

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 13 1978
DATE ENTERED	DEC 1 1978

**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

AND/OR COMMON

Hawaii Capital Historic District

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

As described in district description

CITY, TOWN

*Bertram, Richard, City, 1000, Honolulu*

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Honolulu

VICINITY OF

1

STATE

Hawaii

CODE

15

COUNTY

Honolulu

CODE

003

**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

Various: Individual site forms included

STREET & NUMBER

Various: Individual site forms included

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Bureau of Conveyances

STREET & NUMBER

465 South King Street

CITY, TOWN

Honolulu

STATE

Hawaii

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Hawaii Register of Historic Places - Site #80-14-1321

DATE

1976

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Hawaii Register of Historic Places

CITY, TOWN

Honolulu

STATE

Hawaii

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

## PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CAPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Capital Historic District has three major characteristics that individuate and define it as a unique urban area. These characteristics are:

- 1) Open space to building mass relationship: the district encompasses a 57 acre area of which 84% is open space; a building mass to open space ration of 1 to 6.25.
- 2) Visual Access: The district because of its high ratio of open space to building mass, offers a 360°, 57 acre visual plane within a dense urban setting of high and medium high rise structures.
- 3) Architectural Character: The Capital Historic District offers the most cohesive and concentrated historic building categories in the state of Hawaii. These categories include:
  - a. Classical Revival
  - b. Romansque
  - c. Spanish Mission
  - d. Italian Mediterranean
  - e. French Romanesque
  - f. New England Frame (Colonial Rustic)
  - g. French Baroque
  - h. Georgian (Early Republic USA)

## CAPITAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES<sup>1</sup>

- 1) The Hawaii Capital Historic District is an area that defines the central nexus of Honolulu.
- 2) The Hawaii Capital Historic boundaries are defined by the outlined area on the Capital Historic District map.

<sup>1</sup>All street boundaries unless otherwise noted extend to the center of the named street.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES: 1794, 1845, 1850, 1893, 1894, 1900, 1909, 1969  
BUILDER/ARCHITECT: Various

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF HAWAII STATE CAPITOL DISTRICT

HISTORICALLY AND TRADITIONALLY THERE has existed a centralization of all levels of government in Honolulu (refer to statement of historic significance).

This early centralization of government has resulted in an extraordinary concentration of public and private architecture reflecting the social and political evolution of the people of Hawaii. To quote Charles E. Peterson<sup>1</sup> "There are few cities in the world that have as many buildings dating from the first quarter of the century of their founding; and all within walking distance of one another," it is fortunate that so much is included in an area small enough to be covered by foot." The Capitol District is much more than a historic place of government and private buildings, it is also a place of trees, shade and relative quiet; a place away from the city within the city. This district is a green open island standing between the high density business district of downtown Honolulu and the hustling, bustling tourist-automobile dominated environment of Waikiki. The Capitol District and its present environs are an invaluable natural and cultural asset to the people of Hawaii.

<sup>1</sup> Charles E. Peterson is a member of the American Institute of Architects, past president of the Society of Architectural Historians, former member of the Philadelphia Historical Commission and adjutant Professor of Architecture at Columbia University.

### HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF HAWAII STATE CAPITOL DISTRICT

Historically, the Capitol Historic District is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places because of its significance in association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; and because of its association

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kuykendall, Ralph S., The Hawaiian Kingdom Vols. I, II, III. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1953.  
Historical Background of Buildings in the Honolulu Civic Center. Honolulu: State Archives, 1966.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 57 A

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

618 A 

0 4	6 1 2 5 2 5	2 3 5 7 2 2 5
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C 0 4	6 1 7 7 6 5	2 3 5 6 3 9 0
	617	
E		
G		

UTM REFERENCES

B 

0 4	6 1 2 5 2 5	2 3 5 6 3 9 0
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D 0 4	6 1 7 7 6 5	2 3 5 7 2 1 5
	617	
F		
H		

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Enclosed Form

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Dale M. Lanzone - Architect and Gary Cummins - Historian

ORGANIZATION

State Historic Preservation Office

DATE

Spring 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1151 Punchbowl Street

TELEPHONE

548-7460

CITY OR TOWN

Honolulu

STATE

Hawaii

# 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

TITLE

Jane L. Silverman, SHPO

DATE

June 5, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12-1-78

ATTEST:

W. Ray Luce

DATE

11-27-78

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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<u>Building # and Name</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Mailing Address</u>
1. State Capitol/Grounds	State of Hawaii	State of Hawaii ✓ Dept. of Accounting and General Services P. O. Box 119 Honolulu, Hawaii 96810
2. Iolani Palace	State of Hawaii	See above
3. Aliiolani Hale	State of Hawaii	See above
4. Kawaiahao Church/Grounds	Kawaiahao Church	✓ Kawaiahao Church 880 Mission Lane Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
5. Iolani Barracks	State of Hawaii	See above
6. Iolani Palace Bandstand	State of Hawaii	See above
7. YMCA	YMCA	✓ Armed Services YMCA 250 South Hotel St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
8. YWCA	YWCA	✓ Young Women's Christian Associa. P. O. Box 337 Honolulu, HI 96809
9. Hawaiian Electric Co.	Hawaiian Electric Company	✓ (Building Owner) Hawaiian Electric Co. 900 Richards Street Honolulu, HI 96813 (Land owner) Bernice Pauahi Bishop Estate ✓ P. O. Box 3466 Honolulu, HI 96801

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<u>Building # and Name</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Mailing Address</u>
10. Federal Building	United States of America	Federal Building Attn. Richard Kanada ✓ 300 Ala Moana Boulevard General Services Admin. Honolulu, HI 96850
11. State (Territorial Office Building)	State of Hawaii	See Building #1
12. Hawaii State Library (Main Branch)	State of Hawaii	See Building #1
13. Honolulu Hale/Grounds	City and County of Honolulu	✓ City and County of Honolulu Building Department 650 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
14. Honolulu Hale Annex/Mission Memorial Bldg.	City and County of Honolulu	See above
15. Washington Place/Grounds	State of Hawaii	See Building #1
16. St. Andrew's Cathedral	The Episcopal Church of Hawaii	✓ The Episcopal Church of HI Bishop Edmond L. Browning Queen Emma Square Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
17. State Tax Office	State of Hawaii	See Building #1
18. Kapuaiwa Building	State of Hawaii	See Building #1
19. Mission Houses	Hawaiian Mission Children's Society	✓ Hawaiian Mission Children's Society First Hawaiian Bank 161 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
20. The Kamehameha Statue	State of Hawaii	See Building #1

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- 3) The district boundaries are specifically:
- a. Beretania Street from the intersection of Punchbowl to Richards Street including Washington Place and grounds, and including that portion of Saint Andrew's Cathedral and grounds (TMK: 2-01-18-02)<sup>2</sup> 355 feet from Beretania directly along the Saint Andrew's/Washington Place boundary and there making a right angle and extending to the Makai corner of, and including Queen Emma Square (TMK: 2-01-18-04).
  - b. Richards Street from the intersection of Beretania Street to Queen Street including the Armed Services YMCA and grounds (TMK: 2-01-17-01), the YWCA and grounds (TMK: 2-01-17-09), and the Hawaiian Electric Building (TMK: 2-01-16-01).
  - c. Queen Street from the intersection of Richards Street to Mission Lane including the State Tax Office Building and grounds (TMK: 2-01-26-01).
  - d. Mission Lane from the intersection of Queen Street to Kawaihāo Street, following the eastern boundary of the Mission Houses to King Street.
  - e. King Street from the intersection of Kawaihāo Street to Punchbowl Street including Honolulu Hale and Honolulu Hale Annex with grounds (TMK: 2-01-33-07).
  - f. Punchbowl Street from the intersection of King Street to Beretania Street.

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<sup>2</sup>The boundaries defined by the Hawaii State Tax maps are to be understood as (unless otherwise noted) the registration site boundaries of the historic site.

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HAWAII CAPITOL HISTORIC DISTRICT BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS

The following is a list of buildings, structures, and monuments of historic and architectural significance sited within the Capitol Historic District:

<u>Building</u>	<u>Building #</u>	<u>Registration Date</u>	<u>Registration Number</u>
State Capitol/grounds	1		
Iolani Palace/grounds *	2	12/31/58	80-14-9912
Aliiolani Hale	3	8/18/71	80-14-9908
Kawaiahao Church/grounds**	4	7/17-18/62	80-14-9991
Iolani Barracks	5	10/17/72	
Iolani Palace Bandstand	6	12/31/58	80-14-9912
YMCA	7		
YWCA	8		
Hawaiian Electric Company	9		
Federal Building	10	5/22/73	80-14-9952
State (Territorial) Office Building	11		
Hawaii State Library (King Street)	12		
Honolulu Hale/grounds	13		
Honolulu Hale Annex (Mission Memorial Building & Annex)	14		
Washington Place/grounds	15	10/17/72	80-14-9907
Saint Andrew's Cathedral ***	16	5/01/72	80-14-9915
State Tax Office	17		
Kapuaiwa Building	18	9/19/72	80-14-9970
Mission Houses	19	7/17-18/62	80-14-9991
The Kamehameha Statue	20		

TERMS OF REGISTRATION

All of the buildings and grounds that have been named and registered in previous historic registration documents and are sited within the boundaries of the Capitol Historic District are subject to all controls of district registration as set forth in Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 6.

\*Includes Old Archives Building (1906) and old mausoleum mound (1825).

\*\*Includes Lunalilo's Tomb (1876) and the adobe schoolhouse (1835).

\*\*\*Includes Tenny Hall.



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BUILDING DESCRIPTIONS

THE HAWAII STATE CAPITOL BUILDING #1

BACKGROUND:

The Hawaii Capitol building was designed for the people of the State of Hawaii by the architects Belt, Lemon, and Lo in association with John Carl Warenecke and Associates. Initial planning began in 1969; ground was broken November 10, 1965. The building was dedicated on March 15, 1969.

OVERVIEW:

The Capitol Building is sited on a full city block that joins without interruption (on the makai side) the grounds of the Iolani Palace. On the ewa and Diamond Head sides the site is bordered by Richards St., and Punchbowl St. South Beretania St. is the mauka boundary.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Exterior:

The Capitol building is a structure of steel reinforced concrete and structural steel. The building is rectangular with dimensions of 360 ft. X 270 ft. The 360 ft. lengths are the makai and mauka sides. The building's height is 100 ft. It was the intention of the architects that the building's various components read as sign/symbols relating to Hawaiian natural, and cultural phenomena.<sup>1</sup> The building is a composite of major motivated terms; terms that construct a Markoff chain<sup>2</sup> of linked design components.

1

2

Weaver, "Recent contributions to the Mathematical Theory of communications," P. 267 "A system which produces a sequence of symbols (which may, of course, be letters, musical notes or signs, say, rather than words) according to certain probabilities is called a stochastic process and the special case of a stochastic process in which the probabilities depend upon the previous events is called a markoff process or a markoff chain."

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These components are:

SIGN

SIGNIFIER

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Rectangular pool surrounding and enclosing the building.  | Ocean, surrounding the islands, inference is to the islands of Hawaii and surrounding sea.                 |
| 2. 40 reinforced concrete columns originating from the pond terminating and supporting the fourth floor (entablature). | Coconut palms, inference is to the relationship of the coconut palm to early Hawaiian economy and culture. |
| 3. Conical shaped ceramic tile legislative chambers.   | Volcano, inference is to geological formation of Hawaiian islands.   |
| 4. Interior lobby open on the makai and mauka sides; roof opened to the sky.   | Open society, inference to the acceptance of all aspects of the natural and cultural environment.          |
| 5. Reinforced concrete fourth floor overhang.  | Inference is to the Greek entablature and western architectural motivators.                                |

Interior:

The main entry is through the mauka facade. The main lobby is an unobstructed space open to the mountains, sea, and sky. Legislative chambers are on the ewa and Diamond Head sides of the lobby. Elevators; one in each corner of the building give access to the second, third, and fourth floors.

The upper floor contains the offices of the Governor and Lt. Governor.

Architectural Significance:

The Hawaii State Capitol building is the single most dominant work of public architecture in the State of Hawaii. When the State Capitol building was conceived, it was not meant to be just another modern structure. The building was intended to reflect Hawaii and its people.

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To quote from an address given by Governor John A. Burns, "The open sea, the open sky, the open doorway, open arms and open hearts - these are the symbols of our Hawaiian heritage. In this great State Capitol there are no doors at the grand entrances which open toward the mountains and toward the sea. There is no roof or dome to separate its vast inner court from the heavens and from the same eternal stars which guided the first voyagers to the Primeval beauty of these shores. It is by means of the striking architecture of this new structure that Hawaii cries out to the nations of the Pacific and of the world, this message: We are a free people.....we are an open society.....we welcome all visitors to our island home. We invite all to watch our legislative deliberations; to study our administrative affairs; to see the examples of racial brotherhood in our rich cultures; to view our schools, churches, homes, businesses, our people, our children; to share in our burdens and our self-sorrows as well as our delights and our pleasures. We welcome you! E Komo Mai! Come In! The house is yours!"

THE ARMED SERVICES YMCA #7

The Armed Services YMCA was designed by San Diego architect Lincoln Rogers in conjunction with the local Honolulu architectural firm of Emory and Webb. The building was dedicated March 16, 1928.

Overview:

The Armed Services YMCA building stands at the corner of Richards and Hotel Streets; which was the original site of a Royal Hawaiian Hotel which was used as the YMCA.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Exterior:

The building's plan is U-shaped with a central court (with an open second story lanai overlooking the makai end of the central open court) containing a swimming pool with surrounding deck lanais. The building's roof is a low ridge hip with green glazed straight mission barrel tile surfacing.

The building is constructed of steel reinforced concrete and structural steel.

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Fenestration is symmetrical and in parallel runs of metal frame casements. The broad overhang roof eaves are painted on the undersides with abstract Mediterranean design motifs.

The entry portico is fashioned from cut and finished coral, the portico consists of three flat arched entryways, the entryway surrounds are of rusticated coral block with four engaged moresque columns supporting segmented freestanding Triglyphs; immediately above each doorway's flat arch is a large cartouche with base relief symbols representing the three branches of the armed services.

Above the main entry portico is an open groin vaulted loggia that traverses the second story frontispiece to join the projecting half-round open loggias at either end of the portico.

The YMCA is five stories in height; with a fifth floor open loggia (supported by metal Corinthian columns) surrounding the entire fifth floor.

**Interior:**

Entry through the main portico gives access to central lobby with hotel like check-in desk and general lounge area. The first floor contains a gymnasium, games hall, restaurant, locker rooms, barbershop, tailor shop, curio shop and billiard room. The second floor contains various game rooms and public/private meeting spaces. The third through fifth floors contain two hundred and sixty-eight sleeping rooms.

**Architectural Significance:**

This building is a member of a unique and declining category of buildings; it is a first generation example of major Spanish Mission architecture, and stands in direct design relationship to the Hawaiian Electric Building, the Federal Building, the YWCA, and Honolulu Hale. At this time, the YWCA and Julia Morgan's YWCA are the only buildings in the city core area offering open and unrestricted social leisure services to the core city population.

The YMCA is an important social and physical factor in the generation of the sense, both spacially and physically of the Capitol District.

Current State of Repair: Good to excellent.

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THE HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY DOWNTOWN OFFICE #9

The Hawaiian Electric Company building is of Mediterranean derivation. The building was designed by New York architects York and Sawyer with local assistance from the Honolulu firm of Emory and Webb, and was completed in 1927 at a total cost of 750,000 dollars.

Overview:

The Hawaiian Electric Building fronts Richards Street and is bounded on the east by South King Street; to the west by Merchant Street.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Exterior:

The Hawaiian Electric Company is a four-story building of trapazoidal plan. The building is constructed of reinforced concrete and steel framing; the roof form is a composite of hip, gable, and flat with parapet, the hipped/gabled roof sections are surfaced with straight barrel mission tile.

The outstanding exterior features are the ground floor story and half stilted arched windows with <sup>CHURRIGUERESQUE</sup> Churriguera<sup>1</sup> decorated column supports, and the makai, Diamond Head corner cupola with its low rise polygonal tiled roof and lantern.

The second and third story windows are rectangular metal framed casements with stone sills. The third floor windows are arched and set in groups of two with a full major arch surround: there are three such groupings on the Richards Street facade, and eight grouping on the King Street facade. There is a three bay groin vaulted entry portico on the ground floor of the Richards Street facade with a hand painted ceiling by Julian Jarnsey.

<sup>1</sup>Characteristic of the forms introduced into Spanish architecture by Churriguera, Ribera, and other designers early in the 18th century. A good illustration of the form can be seen in Trent Elwood Sanfords, The Architecture of the Southwest, Greenwood Press, plate 27.

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Interior:

There are three entries and exits, the main entry is to the rear (ewa end of the building). There is an arched entry on either side of the building giving access to a vaulted hallway/mall, this hallway bisects the ewa end of the building and acts as a central foyer coordinating (spacially) the first floor spacing. The stairwell leading to the second and third floors originates from the ewa Hallway. The third entry is through the Richards Street portico, and gives access to the general service offices of the main ground floor space. This space has a richly decorated (Plaster mouldings/hand painting) coffered ceiling done by J. Rosenstein. The upper floors contain general administration offices as well as the Hawaiian Electric Company library.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Hawaiian Electric Building has some of the architecturally most elegant interior spaces of any buildings or building in the State of Hawaii. The richness of the decorated plaster, sculptured and hand painted ceilings, the fine detail of the Churriguera stonework, and the combination of wrought iron and brass fitting, grill work and gates used throughout the building lend a character of refinement to the structure of the building that will never again be seen in commercial architecture. This is a rare and intelligently articulated example of Spanish Colonial Architecture.

<sup>REPAIR</sup>  
CURRENT STATE OF REPAIR: Excellent

STATE TERRITORIAL OFFICE BUILDING #11

Background:

The Territorial State Office Building was designed for the United States Federal Government by architect Arthur Reynolds in 1926 to house the Hawaii Territorial Administrative offices.

Overview:

The Territorial State Office Building is sited at the corner of King and Punchbowl Streets directly across from the Hawaii State Library and adjacent to the Judiciary Building, Aliiolani Hale.

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ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Exterior:

The structure is six stories in height, rectangular in plan and has a flat asphalt roof with penthouse structures.

Construction materials are: reinforced concrete, and structural steel. The building is constructed of two major architectural elements: at grade there is a two story (with basement) horizontal architectural element which acts as base for a vertical element rising a full six stories. The vertical element is centered from Ewa to Diamond Head on the horizontal element. The two story horizontal element extends 67 feet on either side of the vertical element. Exterior windows are double-hung and run in symmetrical parallel rows.

Exterior wall surface treatment consists of pilasters marking window divisions and terminating in classical cornices. The building's frontispiece is marked by a massive straight stair with double landings leading to the segmental archway-entry with heavy protruding imposts. Above the archway there is a five foot peaked architrave with terminal taenia<sup>1</sup> supporting two massive full round corinthian columns extending three stories in height terminating in the sixth story entablature.

Interior:

Entry is gained through either the mauka or makai facades. The main entry being the mauka entry.

The dominant interior space is the central lobby with second story mezzanine and leaded glass decorative dome; the dome design is a graphic depiction of the coat of arms of the Hawaii Territory. The interior spaces, other than the main lobby, are simple unadorned offices and administrative spaces of no architectural consequence.

STATE OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The major environmental asset of this structure is its location within the Capitol District area; the building and its grounds blend, and add to the total texture, scale, and historic character of the Capitol District.

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<sup>1</sup>Taenia (tee'nea) the fillet separating the Doric frieze from the architrave.

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HAWAII STATE LIBRARY #12

Background:

The Hawaii State Library was designed for the Territory of Hawaii by New York architect Henry D. Witfield in association with Honolulu architect H. L. Kerr. The design was commissioned in 1909, the building was completed in February 11, 1913.

Overview:

The Hawaii State Library is sited on Punchbowl Street directly across from Honolulu Hale.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Exterior:

In plan the Hawaii State Library is quadrangular with an open central court.

The roof structure is a hip design, with green glazed Tuscan clay tiles. The library's main entry faces King Street and is approached via a fifteen foot wide brick edged asphalt walkway crossing a green grassy open lawn. The walkway terminated at a broad stairway of six rises leading to a main portico landing. The portico is supported by eight reinforced concrete Tuscan columns (20 feet in height). The columns support a single unadorned architrave running the full length of the three stilted arches, the center arch acting as the main entryway. These arches are eighteen feet high and have bronze inset grille work. The grille work surrounds the entry doors. On either side of the doors are side lights, above the doors are projected pulvinated friezes supporting bronze relief pediments. The ewa and Diamond Head facades of the Library are simple white plastered walls with pilasters marking wall divisions containing four rectangular double-hung windows. The mauka facade has an entry drive-up (loading and unloading) approach to the interior courtyard.

Interior:

The main lobby is covered by a 16 X 30 foot coffered ceiling with



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skylight. A second story mezzanine overlooks the lobby. The lobby contains the book checkout desk, various tables, chairs, and bookracks. Directly through the lobby one enters the central court, an ivory covered open space with bisecting walkways, and a surrounding first and second story loggia. In all of this is an extremely pleasant space, a place of cool and relaxing spaces shaded by flowering trees, and the overhangs of the loggia ceilings. Both the Diamond Head and Iwa wings contain the Hawaii Library books collection, as does the mezzanine King Street floor.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

There are two points of major significances:

1. The location and scale of the structure is a supplemental element to the total sense/character of the Capitol District. The Hawaii State Library occupies a pivotal position within the architectural landscape of the Capitol District; in conjunction with the Iolani Palace, this building stands at the center of the Capitol District and creates an architectural scale counterpoint to the buildings surrounding the Iolani Palace grounds.
2. Of particular architectural note is the use of bronze grille work insets in the arches of the main entry, this is the only example of this particular architectural treatment in the State of Hawaii. Also of note is the architect's strict adherence to classical design principles (except for the inclusion of the Roman derivative arched portico element with bronze grille work).

Site:

The Hawaii State Library site is level and runs from South King Street to the State Capitol Building grounds mauka/makai. The Library is set back some 123 feet from South King Street and 35 feet from Punchbowl Street. The grounds run uninterrupted to the grounds of Iolani Palace forming a continuous and expansive landscape.

The site is well tended and planted with various indigenous shrubs, flowering plants and trees.

PRESENT CONDITION: Good to excellent.

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HONOLULU HALE AND GROUNDS #13

Background:

Honolulu Hale was designed by architects C. W. Dickey, Hart Wood, Robert G. Miller, Guy Rothwell and Marcus C. Lester. The building was opened for city use November 26, 1929. It was built for and has continued to serve as the City Hall of Honolulu. The city government long ago outgrew Honolulu Hale; but it continues to house the Mayor's office, City Council and principle staff agencies.

Overview:

Honolulu Hale is sited on the corner of King and Punchbowl Streets, directly across Punchbowl Street from the Hawaii State Library.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Honolulu Hale is four stories in height with a single six story tower fronting Punchbowl Street. The building's plan is rectangular. Construction materials are reinforced concrete and structural steel. The roof design is complex, a combination of sheds and hips intersect forming a variety of roof shapes. Roof surfacing material is terra cotta clay tile.

Honolulu Hale's main entry is through the King Street facade. There are three basket arched entryways with compound rectangular portal insets. On the exterior and above the arched entryway is an open balcony running the length of the building. The Punchbowl Street facade is marked by the six story tower with its tile polygonal low rise roof. This tower is medieval in design character, small window penetrations supporting hood moulds, and carved stone balconies. This facade is complex in design and has an assortment of open and closed balconies, loggias, asymmetrical fenestration, deep recessed casement windows, flush metal double-hung windows, windows with cast concrete grille work, open and closed arched windows; similar fenestration is employed on the King Street facade.

Interior:

Entering the building through the King Street facade, there is an open central court with grand stairway leading to the fourth floor mezzanine

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at the mauka end of the central court. The central court has a painted and highly ornate coffered ceiling with the central ceiling section open to the sky. The interior treatment of the central court is reminiscent of an Italian Bargello<sup>1</sup> of the Middle Ages. The carved stone work on the columns, interior and exterior balconies and general decorative trim is the work of the Italian sculptor, Mario Valdastre<sup>2</sup>. The nonpublic interior spaces are used by the various branches of government.

STATEMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

Honolulu Hale is a prime example of first generation Hawaii adapted Spanish Colonial/Italian Architecture; it is a massive structure, yet projects a sense of human scale that is a hallmark of the Hawaii adapted Spanish Colonial Architecture.<sup>3</sup>

Honolulu Hale along with the YMCAs, YWCAs, the Federal Building, the Tax Office Building, and the Hawaiian Electric Building set the precedent of architectural scale for the Hawaii Capitol District.

Throughout the nineteen twenties local architects (after being influenced by mainland architects York and Sawyer, and Bertrum Grosvener Goodhue) for the first time self-consciously approached the question of an indigenous architectural design characteristic for Hawaii. From 1921 until the middle 20's there was a drive toward Italian, Spanish Colonial, Spanish Mission architectural forms. During the 30's and in the hands of Hart Wood (and influenced by B. G. Goodhue's Honolulu Academy of Arts building) the Spanish Colonial and Mission style became the Hawaiian style with the adaptation of the high ridge hip roof. Honolulu Hale represents an extremely unique aspect of this architecturally historic building phase in Hawaii.

<sup>1</sup>Headquarters of an army watch or civil police.

<sup>2</sup>Mario Valdastre was brought to Hawaii by San Francisco architect Julia Morgan to work on her YWCA project. Valdastre stayed on in Hawaii for forty years, and then retired, with his wife in Northern Italy. He has recently come out of retirement, and returned to Hawaii to work on the Iolani Palace.

<sup>3</sup>Unlike many mainland examples, ref. 54, California State Building, architect Bertrum G. Goodhue, The American Architecture of To-Day. G. H. Edgell; Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1938.

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HONOLULU HALE ANNEX/THE MISSION MEMORIAL BUILDING AND ANNEX #14

The Mission Memorial Building and Annex were commissioned and built for the Hawaii Evangelical Association. The Mission Memorial Building and attached auditorium were constructed during the period 1915-1916 in commemoration of the approaching centennial anniversary of the arriving first missionaries. This structure was designed by architect H. L. Kerr. The mission annex was completed January 12, 1930 and dedicated April 11, 1930. The structure was designed by architect Mark Potter.

**Overview:**

These buildings are sited on King Street between Honolulu Hale and the City and County Building.

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

The Mission Memorial Building is two stories in height and rectangular in plan. The roof is a low pitched mansard with newel post balustrade parapet.

**Structure:**

The building's foundation is reinforced concrete from the water table to six inches above grade. Walls from the foundation upward are of mortar bound English Bond red brick and reinforced concrete. Windows are metal frame double-hung rectangles with white painted concrete sills and lintels. The King Street and ewa facades have roof joining over-hung pediments that are the porticos for the King Street main entry and the ewa side entry. These porticos are supported by ~~five~~ <sup>SIX</sup> free-standing tuscan columns with Ionic capitals. The Diamond Head facade has a two story half round portico enclosed on its second level. This portico is supported by six concrete saddle backed dormers with arched single hung windows. The porticos enclosed second level has full glass walls and a wrought iron balustrade. The ground floor level has a simple rectangular entry door with concrete lintels. The rear of the building has an open colonnade connecting the Mission Memorial Building with its auditorium.

**Interior:**

Entry to the building is gained through either the ewa or Diamond Head

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porticos. The original King Street entry has been closed off and its interior spaces have been converted to offices. The interior of the building has been extensively altered to accomodate various administrative facilities; further alterations to the interior spaces are forthcoming. Access to the second story is gained via a stairway which has an interesting decorative wrought iron handrail. The second story has been extensively altered, but of interest is the overhead skylight with intricate tracery. Unfortunately this skylight has been roofed over.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is styled in the manner of Georgian <sup>REVIVAL</sup> Architecture. The Georgian style denotes a British architectural period during the reign of Ann and the Four George 1702-1803. This style was to be the prominent architectural style (for major buildings) during the early republic period in the United States 1702-1830. The style was also known as Neo-Classical, and Jeffersonian Classicism, (also to be called Roman Revival). The Mission Building and its side buildings are the only examples of Jeffersonian Classicism in the State of Hawaii. These buildings encompass a unique architectural category and should be considered valuable.

MISSION MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Background:

The Mission Memorial Auditorium was designed by H. L. Kerr as a support facility (auditorium) for the Mission Memorial Building. It was dedicated with the Mission Memorial Building in April 1916.

