

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

For NPS use only

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

received NOV 21 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*
Puerto Rico)
and or common same

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street & number Town Plaza _____ not for publication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
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> 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 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

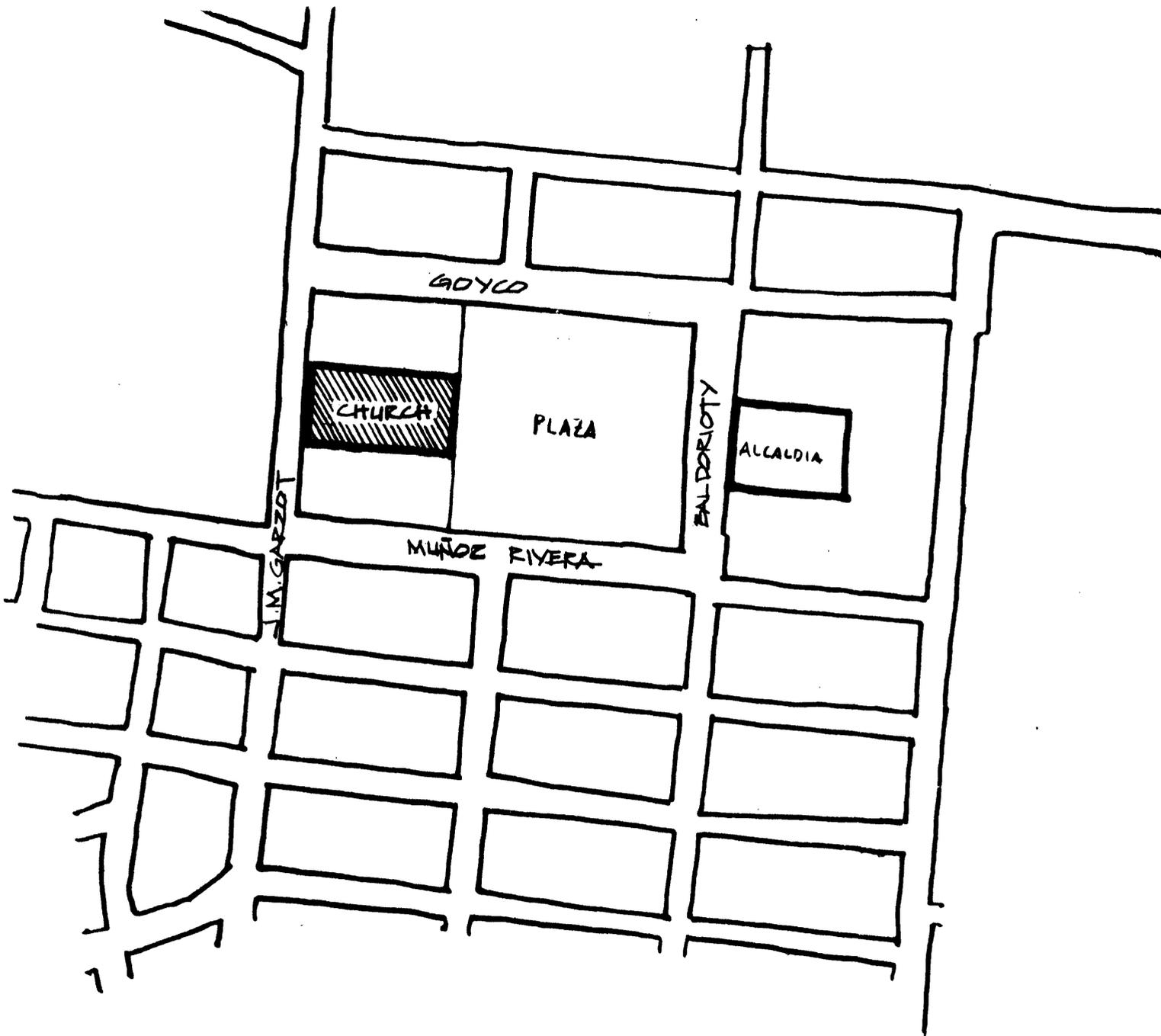
Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/>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



town: **HAGUABO**

scale: 1:2000



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