> Inés María Mendoza, *La Casa de Trujillo Alto*, p. 1.

<sup>31</sup> Luis Muñoz Marín Collection, box 19, Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation archives.

<sup>32</sup> Inés María Mendoza, *La Casa de Trujillo Alto*, p. 1.

<sup>33</sup> Malena Rodríguez Castro, *Casas Extrañables*, p. 474.

achievement was to preserve the natural habitat so precious to Muñoz and his wife, one building for all the Foundation operations, historical archives, museum and conference area. The building appears to be small since it occupies a natural hollow in the terrain and so is largely hidden from view. The idea is simple modest evoking modernity and optimism."<sup>34</sup> In all aspects of the design and construction of the Foundation building it was procured the conservation of harmony, serenity and simplicity that characterized the feeling of the property.

The property is of statewide significance under Criterion B as the residence of Luis Muñoz Marín, a figure of exceptional importance. The first Puerto Rican governor ever elected by the people, Founding Father of the modern Puerto Rico, mastermind of life-changing economic, political and social projects, Luis Muñoz Marín is of the most, if not the most, significant and revered figures in Puerto Rico's history.

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

---

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

General Archives of Puerto Rico, Architecture and Construction Archives from the University of Puerto Rico, Puerto Rican Collection University of Puerto Rico Library Digitalized Project El Mundo Newspaper University of Puerto Rico

Deeds Register San Juan Río Piedras Section, Puerto Rico

### Books and Articles

Alegria Ortega, Idsa E. La Gobernación de Luis Muñoz Marín: una mirada a sus resistencias, Picó Fernando (ed.), *Imágenes de la Memoria* (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) 2008.

Baralt, Guillermo. *Una de cal y otra de arena: Panorama histórico de la construcción en Puerto Rico, 1943-2004* (San Juan: Asociación de Constructores Generales de América, Capítulo de Puerto Rico) 2008.

Cámara de Comercio de Puerto Rico. *A Brief Sketch on Porto Rico* (San Juan: Chamber of Commerce of Porto Rico) 1948.

Cardona, Segundo y Teresa Hermida Espada (eds.). *Segundo Cardona* (Guaynabo: Desarrollos Arquitectónicos Inc.) 2008.

Carrero, Telesforo. *Housing in Puerto Rico* (Santurce: Puerto Rico Planning Board) 1950.

Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín. *Archivo-Museo-Jardines Luis Muñoz Marín* (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) 1995.

Gallart, Mary Frances. *Ahora seremos felices: Models of Private Housing Developments in San Juan, Ever New San Juan: Architecture and Modernization in the Twentieth Century*, (San Juan: Commission San Juan), 2000

Gallart, Mary Frances. The design of Progress: Henry Klumb and the Modernization of Puerto Rico 1944-1948, Vivoni Farage, Enrique (ed.) *Klumb: Una arquitectura de impronta social* (San Juan: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico) 2006.

---

<sup>34</sup> Segundo Cardona y Teresa Hermida Espada (eds.). *Segundo Cardona*, Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation Building 1987, (Guaynabo: Desarrollos Arquitectónicos Inc.) 2008. p. 53.

González López, Libia, *Imágenes Muñoz y "el pueblo"*, Picó Fernando (ed.), *Imágenes de la Memoria* (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) 2008.

León Camacho, Carlos Iván. *El surgimiento de las urbanizaciones: vivienda para la clase media de Puerto Rico (1940-1970)*. Tesis, Universidad de Puerto Rico. 1994.

Maldonado, A.W., *Luis Muñoz Marín: Puerto Rico's Democratic Revolution*, (Río Piedras: Editorial Universidad de Puerto Rico), 2006

Maldonado, A.W., Teodoro Moscoso and Puerto Rico's Operation Bootstrap, (Gainesville: University Press of Florida) 1997

Muñoz Marín, Luis. *Historia del Partido Popular Democrático*, (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín), 2003

\_\_\_\_\_. *Memorias II: Autobiografía pública (1940-1952)* (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) 2003.

\_\_\_\_\_. Remarks by the Hon. Luis Muñoz Marín, Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico at Harvard University, June 16, 1955, Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation Archives

Mendoza, Inés María. *La Casa de Trujillo Alto*, unedited essay Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation Archives, undated.

Puerto Rico, Autoridad Sobre Hogares. *Housing Progress in Puerto Rico, 1938-1948* (Puerto Rico: Housing Authority) 1948.