Overview:

This building is a single-story structure sited on the mauka side of the Mission Memorial Building. It is attached to the Mission Memorial Building by a colonnade supported by concrete Corinthian columns.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Exterior:

The Auditorium building has an asphalt shingled hipped roof. The

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building's structure is reinforced concrete with red brick English bond surfacing, windows are metal double-hung, with sill set on grade and terminated at the roof eaves.

**Interior:**

Entry is gained via the colonnade portico. The interior space has been extensively altered. The once high auditorium ceiling has been lowered to accomodate a more comfortable office atmosphere. The building at one time had a stage traversing the mauka end of the auditorium, this stage has been paneled and converted into office space.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

This building's significance is the same as that expressed for the Mission Memorial building.

MISSION MEMORIAL ANNEX

**Background:**

This structure was designed by architect Mark Potter. The cornerstone was laid January 12, 1930. The building was dedicated April 11, 1930. The Annex's original use was as the Christian Education Building.

**Overview:**

The Mission Memorial Annex is on the Diamond Head side of the Mission Memorial building and auditorium.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

**Exterior:**

The Annex building has an asphalt shingled hipped roof. The building's frontispiece is two stories in height and extends a bays width on either side of the two story frontispiece. The annex is constructed of reinorced concrete with red brick English Bond surfacing, its metal windows are double-hung and have white concrete sills and lintels. There are two entries; one in the frontispiece, and one to the rear of the building. The main entryway has a classical surround composed of two Ionic columns with a simple unadorned entablature.

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Interior:

At this time (August 27, 1975) the interior is being extensively remodelled, there is little left of the original interior spaces except the stairway leading to the second story. This stairway has a well formed wrought iron handrail.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

Same as the Mission Memorial and auditorium buildings.

TAX OFFICE BUILDING (HALE AUHAU) #17 #21

Background:

Hale Auhaui is a State Office building designed by Public Works architect, Harry K. Stewart. The building was completed in 1939.

Overview:

The structure is sited on Queen Street between Mililani and Punchbowl Streets directly across Queen Street from the Kapuiwa Building.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Exterior:

The building is a three-story reinforced concrete structure. The roof is hipped and surfaced with terracotta tile, the roof hip rafters are "broken" to generate a Japanese roof design effect. The structure's plan is a closed 'I' with the length facing Queen Street.

Hale Auhaui has two dominant architectural features:

1. The entry portico which spans the length of the Queen Street facade tying the two parallel end wings of the 'I' plan together. The portico is 17 x 40' and has square cut and finished coral columns supporting a simple stylized architrave.
2. Concrete grille work: Various windows have inset cast concrete grilles of a Hawaiian design derivation. Exterior window fenestration has two forms: from grade and extending to the third floor are two story arched windows, third story windows are simple

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rectangular casements. The use of two story windows extending through the first and second floors gives the impression of a two story building rather than a three.

**Interior:**

The building is entered through the main portico. Entry doors are metal and glass of 'modern industrial design.' The main interior space is a two story rotunda. The rotunda is bordered by service counters that give access to the various office personnel on the first floor. The first floor is an open unpartitioned space penetrated by concrete structural columns.

The second story is gained by a stairway to the rear of the rotunda. The second floor is identical in construction to the first. Unobstructed, unpartitioned space with penetrating columns (but with no central rotunda access).

The third floor contains a courtroom, and various office and supply rooms.

**Site:**

Hale Auhau is sited on a level well-tended grassy lot. Plants consist of palms, and one large monkey pod tree.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

The significance of Hale Auhau rises from its close design relationship to the other Spanish Mission and Colonial buildings within the Capitol District. In and of itself, the Tax Office Building is of no great architectural merit. It is a second generation derivation of the original 1920's Capitol District Spanish Mediterranean architecture, but it does maintain and support the overall texture and design sense of the Capitol District and this is an important feature (within a district) as individual architectural merit.

**CURRENT STATE OF REPAIR:** Good to excellent



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with the lives of persons significant in our past. After 1845, as Gavan Daws has written, "It was true enough throughout that period (1845 - present) to say that what happened in rural Oahu and on the outer islands might have nothing but local significance; what happened in Honolulu might very well affect all Hawaii."<sup>1</sup>

1

R. Warwick Armstrong (ed), Atlas of Hawaii (Honolulu: University Press of Hawaii, 1973), P. 90

In pre-contact Hawaii, the area of Oahu now encompassed by the city of Honolulu had some importance as a place of sacrifice (Punchbowl), as a food gathering center (the fishponds of Moanalua and Halawa), and as a place of residence for Oahu alii (Waikiki). However, it was not until after 1794, when Western mariners recognized the potential value of Honolulu's deep and protected harbor that it began to achieve primary importance as a commercial, urban, and government center.

In the period of time after unification of the Hawaiian archipelago by Kamehameha I, it can be said that capitol existed wherever the king happened to be. Kamehameha I, II, and III enjoyed travelling around the islands on progressions similar to those of the English Plantagenet kings, sampling the hospitality and loyalty of their subjects, and accompanied by a large retinue that tended to deplete the resources of the areas they visited.

The Hawaiian monarchs did not fail to recognize the importance of Honolulu, however, Kamehameha I established harbor fees and controlled the growing commerce centered there. During his residence in Honolulu from 1804 to 1811, the town became firmly established as an economic center.

The advent of the sandalwood trade, whaling, and the establishment of Christian missions after 1820, led to a greater influx of Europeans. Most settled in Honolulu for economic reasons. From the time of the death of King Kamehameha I in 1819 through the short reign of Kamehameha II and into Kamehameha III's rule, problems caused by the clash of Western business and religious interests and Hawaiian

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customs grew. The old style of Hawaiian government which had worked fairly well under Kamehameha I, proved unable to cope with these new problems by the time of Kamehameha III. One problem in particular was that of the lack of a permanent place of government, where representatives of the Western nations and the Hawaiian government could meet.

