

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

For NPS use only

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

received **DEC 28 1983**  
date entered

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

**1. Name**

historic Antiguo Casino Camuyano

and/or common Antiguo Casino

**2. Location**

street & number Estrella <sup>and</sup> Street, corner Muñoz Rivera Street not for publication

city, town Camuy vicinity of

state Puerto Rico code 72 county Aguadilla code 0180

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mr. Enrique Díaz Soto

street & number c/o Morell Pharmacy, Estrella Street, corner Muñoz Rivera Street

city, town Camuy vicinity of state Puerto Rico 00627

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds

street & number Arecibo Government Center

city, town Arecibo state Puerto Rico

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Hatillo, Camuy, Quebradillas Architectural Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1983  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office

city, town San Juan state Puerto Rico 00901

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Antiguo Casino building is a two-storied structure, rectangular in shape, measuring 52.48 feet in length by 32.80 feet wide, located at the corner of Estrella and Muñoz Rivera Streets. Structurally, it is a reinforced concrete building, being the first one in the town of Camuy to use this technique. The roof system consists of a flat reinforced concrete slab; it was originally a wood roof structure with wood beams, floor and ceiling that was destroyed in a fire on 1920. (See enclosure #1). Doors and windows are anodized aluminum frame with glass inlets; originally these were wooden, doors of the wood plank type, windows of the movable wood louvers with wicket type.

This structure is an example of the neo-classical trend that prevailed in Puerto Rico during the XIX century. This influence is manifested immediately on both Estrella and Muñoz Rivera Streets facades for the use of elaborated classical decorative elements that dominates both facades. The first floor elevation at Estrella Street consists of a row of six (6) doors separated by horizontal "bognatti" or padding. These doors are topped by small cornices and are crowned by blind arches with a continuous decorative molding running the entire length of the facade. A concrete overhang flooring separates the first floor from the second floor. This section was originally used as a balcony before it was burned out. Decorated concrete consoles supports this balcony. The second floor facade is similar to the first floor; a row of six (6) doors (now altered as windows) located at the same distance than that of the first floor and separated with the same "bognatti" elements. The windows are top by a continuous cornice that runs from one end of the building to the other and are crowned by blind arches. Decorative medallions (five per window panel) are placed on top of this facade. The entire facade is crowned by a large continuous cornice with a concrete balustrade railing or parapet on top. Four "candelabra" or pinnacles are placed on top of this parapet. This element is supported by seven decorative consoles. Finally, a small "cartouge" or pediment is located at the center top of the building with a representation of the official seal of Puerto Rico and the date of construction of the second restoration (1927). The Muñoz Rivera Street facade is similar with the exeption of the number of doors (4), pediment and pinnacles elements.

The first floor area are occupied by a Savings Bank and a Pharmacy. The second floor area is used for private offices. Interior partitions are concrete blocks with a cement plaster finish. The building is in excellent condition.

# 8. 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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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** 1910, 1927      **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Antiguo Casino Building was the center of the social and political life in the town of Camuy, located on the north-west coast of Puerto Rico, fifty seven (57) miles from San Juan. It was an important institution where the town's prominent citizens, both social and political, met. Most social and political events of transcendental importance took place in this building.

The Antiguo Casino Camryano Building is an example of the popular neo-classical trend that prevailed in Puerto Rico during the XIX century. This trend was characterized by the extensive use of rich classical ornamentations ( volutes, consoles, lintels, "bougnaatti" or padding, cornices, "cartouge" or pinnacles, medallions, arches, pilasters, pediments, among other details) on the facades of buildings. Most of these classical details are used on the building and the influence is manifested immediately for the richness of both its main facades (See Item #7 for a detailed description). The neo-classical trend or style was first manifested in Old San Juan and afterwards, it was used extensively throughout towns in Puerto Rico.

The Antiguo Casino Building is also the first important structure built in Camuy that used the reinforced concrete technique. It was mainly because of this durable material that the building withstood two big fires (the first one in 1920, the second one in 1929) that devastated most of the central historic center of the town. It is a living monument and legend of the town's endurance and perseverance.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

1. The Fires of Camuy, Piri Rivera

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 169 sq. meters

Quadrangle name Camuy

Quadrangle scale 1:20,000

UTM References

Latitude 18°-29'-10" North, Longitude 66°-50'-44" West

A 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** The property is bounded to the North by property owned by J. Perelló, to the South by Luis Muñoz Rivera Street, to the East by Estrella Street and to the West by the Gilmar Photo Building. See enclosed Location Plan, property marked in yellow.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Armando Morales Parés - State Architect

Victor J. López Reyes - Architect

State Historic Preservation Office

organization Soc. Histórica Arqueológica Camuy Hatillo date December 20, 1983

street & number La Fortaleza

telephone (809)-712-3012, 721-4389

city or town 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 *Steven Sabín de Rozas*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date December 20, 1983

For NPS use only

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

*John A. Williams*  
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date 1/26/84

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration