

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED 10. 18 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC  Hacienda Casa del Frances

AND/OR COMMON same or Sportsmen's House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Road to fishing village of Esperanza

CITY, TOWN Esperanza *San Juan*  NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Island of Vieques VICINITY OF CODE COUNTY PUERTO RICO CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: hotel

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Commonwealth Tourism Development (Government)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN San Juan VICINITY OF STATE PUERTO RICO

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Registro de Propiedad

STREET & NUMBER Municipio de Vieques

CITY, TOWN Isabel II Vieques STATE Puerto Rico

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Inventory of Monuments of Puerto Rico

DATE November 1976  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña

CITY, TOWN San Juan STATE Puerto Rico

# 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

This parador or inn is a 'modest' example of plantation architecture. It is a 2-story rectangular wood frame structure with exterior wood siding. The general lines follow the traditional design for plantation great houses, having a core (rectangular in this case) surrounded by an exterior gallery which is columned. It has a gabled, and hipped roofs, and an interior patio. This is the Spanish colonial element not usually found in such houses elsewhere. This interior patio or atrium is open to the sky with a square opening above, and an interior gallery on the first and second floors overlooking it. A central stairway leads up to the first floor exterior gallery, and above it is a pediment which adds a touch of elegance or 'importance' to the structure.

There have been alterations, these are confined to the rear of the building -- such as the installation of a swimming pool and an extension to the house itself, since it has become a tourist guest house.

The materials are the usual local hardwood, and the substitution of what must have been a tile roof by the contemporary zinc sheeting. The interior spaces are quite airy, the doors or wooden wall partitions all are with slats (usually decorative) for ventilation. The windows are louvered. The original floors of wood are still there, unfortunately the porch or gallery floors have been changed to linoleum.

# SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although it is not very old, it was built around 1910, the Casa del Frances (house of the Frenchman) is the only example of plantation residence on the island of Vieques, and one of the few remaining intact in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

It was the residence of a French sugar plantation owner - Henri Muraille - and thus one of the last remains of French influence on Vieques. The island was first occupied by the French, but soon after it became a colony of Spain in 1647. Under the Spanish Crown however, Frenchmen held important posts, as the island was inhabited by a mostly French speaking population. The first military Governor, Theodore Leguilleur, was a Frenchman. Many of the streets on the island and in the main town, Isabel II, retain French names.

# MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Diccionario Histórico Bibliográfico Comentado de Puerto Rico, A. Hostos  
 Accademia Puertorriqueña de la Historia, 1976

specific, direct references nonexistent

## GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3 acres

UTM REFERENCES N lat 18 6'<sup>05</sup>25" W long 65 28'26"

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE A. Tarr consultant - architect DATE 11/76

ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña

STREET & NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

plaza San Jose

CITY OR TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

San Juan Puerto Rico

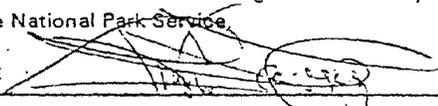
## STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL x STATE x LOCAL x

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-6) hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE



8-I-77

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Robert B. Pettig

DATE 11/18/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles Adair

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 11/18/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER