

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	JUL 6 1979
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DATE ENTERED	4 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

District Courthouse and Police Station

AND/OR COMMON

Old Police Station

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

141 Kalakaua Street

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Hilo

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Second

STATE

Hawaii

— VICINITY OF

CODE

15

COUNTY

Hawaii

CODE

001

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

County of Hawaii

STREET & NUMBER

25 Aupuni Street

CITY, TOWN

Hilo

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Hawaii

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Bureau of Conveyances

STREET & NUMBER

1151 Punchbowl Street

CITY, TOWN

Honolulu

STATE

Hawaii

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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 District Courthouse and Police Station, commonly referred to as the "Old Police Station", is a handsome building, rectangular in shape and symmetrical in its features.

The 4,500 square-foot two-storied structure stands toward the front of a 25,000 square-foot lot. There is a driveway entrance near the east end semi-circling around the back of the 90 x 48 foot structure and existing near the west end.

Its cream-colored "shell" is made of 8" reinforced concrete finished in large swarthy strokes, commonly known as "adobe finish". Its hipped roof is asbestos shingle. Some of the building's outstanding features include leaded glass top double front doors and double-hung windows, decorated ventilation openings, and four-columned central front porches on both the first and second floors. Intrusions consist of an antennae, vent pipes, a central flag pole and other miscellany.

The interior consists of about 16 major rooms of wood construction (at present, termite-eaten and must be gutted-out entirely). The top floor housed the District Court, including a clerk's office, judge's chambers, courtroom, library and miscellaneous rooms. The lower floor housed the sheriff, deputy sheriff, clerks, Captain of detectives, filing bureau, examiner of chauffeurs, the detective bureau, captain's quarters and police station. A central corridor on the first floor served as the connecting channel among all offices. Two indoor stairways lead to the second floor.

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 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		

SPECIFIC DATES November 4, 1932

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Shigeru K. Oda
Frank Futoshi Arakawa

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The District Courthouse and Police Station were built in 1932 to accommodate Hawaii County agencies. It lies in an area which has been the center of government and civic activities for Hilo since 1817. It is bounded on the northeast by the Hawaii Telephone building, designed by prominent Hawaiian architect, Charles Dickey in 1930. On the southwest side of the District Courthouse and Police Station is the U. S. Post Office/County Building, a National Register site entered on October 1, 1974. Directly across the street is Kalakaua Park established in 1877 c. by the then ruling monarch King David Kalakaua (1874-1891). The building is a two-story reinforced concrete structure with wooden interiors built in an eclectic style.

Plans for the District Courthouse and Police Station were drawn by Frank Futoshi Arakawa (1891-1977), Deputy County Engineer with the County of Hawaii, and one of the first nisei (second generation Japanese in Hawaii) to graduate from Stanford University with a degree in civil engineering. It was the first government building in the County to include accommodations for the automobile in its initial plans.

Completed at the cost of \$54,017.49, it was described in the Hilo Tribune-Herald upon announcement of its opening as being "well-planned and attractively decorated", and that "modernistic Hawaiian note prevails, with cream (and) brown colors both interior and exterior. Interior walls and ceilings are stippled in rainbow colors".

Shigeru K. Oda, well known and long-time contractor in Hilo, was the general contractor; C. M. Yamashita did the painting; and H. Matsuo, "one of the first Japanese plumbers and tinsmiths in Hilo", was credited for the plumbing.

Stephen L. Desha Jr., District Magistrate for South Hilo and Henry K. Martin, Sheriff, were the first to enjoy the new building.

In 1936 the first radio dispatch system was established with the help of Bill Seymour, and the station was able to contact police autos by voice (one way).

In 1946 part of the Courtroom made way for a fledgling Planning and Traffic Division, then a two-to-three person office. This division moved to the Hilo Armory in late 1961, when space became too limited.

By February 1969, the present State Building was completed and the District Court and its support staff moved out to new quarters in the State Building. The Police Department expanded its operations to encompass the entire building. The Department soon outgrew its facilities, and in October 1975, moved to new quarters on Kapiolani Street.

The "Old Police Station" has remained vacant since.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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(Bibliographical References: cont'd)

- 2) Hilo Tribune Herald, Nov. 4, 1932
- 3) The Hawaiian Journal of History-Vol. 9, 1975 Pub.-Hawaiian Historical Society. "The Architecture of C.W. Dickey in Hawaii" 101-113, Neil J. Meredith.
- 4) Bernice P. Bishop Museum Memoirs, 2 (no. 3, June, 1908) "The Ancient Hawaiian House"-Brigham, William T..
- 5) Paradise of the Pacific, LXVIII (April, 1956) 20-21, 28, 30 "The Passing of a Favorite Hilo Landmark" Pierce, John.

Interview with:

- 1) Herbert Hayama, Buildings Dept., County of Hawaii
- 2) Helen Baldwin, noted Hilo historian and botanist
- 3) Virginia Goldstein, Planning Dept., County of Hawaii
- 4) Shigeru K. Oda, general contractor
- 5) Guy Paul, Chief of Police, County of Hawaii
- 6) Nobuo Maruyama, whose wife was brought up by the elder Arakawa family.

Field notes: by Laura Soulliere, architectural historian.