In 1838, the ruling chiefs appointed William Richards, an American missionary to serve the Hawaiian government as an advisor. Afterwards, other Western advisors were appointed to government posts such as Dr. Gerrit Judd, John Ricord, and Robert C. Wyllie. They saw the necessity of reinforcing the position of the king in every way possible while also establishing the rudimentary forms of parliamentary democracy.

They established formal systems of court etiquette, and more importantly, convinced the king and the chiefs of the need for a permanent capitol. Kamehameha III preferred Lahaina, Maui, which since the arrival of foreign whaling shops in 1820, had become a boom town. In the long run, however, Lahaina with its open roadstead, subject to the vagaries of wind and current, could never compete with Honolulu. Finally, in February, 1845, Kamehameha III moved permanently to Honolulu and established his residence on the approximate site of the present Iolani Palace. In May 1845, he formally opened the legislative session in Honolulu with a speech from the throne. Five years later, Honolulu was officially proclaimed the capitol of Hawaii.

The first Iolani Palace was constructed by Charles Kanaina in 1845, and was located on the grounds of the present Iolani Palace. It was of coral blocks, one story in height, and was used by Kamehamehas III, XV, IV, and V, as well as Lunalilo and Kalakaua before being torn down by the latter monarch to make room for the present Iolani Palace.

In 1850, funds were appropriated by the legislature for the construction of a Court House. Work began on it in 1851, and it was completed in 1852, with most of the work being done by convict-labor. It served as the actual place of business. Located on Queen Street, between Fort and Bishop Streets, it served as the actual place of business for the Hawaiian government until the

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construction of Aliiolani Hale on King Street, between Richards and Punchbowl, in 1874.

Prior to the construction of the Court House, and the movement of the capitol to Honolulu, other structures were built in the Capitol Historic District that tended to establish it as a center of importance. In 1820, the first Christian missionaries constructed their mission on land deeded to them by Governor Boki of Oahu. This land was at the present site of Kawaiahao Church, at the corner of Punchbowl and King Streets Makai-Diamond Head. In 1821, the first wood frame mission house was completed, adjacent (Diamond Head) of the mission. In 1823, a coral-block structure was built to contain the mission's printing press. The third missionary building is the Chamberlain House, completed in 1831, also of coral block construction. The missionary enclave at this location became headquarters for the missionaries throughout Hawaii. This tended to centralize the Protestant religious structure government at the Capitol district, and thus give the area additional importance.

In 1825, the bodies of King Kamehameha and his wife Kamamalu were interred in a coral house built on what is now the Iolani Palace grounds. The bodies remained there until 1865, at which time they were transferred to the Royal Mausoleum in Nuuanu Valley.

In 1835, an adobe schoolhouse was constructed by the missionaries behind the mission church. In 1842, the present Kawaiahao Church was completed at the site of the original mission. Only a year later, the Roman Catholic Our Lady of Peace Cathedral, was completed on the Mauka-Ewa corner of the capitol district. This church was the headquarters for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Honolulu.

In 1846, Captain John Dominis, an American, completed his home, located on the Mauka side of Beretania Street, across from the present State Capitol building. After his death, it passed on to his heirs, including his son's wife, Princess Liliuokalani. She lived in it until her death, after which it was purchased by the Territory of Hawaii for use as the Governor's mansion, which is its present use. It is the oldest continually-occupied structure in the State. All of this construction tended to establish an aura of importance to the area of the proposed Capitol Historic District.

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The Iolani Barracks were built in 1871 to house the Royal Household Guard. The architect was Theodore Heuck, a German. The barracks were originally located on what is now Hotel Street, but were moved in 1965 to make way for the new State Capitol building.

In 1874, Aliiolani Hale, constructed to house the expanding Hawaiian government was opened despite complaints that it was located so far out of town, and was much too large. This structure, originally designed as a palace by Thomas Rowe, an Australian architect, was altered in the planning stage by Robert Sterling, the Superintendent of Public Works, to become a parliament-government office building. In 1893, Iolani Palace became the "Executive Building," and Aliiolani Hale became the "Judiciary Building."

St. Andrews Cathedral, designed in Britain by B.F. Ingelow, was begun in 1867 as a memorial to King Kamehameha IV. Funds for the cathedral were raised the King's widow, Queen Emma. Completion of the construction called for in the original plan was in 1902.

In 1882, construction of the new Iolani Palace, the centerpiece of the Historic Capitol District, was completed. It was the only royal palace in the United States. It served as a place of residence for its builder, King David Kalakaua and later, Queen Liliuokalani, until the overthrow of the monarchy in 1893.

A bandstand was constructed on the grounds in 1883. The Provisional government occupied the palace with its offices after the revolution, and named it the "Executive Building." Legislative sessions were held in the structure from 1895 until 1968, when the new state capitol building was opened. At present, Iolani Palace is undergoing a total restoration and will open in 1978 as a museum.

In 1884, the Kapuaiwa Building was constructed to house government records. It was named after Kamehameha V (Lot Kamehameha Kapuaiwa). It never served as a record center, however, and was instead used to house government offices which could not be fitted into Aliiolani Hale.

The next public construction occurring in the Capitol Historic District was the Attorney General's Building (Old Archives Building),

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completed in 1906. This building was constructed to house public records, and was designed by the noted architect O. G. Traphagen. It was the first building in the United States built for the express purpose to serve as an archives structure.

The Hawaii State Library building on the Mauka-Ewa corner of Punchbowl and King Streets was completed in 1913 from a design by Honolulu architect H. L. Kerr and New York architect Henry Witfield.

The Mission Memorial Building was dedicated in 1916 as a memorial to Protestant missionaries who first arrived in Hawaii in 1820. It was used by the Hawaiian Board of Missions as a headquarters. In 1945, the City and County of Honolulu purchased it, but leased it to the mission board until 1947, when City and County offices were moved into it.

