

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received APR 13 1987

date entered MAY 14 1987

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

1. Name 19th Century Civil Architecture in Ponce - Thematic Nomination

historic Albergue Caritativo Tricoche

and/or common Hospital Tricoche

2. Location

street & number Tricoche Street N/A not for publication

city, town Ponce — vicinity of N/A

state Puerto Rico code 072 county Ponce code 0760

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Ponce Municipal Government

street & number Box 1709

city, town Ponce — vicinity of N/A state Puerto Rico

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Ponce Registry of Deeds

street & number Ponce Government Center, Las Américas Ave.

city, town Ponce state Puerto Rico

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Hist. Arch. Survey of Ponce has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date July, 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records PRSHPO

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 Hospital Tricoche occupies a whole urban block bounded to the north by Arena Street, to the South Tricoche Street, to the east Bretolly Street and to the west by Union Street. It is located several blocks north of Ponce's main square.

The oldest records found indicate that this structure was built in 1885 consisting of a one storey building organized around two identical anterior courtyards. This original spatial distribution is still preserved. The southern half was altered in 1928 after the 1918 earthquake damaged part of this side. During this remodeling a second storey was added to this half. This southern facade is set back from the street by a fence and front yard. Its main element is the entrance portico articulated by flat tuscan pilasters and three arches, the central one slightly protruding to the front (This portico is part of the original 1885 construction). Over the portico, separated by cornice and parapet with the building's name in sansserif letters. Other decorative elements at this level include overhangs, a segmental round cornice over the recessed center window, louvered casement windows with segmental round openings and plain glass transoms and a rosette on top of the center recess between the two volumes. In contrast, the first floor of this south facade presents large rectangular windows with wide planar moldings and a simple cornice with a segmental piramidal profile on the top molding, a cornice and rectangular windows with false segmental arch crowned by an equally false keystone all part of the original 1885 construction.

The rear half of the building conserves the original one-story configuration with a repetition of rectangular openings surrounded by wide planar moldings and top cornices. Crowning the center bay of the north (Arenas Street) facade there is a simple triangular pediment with the date "1885" on top. The Arenas Street facade present a certain rhythm in its treatment of pilasters and bays: two pilasters flank each of the central ones, including the one with the pediment, are flanked and separated by a total of six more pilasters. Wherever the pilasters occur on this facade, the wall is slightly set off to the front. The

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 checked="" 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 1878-1885, 1928 **Builder/Architect** Spanish Royal Corps of Engineers (1885)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The "Albergue Caritativo Tricoche" (Tricoche Charitable shelter) was founded in 1878 thanks to an endowment to the City left by Mr. Valentín Tricoche in his will. These funds were to be used for the construction of a shelter-hospital for the poor and needy of Ponce.

No records of the original 1878 structure have been found; however, the existing building was commissioned to the Spanish Royal Corps of Engineers. By 1885 they had completed a one storey "neoclásico" style structure that covered an entire urban block. This building remained unchanged until the 1918 earthquake which damaged part of the southern side.

The reconstruction of this side was completed in 1928. During this reconstruction a second story was added to the south side. The architectural vocabulary used for this addition was similar to the 1885 construction. The first floor and main entrance were restored to their original shape.

Since then alterations to the structure have been minimal and mostly due to new regulations by the Department of Health or to serve the community better. The main alteration to the structure was the addition of a new emergency entrance on the southern side on the Bertoly Street facade. This small addition does not contribute to the value of the property but neither does it hinder the structure's architectural integrity since it was designed and built with a compatible architectural vocabulary. This is also true of the 1928 second floor, which was clearly separated from the 1885 construction by means of visually acceptable wall (see photo #2).

The "Hospital Tricoche" has served the Ponce community since 1878. In the one hundred and eight years since it was founded the hospital has given the best free of cost medical attention available to the poor

9. Major Bibliographical References

Brau, Salvador; Historia de Ponce
Coll y Toste, Cayetano; Boletín Histórico de Puerto Rico
Archivo Histórico de Ponce
Castro, María de los Angeles; Arquitectura

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 4,901 m² 1.25 acres

Quadrangle name Ponce

Quadrangle scale 1:20,000

UTM References

A

1	9	7	5	2	4	5	0	1	9	9	4	2	1	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

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D

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

URBAN BLOCK BOUNDED TO THE:

North - 57.80 m Arena Street

East - 84.80 Bertoly Street

South - 57.80 m Tricoche Street

West - 84.20 Union Street

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

state N/A

code

county

code

state N/A

code

county

code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Félix J. del Campo; State Historian/ State Architect Jorge Ortiz Colom,

organization PRSHPO

date November 20, 1986

street & number Box 82, La Fortaleza

telephone (809) 721-3737

city or town San Juan

state Puerto Rico

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 Mariano G. Coronas Castro

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date April 7, 1987

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

Keeper of the National Register

date 5/14/87

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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bottom of this rear part is lifted on a podium and the pilasters are surmounted by an entablure with a very simple frieze and architrave.

The corners on this rear part of the building are rounded, a somewhat unusual condition for corners in buildings of this type of architecture.

After a recent remodeling, most windows and doors were finished in near-duplicative (usually louvered casement) designs. The new anex on the side, features arched openings to the street and has glass fenestration. This addition does not contribute to the property's architectural value but due to its disposition and volume it does not harm the main structure's integrity.

Even with the 1928 alterations this building is still a magnificent example of Spanish architecture in Ponce and of the Neoclassic style.

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and needy in the city of Ponce.

For its services, its elegant architecture and its excellent location in Ponce's urban area the "Hospital Tricoche" has become a significant part of the City History and one worthy of preservation.