



**Name of Property:** Casa Dra. Concha Meléndez Ramírez  
**City, State:** San Juan, Puerto Rico  
**Period of Significance:** 1940-1962  
**NHL Criteria:** 1 and 2  
**NHL Themes:** III. Expressing Cultural Values  
1. Educational and Intellectual Currents  
3. Literature  
IV. Changing Role of the United States in the World Community  
1. International Relations  
3. Expansionism and Imperialism

**Previous Recognition:** 2011 National Register of Historic Places

**National Historic Context:** American Latino Heritage Initiative  
XIX. Literature  
C. Non-Fiction

**NHL Significance:**

- Casa Dra. Concha Meléndez Ramírez is associated with major trends in Puerto Rican literature, in particular the legacy of the Generación del Treinta (Generation of 1930), a literary movement that shaped Puerto Rico’s twentieth-century national cultural identity.
- Casa Dra. Concha Meléndez Ramírez served for forty-three years as the residence and workspace of Dra. Concha Meléndez Ramírez, a prolific literary critic and a prominent voice in twentieth-century Puerto Rican literary criticism.



**Integrity:**

- Casa Dra. Concha Meléndez Ramírez remains essentially unchanged since 1962, the end of its period of significance as the residence and workspace of Concha Meléndez Ramírez.
- Though now owned by the Puerto Rican government, the house retains a strong sense of place as a single dwelling occupied by a prominent writer. Dra. Meléndez’s numerous books remain on the shelves, and her typewriter still stands on the desk in her upper-level workspace.
- The *Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña* continues to utilize Casa Dra. Concha Meléndez Ramírez as a cultural center devoted to the promotion of Puerto Rican literature.

**Owner of Property:** *Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña*

**Acreage of Property:** less than one acre

**Origins of Nomination:** The property was suggested for nomination by National Historic Landmarks Program staff and the Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office. Funds for the nomination were provided by the National Park Foundation as part of the American Latino Heritage Initiative.

**Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:**

- Casa Dra. Concha Meléndez Ramírez would become one of the few National Historic Landmarks on the island of Puerto Rico, and the only NHL on the island with a 20<sup>th</sup> century period of significance.
- Designation as an NHL will contribute to the promotion and recognition of both US Latino and women’s history.

**Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:** None known.

**Landmarks Committee Comments:**

**Landmarks Committee Recommendation:** Designation. Dr. Clark Hine moved, Professor Hoyos seconded; unanimous approval.

**Public Comments Favoring Designation (received as of 11/2/12):**

Carlos A. Rubio Cancela, Architect, State Historic Preservation Officer, Puerto Rico

**Advisory Board Recommendation:**