In 1922, the first Federal construction in the Historic Capitol District was completed--the U.S. Post Office, on Richards Street, and next to Alii'olani Hale.

In 1926, the Territorial Office Building was completed. It was designed by Arthur Reynolds to house the offices of the expanding territorial government, but was generally not well received by architectural critics.

The Hawaiian Electric Company building, on the corner of Richards and Merchant Streets, was completed in 1927. This attractive structure, designed by York and Sawyer, the same New York architects who designed the U.S. Post Office building across Richards Street from it. The building was obviously influenced by the public architecture predominant in the Historic Capitol District in terms of size, scale, and texture.

In 1927, the Young Women's Christian Association building on Richards Street, across from Iolani Palace, was completed. This graceful, Mediterranean-style building was designed by the noted architect, Julia Morgan. The structure is compatible with the Historic Capitol District in terms of size, scale, and texture.

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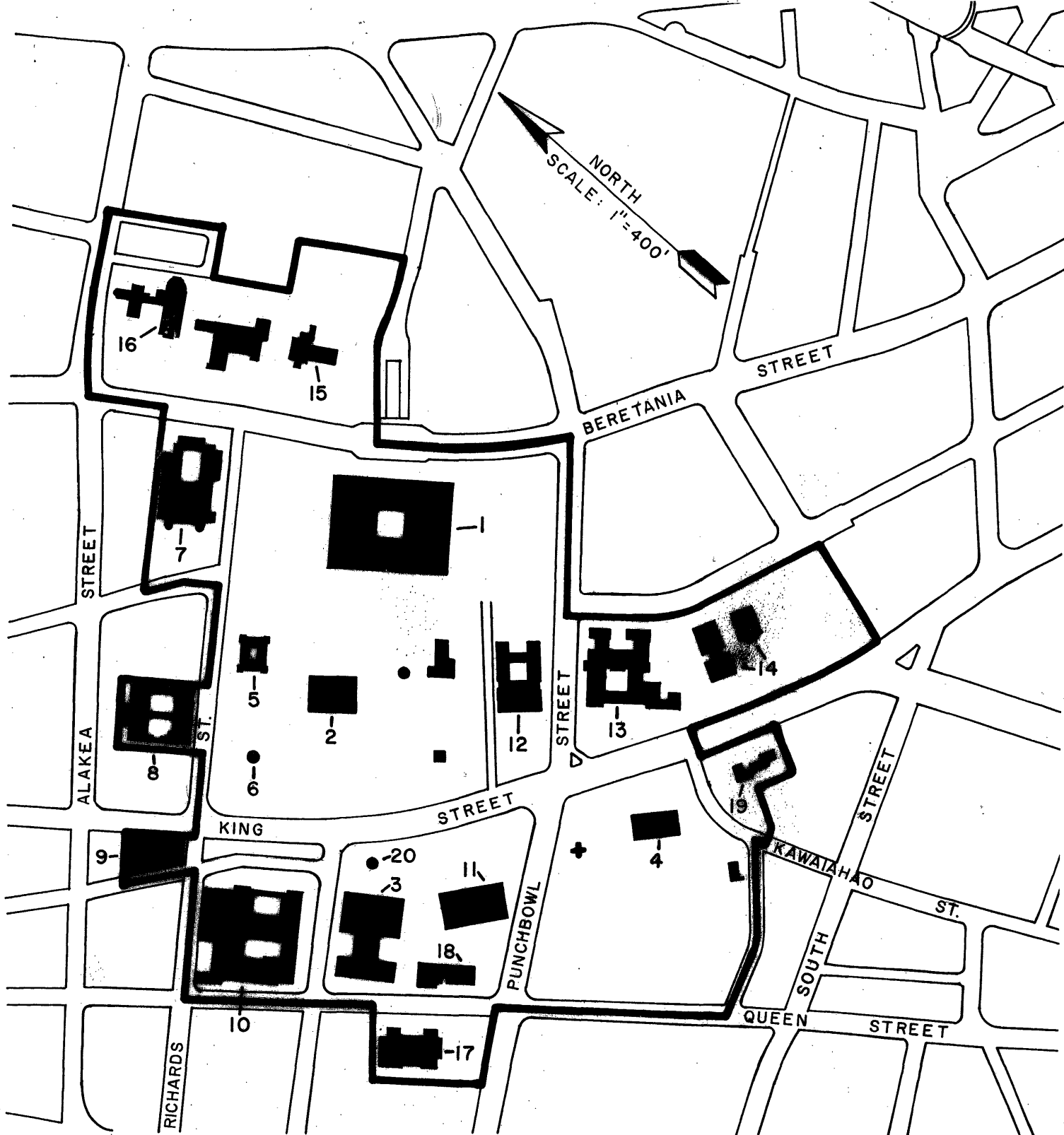
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The Army and Navy Young Mens Christian Association building on the corner of Richards and Alakea was completed in 1928. It was built on the site by local architects Emory and Webb, and San Diego architect Lincoln Rogers. The Mediterranean-style structure is also compatible with public architecture in the Historic Capitol District in terms of size, scale, and texture.

The City and County of Honolulu's city hall building, "Honolulu Hale", was completed in 1929. Designed by local architects C. W. Dickey, Hart Wood, and Robert Miller, Guy Rothwell, and Marcus Lester, it reflected the current vogue in Mediterranean-style architecture.

Public and private construction has continued in the Historic Capitol District down to the present time. For the most part, the design of this construction has been such that the scale and texture of the district has maintained its historic character. Other buildings erected in the Capitol Historic District are: the State Tax Office, on Queen Street, across from the Kapuaiwa Building (1939), the Tax Office Annex (I'i Building), adjacent to the Tax Office (1950), the Mission-Historical Library building, makai of the Mission Houses Museum (1950), and of course, the State Capitol Building (1969).



# HAWAII CAPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

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