NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

406

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

APR 11 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Escuela Graduada José Celso Barbosa

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number Ponce de León Avenue ☐ not for publication

city, town San Juan ☐ vicinity

state Puerto Rico code PR county San Juan code 127 zip code 00906

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
☐ private	☒ building(s)	1	0	buildings
☐ public-local	☐ district	0	0	sites
☒ public-State	☐ site	0	0	structures
☐ public-Federal	☐ structure	0	0	objects
	☐ object	1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Early 20th C. Schools in Puerto Rico

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Mariano G. Coronas Castro — February 23, 1989

Signature of certifying official — Date

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☒ entered in the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet. — Amy Schlagel — 5/19/89

☐ determined eligible for the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Education/School	Education/School

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
Neo-Classical Revival	foundation concrete walls concrete roof concrete other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The José Celso Barbosa School building is a detached two-story concrete structure located on a one-acre city lot. The main facade of the structure is 101 feet wide, oriented south, facing Ponce de León Avenue. This facade is separated approximately 14 meters from the property line. The rear facade faces north to Muñoz Rivera Avenue and the Atlantic Ocean. The western facade is 160 feet long. The east wing facade is 132 feet long (see sketch plan).

The design consists of a "U" shaped courtyard plan, in which the west wing is longer than the east wing. This creates an interior patio surrounded on both levels by arched galleries which serve ventilation and circulation purposes. All classrooms and offices open to this courtyard. Main alterations to be building in the 1940's consisted of the replacement of all wooden louvered windows for storm resistant metal louveres. These windows do not contribute to the property's value but do not alter the property's architectural integrity.

The building can be considered as neoclassical revival with a main columnated entrance of ionic order. It also has neoclasiccal plaster ornaments. The workmanship is characteristic of the 1920's with great care for details such as the elaborate cornice. This structure contributes to defining this sector of Ponce de León Avenue as a "monumental" strip at Puerta de Tierra.

☐ See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

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

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Architecture		1927
Education		

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Significant Person: n/a

Architect/Builder: del Valle & Co.

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

José Celso Barbosa School is a maginificant example of US Neoclassical Revival. This style became popular in Puerto Rico in government projects during the first decades of the 20th century.

The José Celso Barbosa School presents an extraordinarily refined and well-achieved integration of the period-american Beaux-Arts neoclassical revival to the traditional Puerto Rican civil building, inner-courtyard plan, thus responding favorably to the local tropical climate.

Its solid facade soberly ornamented with ionic columns, garlands and protuding triangular pediments over windows, faces Ponce de León Avenue helping to define Puerta de Tierra's particular monumental urban atmosphere. It compliments other buildings in the strip such as the Capitol, the School of Tropical Medicine and San Agustín School-Church complex (all included in the National Register).

Built from 1924 to 1927 this structure has served the Puerta de Tierra community as a secondary or intermediate educational institution where students from close by Braumbaugh Elementary School can continue their schooling. Its construction was part of the massive education program brought to Puerto Rico after the Island's change of sovereingty from Spain to U.S.A. in 1898, and its architecture clearly exemplifies this early period of US influence in the island (See thematic nomination).

☐ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

-Sepúlveda, Aníbal & Jorge Carbonell; "San Juan Extramuros", SHPO, San Juan: 1987.

-Early XX Century Schools in Puerto Rico-Historic Context, SHPO, 1986.

☐ See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☒ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☒ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: Archivo General de PR

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1 acre

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	19	806130	204480
B			
C			
D			

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The school is a polygon in shape defined to the north by Muñoz Rivera Ave. along with 39.6 meters, to the south by Ponce de León Ave., along 56.2 meters, to the west by the Old Weather Bureau lot along 93 meters and to the east by the Asilo de Ancianos lot along 77.5 ☒ See continuation sheet meters.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lot that has historically been associated with the property.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Aníbal Sepúlveda PhD. and Jorge Carbonell, Architect

organization Centro de Investigaciones Carimar date February 23, 1989

street & number P.O. Box 4937 telephone 759-7819/725-3023

city or town Old San Juan state Puerto Rico zip code 009 05

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 89000406 Date Listed: 5/19/89

Escuela Graduado Jose Celso Barbosa **San Juan** **PR**

Property Name County State

N/A

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Signature of the Keeper 5/19/89 Date of Action

==========

Amended Items in Nomination:

Criteria A should be checked to refer to the Area of Significance, "Education," noted in the cover form.

Discussed and concurred in by Puerto Rican SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)