Puerto Rico, Junta sobre el diseño de viviendas a bajo costo en Puerto Rico (Río Piedras: La Junta) 1958.

Rodríguez Beruff, Jorge. *Las Memorias de Leahy: los relatos del Almirante William D. Leahy sobre su gobernación de Puerto Rico (1939-140)*

Rodríguez, Luz Marie. *New Deal Communities for Puerto Rico: The Urban Housing Projects of the Puerto Rico Reconstruction Administration*. Tesis. Mississippi State University, 1994 (Ann Arbor, Mich.: University Microfilms International) 1996.

\_\_\_\_\_. "¡Atajar el arrabal! Arquitectura y cambio social en la vivienda pública de San Juan (San Juan: Comisión San Juan 2000), 74-117.

Rodríguez Castro, Malena. *Casas Entrañables: "La finca de Trujillo Alto"*, Picó Fernando, Ed. *Imágenes de la Memoria* (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) 2008.

Santiago Caraballo, Josefa. *Política Colonial: el PPD y los proyectos de reformas políticas*, Picó Fernando (ed.), *Imágenes de la Memoria* (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) 2008.

Sepúlveda, Aníbal. *Puerto Rico Urbano: Atlas histórico de la ciudad puertorriqueña, volumen 4* (San Juan: Carimar) 2004.

US Bureau of Census. *Censo decimosexto de los EE.UU. 1940: Puerto Rico, viviendas, características generales* (Washington DC: US Government Printing Office) 1943.

### General References

Baldrige, Letitia. *In the Kennedy Style: Magical Evenings in the Kennedy White House*, (New York: Doubleday Madison Press Book) 1998

Dietz, James L. *Economic History of Puerto Rico: Institutional Change and Capitalist Development* (Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press) 1986.

Duprey Salgado, Néstor. *Conversaciones en el bohío: Luis Muñoz Marín Roberto Sánchez Vilella en sus propias palabras* (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Conversaciones en el bohío: Luis Muñoz Marín y Antonio Fernós Isem en sus propias palabras* (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) 2006.

Muñoz Marín, Luis. *Apuntes autobiográficos* (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) 1980.

López Sicardó, Gustavo. *Un pueblo que quiso vivir: Estudio político socio-económico del Puerto Rico durante los años 1940 al 1968* (San Juan: Editorial Cordillera) 1972.

Picó Fernando (ed.). *Luis Muñoz Marín: Perfiles de su gobernación* (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) 2003.

Rosario Natal, Carmelo (comp.) *Luis Muñoz Marín: Juicios sobre su significado histórico* (San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín) 1990.

Santana Rabell, Leonardo. *Planificación y política durante la administración de Luis Muñoz Marín: Un análisis crítico* (Santurce: Análisis- Revista de Planificación) 1984.

Sepúlveda Rivera, Aníbal, *Puerto Rico Urbano, Atlas Histórico de la Ciudad Puertorriqueña, Volumen 1 al 4*, CARIMAR, 2004

Scarano, Francisco. *Puerto Rico: Cinco siglos de historia*, (San Juan: McGraw-Hill) 1993.

Scarano, Francisco. *Sugar and Slavery in Puerto Rico: The Plantation Economy of Ponce, 1800-1850*. Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1984.

Wells, Henry. *La modernización de Puerto Rico: Un análisis político de valores e instituciones en proceso de cambio*. Pedro G. Salazar (trad.) (Río Piedras: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico) 1972 [1969].

Forms NPS10-900 y 10-900a

\_\_\_\_\_. *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resources, 1990 revised 1995*

Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín  
Name of Property

San Juan, PR  
County and State

\_\_\_\_\_. *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resources, 1990 revised 1995*

**Plans**

Sierra Cardona y Ferrer, Architects, Space Planners and Interior Designers, Museum and Offices, Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation, October 4, 1999

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation Archives

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 3.5 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>19</u>	<u>813985</u>	<u>20357550</u>	3	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	4	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property consisting of 15,793.44 meters is inscribed in Book 502, Folio 220 Property 12,508 Section II of Río Piedras at the deeds Registry in Hato Rey Puerto Rico. The property number is 087-056-849-40-901.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries selected encompass the property's legal limits described in the verbal boundary.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title María Fernanda López, DBA / Juan Llanes Santos, PRSHPO  
organization María Fernanda López, DBA date May 30, 2011

Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín  
Name of Property

San Juan, PR  
County and State

street & number 33 Ponce Street telephone 787-422-6109  
city or town San Juan state PR zip code 00917  
e-mail mariaflopez.ait@gmail.com

---

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

---

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, (Main House)  
City or Vicinity: San Juan  
County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico  
Photographer: María Fernanda López  
Date Photographed: May 23, 2011  
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Front view looking East 0001  
1 of 12.

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, (Main House)  
City or Vicinity: San Juan  
County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico  
Photographer: María Fernanda López  
Date Photographed: May 23, 2011  
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Front view looking East 0002

2 of 12.

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, (Main House)  
City or Vicinity: San Juan  
County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico  
Photographer: María Fernanda López  
Date Photographed: May 23, 2011  
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Back view looking West 0003

3 of 12

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, (Office/Archive building)  
City or Vicinity: San Juan  
County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico  
Photographer: María Fernanda López  
Date Photographed: May 23, 2011  
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Front view looking West 0004

4 of 12.

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, (Library/Office building)  
City or Vicinity: San Juan  
County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico  
Photographer: María Fernanda López  
Date Photographed: May 23, 2011  
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Front view looking Northwest 0005

5 of 12.

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, (Library/Office building)  
City or Vicinity: San Juan  
County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico  
Photographer: María Fernanda López

Date Photographed: May 23, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Side view looking East 0006

6 of 12.

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, (Bohío)

City or Vicinity: San Juan

County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico

Photographer: María Fernanda López

Date Photographed: May 23, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Bohío's front view looking Southeast 0007

7 of 12.

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, (Bohío)

City or Vicinity: San Juan

County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico

Photographer: María Fernanda López

Date Photographed: May 23, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Bohío's front view looking Southwest 0008

8 of 12.

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, (Main House)

City or Vicinity: San Juan

County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico

Photographer: María Fernanda López

Date Photographed: May 23, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Living room, looking east 0009

9 of 12.

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, Main House

City or Vicinity: San Juan



County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico  
Photographer: María Fernanda López  
Date Photographed: May 23, 2011  
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Dining room, looking north 0010  
10 of 12.

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, (Main House)  
City or Vicinity: San Juan  
County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico  
Photographer: María Fernanda López  
Date Photographed: May 23, 2011  
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Bed room, looking east 0011  
11 of 12.

Name of Property: Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín, Main House  
City or Vicinity: San Juan  
County: San Juan State: Puerto Rico  
Photographer: María Fernanda López  
Date Photographed: May 23, 2011  
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Kitchen, looking north 0012  
12 of 12.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín
Name of Property San Juan Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 1

Additional Documentation

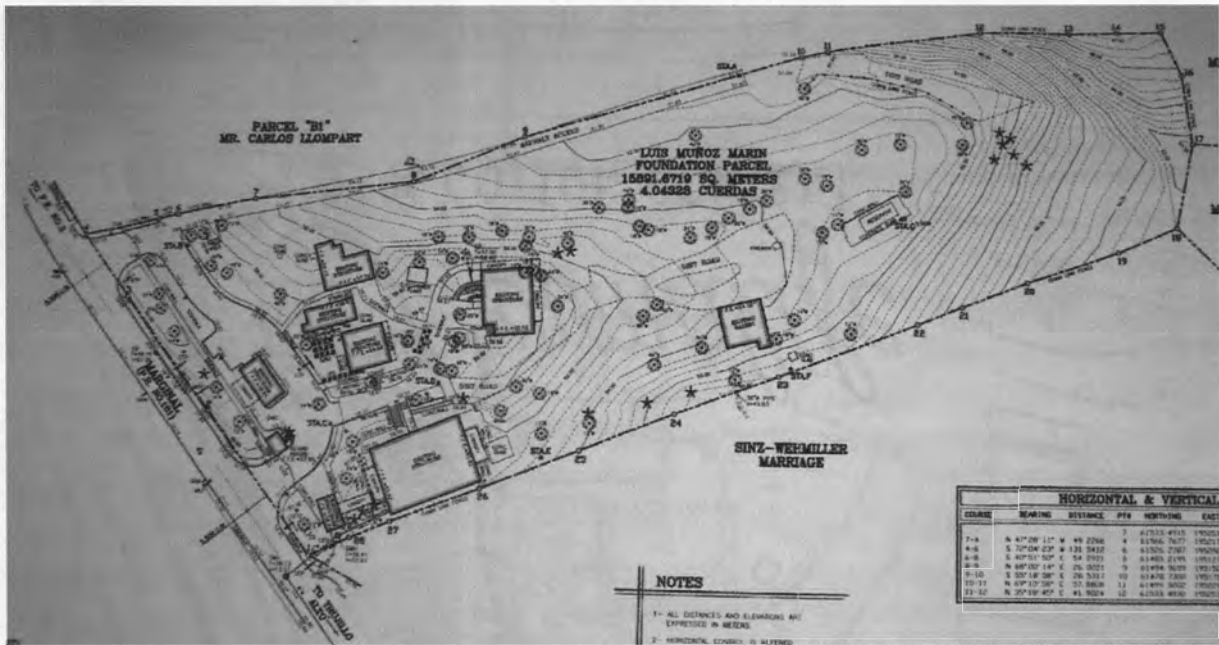


Figure 1 Site plan, Sierra Cardona y Ferrer Arquitectos, October 4, 1999, Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation Archives (LMMFA)

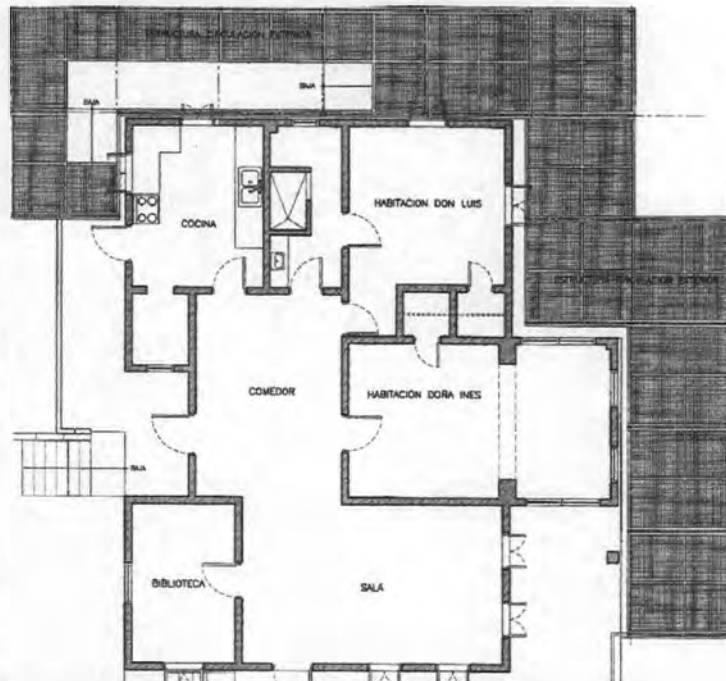


Figure 2 Interior distribution plan of the 1,170 square feet main house, Toro Ferrer Arquitectos CSP, 2005.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

<b>Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín</b>
Name of Property San Juan Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 2

2005 (LMMFA)



**Figure 3** Façade view of main house, Photo María F. López, November 2010



**Figure 4** Viviana and Victoria Muñoz at the balcony, (LMMFA)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín
Name of Property San Juan Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 3



Figure 5 View of the back of the main house and garden, (LMMFA)



Figure 6 Oblique entrance view of the bohío, first version, circa 1950, (LMMFA)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

<b>Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín</b>
Name of Property San Juan Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 4



Figure 7 Bohío's oblique view, first version, circa 1950, (LMMFA)



Figure 8 Bohío's second to last version, circa 1980-1988, (LMMFA)

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

<b>Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín</b>
Name of Property San Juan Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 5



**Figure 9.** LMM at the garden, with the hearth in background, (LMMFA)



**Figure 10** View of the pool, (LMMFA)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

<b>Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín</b>
Name of Property San Juan Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 6



Figure 11 Side view of guest house, Photo María F. López, November 2010



Figure 12 Foundation archives and office building, circa 1990, (LMMFA)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

<b>Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín</b>
Name of Property San Juan Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 7



**Figure 13** Oblique view of car museum, Photo María F. López, November 2010



**Figure 14** The 1942 Packard Special Edition Limousine, (LMMFA)



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín	
Name of Property	San Juan, Puerto Rico
County and State	
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)	

Section number   8   Page       8      



Figure 15 A young Luis Muñoz Marín with his mother Amalia Marín, (LMMFA)



Figure 16 Luis Muñoz Rivera, his father, (LMMFA)

*Amalia*

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín
Name of Property San Juan, Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 9



Figure 17 PPD's demonstration, circa 1940, (LMMFA)



Figure 18 Campaign around the inland towns of Puerto Rico, (LMMFA)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín

Name of Property  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number   8   Page   10  



Figure 19 Campaign around the inland towns of Puerto Rico, (LMMFA)



