

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

For NPS use only

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

received NOV 10 1984

date entered DEC 10 1984

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

1. Name

historic Church Nuestra Señora del Rosario of Naguabo *(Historic Churches of*
and or common same *Puerto Rico)*

2. Location

street & number Town Plaza _____ not for publication
city, town Naguabo _____ vicinity of
state Puerto Rico code 72 county Humacao code 0690

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government
	___ being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	___ industrial
	N/A	___ no	___ military
			___ museum
			___ park
			___ private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			___ scientific
			___ transportation
			___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Catholic Church, Diocese of Caguas
street & number Box 8698
city, town Caguas _____ vicinity of state Puerto Rico 00658

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Supreme Court of Puerto Rico, Church Litigation Case #2, 1904
street & number Box 2392
city, town San Juan _____ state Puerto Rico 00903

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of the Historic Churches of Puerto Rico has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ___X no
date 1984 ___ federal state ___ county ___ local
depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office
city, town San Juan _____ state Puerto Rico

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The parish church Nuestra Señora del Rosario of Naguabo sits inside the town plaza and is oriented on an east-west axis. However, its entrance faces east instead of west, as is usual in most of the other churches on the island. A low concrete fence encloses garden areas in front of the church.

The building plan consists of one nave and two aisles. Four arches resting on square pillars divide the space. The original flat timber and brick roof was replaced in 1921. At present, the central nave is covered with a concrete roof and the side aisles are covered with wooden beams and planking at a lower level. Four square clerestory windows illuminate the interior space. There are six bays plus the bell tower. The first bay comprises the vestibule and baptistery. On the right, concrete stairs lead up to the choir loft. The concrete choir loft is new. A brick lanterned dome, resting on pendentives, covers the square apse. The apse wall is covered with modern decorative stone and two secondary altars at the end of the side aisles are covered with colored marble. A curious old confessional is recessed into the north side wall.

The facade is dominated by a square bell tower added in 1913, but not very well integrated to the original design of the facade. The tower has three levels. The first one functions as an entrance portico, the second level has three open pointed arches and concrete balustrades, and the third level holds the bells contained within open pointed arches. The tower is crowned by an ornamented pyramidal roof. Double pilasters separate the tower from the two side windows that reflect the inner aisles. The side facades are austere, with one arched lateral door and three windows on each side. A simple cornice surrounds the complete structure. A new parish house was attached to the building totally covering the apse section at the rear of the church.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c.1856, 1858

Builder/Architect Eng. Mariano Bosch (1858 facade remodeling project)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The parish church Nuestra Señora del Rosario of Naguabo is of historical and architectural importance. The church retains most of its original construction and design elements such as the brick masonry walls, the apse, the dome and the interior arcades. The structure was approximately finished in 1856 and is one of the oldest buildings in Naguabo. According to historic plans found at the General Archives of Puerto Rico, Engineer Mariano Bosch designed a remodeling project for the facade in 1858. The tower was later added in 1913. The traditional relationship of the main plaza and the church is maintained, in accordance with Spanish Crown ordinances at the time the town was founded. In this case, this relationship is emphasized since the church sits inside the plaza itself. The organization of the plaza is well integrated with the placement of the church.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Marvel, Thomas S. and Maria Luisa Moreno, Architecture of Parish Churches in Puerto Rico, Editorial Universitaria, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, unpublished.
Historic Plans of 1858, General Archives of Puerto Rico, Fondo: Obras Públicas, Serie: Edificios Religiosos, Arch:7, Gav:1, N°:698.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1484 sq.mts.

Quadrangle name Naguabo, PR

Quadrangle scale 1:20,000

UTM References

A

2	0	2	1	0	5	5	0	2	0	1	5	9	1	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

The church is bounded on the north and east by the town plaza, on the south by a basketball court and on the west by J.M.Garzot St. (see enclosed location plan).

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

state code county code N/A

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ester Cardona, Arch. and Marisa Gómez, Arch.

organization Investigaciones Bonaire, Inc.

date May 1984

street & number Tetuan 103

telephone (809) 724-4997

city or town Old San Juan

state Puerto Rico 00901


12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title State Historic Preservation Officer

date October 30, 1984

For NPS use only

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

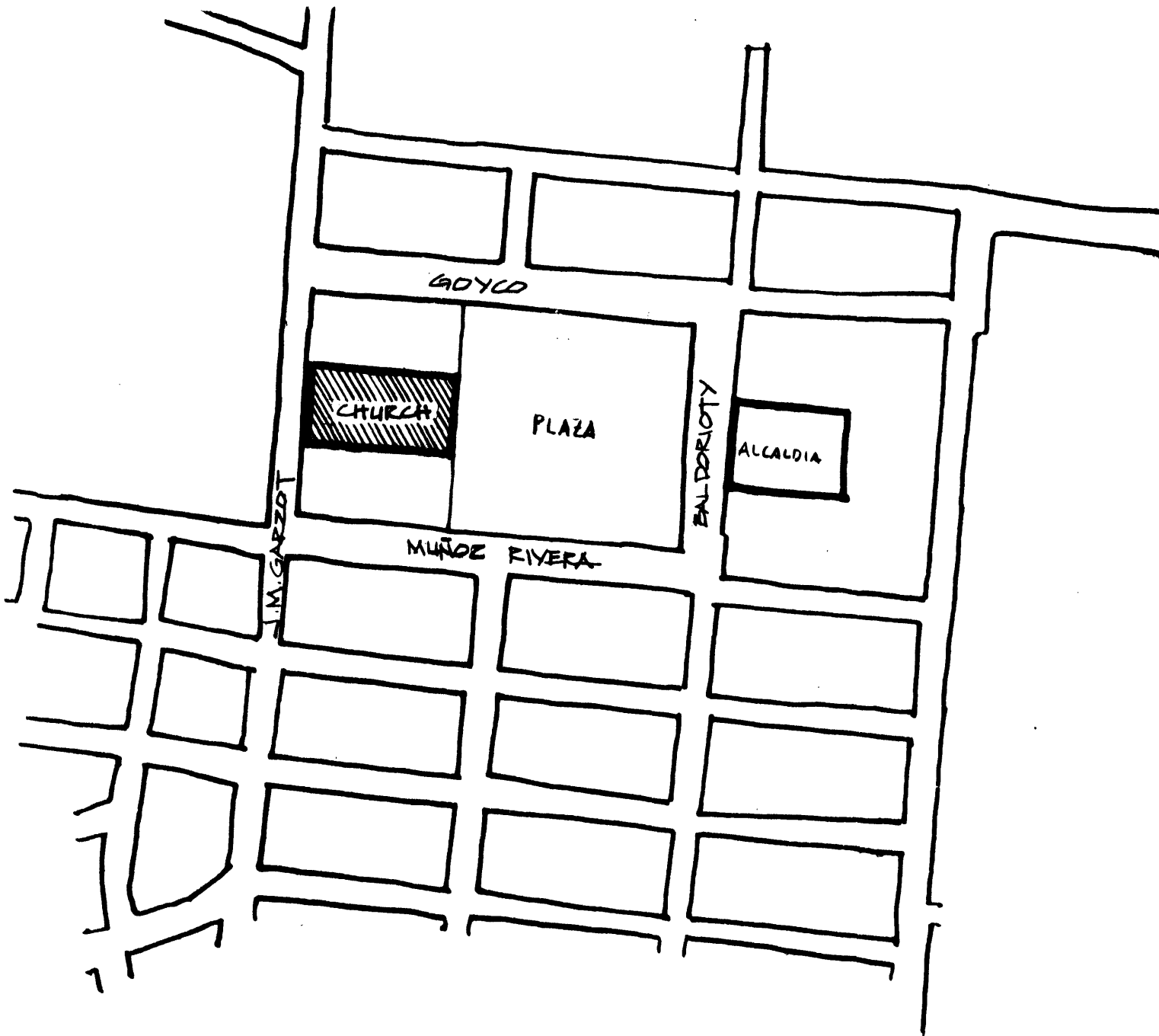
date 12/10/84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



town: **HAGUABO**

scale: 1:2000



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