Figure 20 Luis Muñoz Marín presiding the Senate, (LMMFA)

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

<b>Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín</b>
Name of Property San Juan, Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number   8   Page   11  



**Figure 21** Luis Muñoz Marín sworn as Governor, January 2, 1949, (LMMFA)

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

<b>Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín</b>
Name of Property San Juan, Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number   8   Page   12  



**Figure 22** Luis Muñoz Marín, Governor of Puerto Rico, (LMMFA)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

<b>Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín</b>
Name of Property San Juan, Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 13



**Figure 23** Muñoz signing the Constitution of Puerto Rico, (LMMFA)



**Figure 24** Groundbreaking of the Puerto Rican Can Company, as part of Operation Bootstrap (LMMFA)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín
Name of Property San Juan, Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 14



Figure 25 Hilton Hotel by architects Toro y Ferrer, inaugurated 1949, (LMMFA)



Figure 26 Muñoz and his wife Inés María Mendoza with Pablo Casals at La Fortaleza, (LMMFA)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín

Name of Property

San Juan, Puerto Rico

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8

Page 15



Figure 27 Luis Muñoz Marín and his wife Inés María Mendoza with John F. Kennedy and Jacqueline Kennedy, (LMMFA)



Figure 28 Muñoz at a press conference at the bohío, (LMMFA)

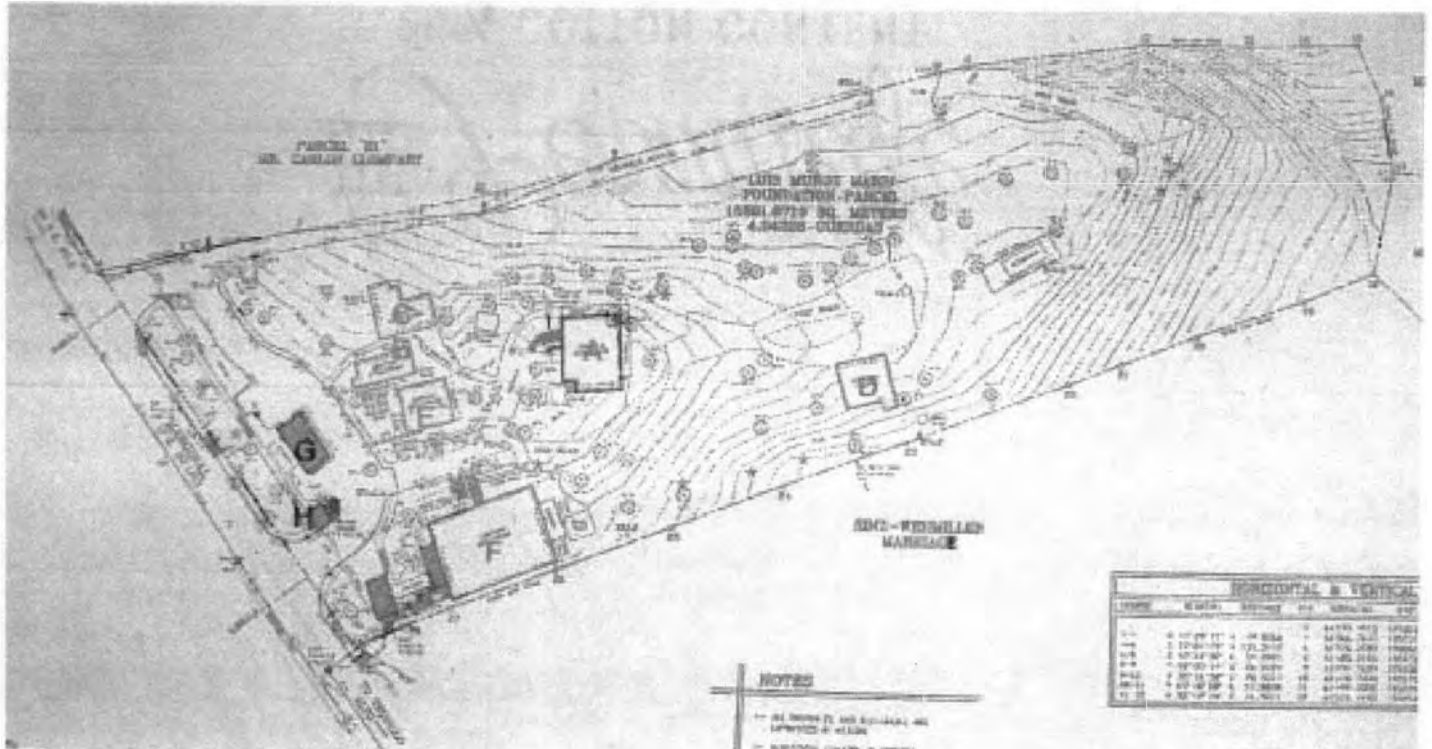


**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

<b>Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín</b>
Name of Property San Juan, Puerto Rico
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 10 Page 16



**Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín's District Site Map**

**Legend**

- A Main House
- B Office/Archive Building
- C Library Building
- D Bohío
- E Guest House
- F LMM Foundation Archives Building
- G Car Museum
- H Guard House

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Residencia Luis Munoz Marin

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: PUERTO RICO, San Juan

DATE RECEIVED: 8/19/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/14/11  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/29/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/04/11  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000712

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: Y  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 9/29/2011 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*This home & office represents one of the most important figures in Puerto Rico's Political history. Luis Muñoz Marín was the first elected governor and implemented sweeping Political, Social, and Economic changes over his 40 year career.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept B(9)

REVIEWER J. Gilbert

DISCIPLINE Historic

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/~~N~~ see attached SLR Y/~~N~~

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.























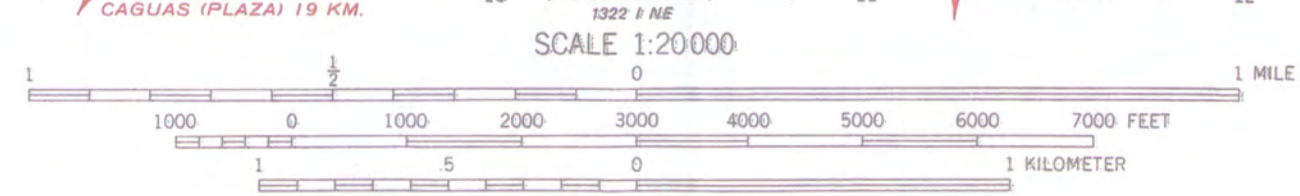






Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1962. Field checked 1963. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1967. Field checked 1969  
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS charts 903 (1964) and 908 (1965). This information is not intended for navigational purposes  
Polyconic projection. Puerto Rico Datum, 1940 adjustment  
2000-meter grid ticks based on Puerto Rico coordinate system  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 19  
Barrio and municipality boundaries by the Puerto Rico Planning Board  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from aerial photographs taken 1977 and other sources. This information not field checked. Map edited 1982  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 METERS  
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 1-METER CONTOURS  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL  
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET-DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER  
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE  
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER  
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 0.5 METER

ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface  
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface  
Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface  
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather  
Insular Route



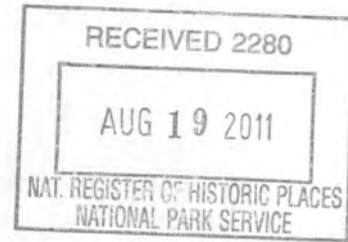
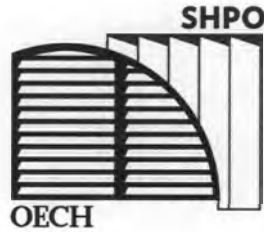
Residencia Luis Muñoz Marín  
San Juan, P.R.  
E-813985  
N-20357550

SAN JUAN, P. R.  
N1822.5-W6600.7.5  
1969  
PHOTOREVISED 1982  
DMA 1323 II SE-SERIES E835

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS, SAN JUAN, P. R. 00910  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

OFICINA ESTATAL DE  
CONSERVACIÓN HISTÓRICA  
OFICINA DEL GOBERNADOR

STATE HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION OFFICE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



August 16, 2011

Ms. Carol D. Schull, Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye Street, NW, 8<sup>th</sup> floor (MS 2280)  
Washington, DC 20005

**SUBMISSION: RESIDENCIA LUIS MUÑOZ MARÍN  
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO**

Dear Ms. Schull:

We are pleased to submit for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places the nomination of the **RESIDENCIA LUIS MUÑOZ MARÍN**, located in the Municipality of San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Should you have any questions on the nomination, please contact Juan Llanes Santos, at 787-721-3737 or [jllanes@prshpo.gobierno.pr](mailto:jllanes@prshpo.gobierno.pr).

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela, Architect  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CARC/BRS/JLS/jvr

Enclosures

WWW.OECH.GOBIERNO.PR