

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

For NPS use only

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

received JUL 16 1986  
date entered 8-20-86

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

**1. Name**

historic JAMES L. COKE RESIDENCE

and/or common WAIPUNA

**2. Location**

street & number 3649 NUUANU PALI DRIVE \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town HONOLULU \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of

state HAWAII code 15 county HONOLULU code 03

**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 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name MR. AND MRS. DAVID LOWERY

street & number 3649 NUUANU PALI DRIVE

city, town HONOLULU \_\_\_\_\_ 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**

HAWAII INVENTORY OF HISTORIC SITES  
title STATE SITE NO. 80-14-1371 has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

city, town HONOLULU state HAWAII

## 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 Judge James L. Coke residence is a two-story, double wall house with exterior walls of brick painted white and wide clapboard siding. It terminates with a hipped roof with overhanging eaves with exposed rafters.

The house has a double L floor plan which allows for a single depth arrangement of the rooms. The gable roofed, right, front wing contains the living room and the hipped roofed, left, rear wing includes the garage and former maid's quarters. The kitchen, dining room and a den are situated in the main body of the house.

The front of the house is brick on the first story and clapboard above. A three car garage is to the left, and a 6x6 double hung sash, kitchen window and the dining room's sliding doors with eight light windows look out upon a red clay tiled front terrace. The entry to the house is off the terrace and leads into the living room. The entry is recessed, and framed in brick with rounded corners. The living room has plaster walls and an open beam ceiling. A pair of sliding doors, each with a window of ten lights are at one end of the room, and stairs leading to the second floor are at the other. A large plate glass window framed by 6x6 double hung windows dominates the east wall. The west wall has a 6x6 double hung window, as well as the entry. Wood panels are below the windows, and their pattern is repeated in the sliding doors. The floors are of ohia throughout the house. The stairway features a wrought iron bannister.

From the living room, a small, paneled hall leads immediately into the den and dining room. The den is also paneled, and contains a fireplace alcove with built-in book shelves. A bay window is opposite the fireplace and defines the east wall. A plate glass window flanked by a pair of projected windows of four lights each is on the north wall. The dining room has plastered walls, and is dominated by a large bay-like window with a central plate glass window flanked on the right by a 6x6 double hung sash window and on the left by a large door with a 12 light window, comparable in size to the corresponding double hung window. The doorway leads to the backyard's large open patio which is made of a rusty orange slate. The dining room retains its original crystal and wrought iron chandelier and light fixtures. The kitchen still retains its original cabinets, and much of the servant's quarters remains intact.

# 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		

Specific dates      1934      Builder/Architect      C. W. DICKEY

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

The Judge James L. Coke residence is significant architecturally as a good example of an upper class house of its period, and as an example of the 1930s residential work of architect C.W. Dickey and the landscape design talents of Richard Tongg. The house is also significant for its associations with Chief Justice Coke.

The house is a distinctly local residence, well adapted to Island life. It is well ventilated and encourages easy access to the outdoors. It is nicely appointed, and reflects a high degree of craftsmanship in its construction and use of materials. The house is representative of the skillful hand of C. W. Dickey, who was the preeminent architect in Hawaii during this period. The residence well demonstrates his ability to work within a more formal context, while remaining consistent with his views on an appropriate regional style of architecture.

The grounds, landscaped by Richard Tongg in 1935–1937, are also of note, especially the front yard and lands on either side of Nuuanu stream. Richard Tongg was one of the leading landscape architects in Hawaii during this period. His other work from the period includes the landscaping at the Andrews Amphitheater at the University of Hawaii (NR), Alexander & Baldwin Building (NR), the George Vanderbilt residence, Doris Duke's residence and other residences.

The house is also significant for its associations with Judge James L. Coke. Chief Justice Coke was born in Oregon in 1875, and commenced practicing law there in 1896. He came to, and settled in, Hawaii in 1898. In 1900 he helped form the Democratic Party in the Islands, and in 1908 he was elected County Attorney for Maui County. He moved to Honolulu in 1909, and in 1912 was elected to the Territorial Senate. In 1916 President Wilson appointed him Circuit Judge of the First Circuit Court. Two months later Wilson appointed him as an Associate Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court, and in 1918 made him Chief Justice of that court. He served in this position until April 1922, when he resumed his private practice. In 1934 President Franklin D. Roosevelt again appointed him Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court, and reappointed him to this post in 1939. Judge Coke retired from the bench on June 20, 1941. He lived in this house until his death in 1957. His widow continued to reside here until her death in 1970.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

ORIGINAL BLUEPRINTS AND CORRESPONDENCE  
MEN OF HAWAII  
HONOLULU ADVERTISER 8/13/57 P. 1

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 25,374 sq.ft.? LESS THAN ONE  
Quadrangle name HONOLULU Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	0 4	6 2 1 18 0	2 3 6 1 05 0	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification THIS NOMINATION INCLUDES ALL THE PROPERTY OWNED BY MR. AND MRS. DAVID LOWERY IN 1985, AS IDENTIFIED BY TMK: 2-2-51: 10

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

state	code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title DAVID LOWERY  
organization N/A date SEPTEMBER 5, 1985  
street & number 3649 NUUANU PALI DRIVE telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
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 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date JUNE 30, 1986

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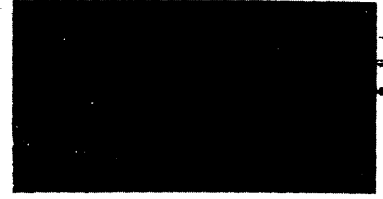
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

  
Keeper of the National Register date 8/20/86

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet      DESCRIPTION      Item number      7      Page      2

On the second floor a master bedroom is at the top of the stairs, and a second bedroom is at the end of a hallway. A window of eighteen lights, flanked by sliding windows of six lights, illuminates the hallway. Between the two bedrooms is a sitting room and bath. The bathroom retains its original fixtures and tile work. Openings with louvered shutters provide air and light from the hallway to the sitting room. A second story balcony, accessed from the master bedroom at one end and steps at the other, extends across the back of the house.

The house sits at the corner of Kimo Drive and Nuuanu Pali Drive, and overlooks and an auwai (channel) and Nuuanu stream, both sides of which are a part of the property. A lava rock wall with a plaster finish screens the property from the street. A grove on pink tecoma trees is in the front yard, and mature magnolia, plum and banyan trees also grace the property. The manicured lawns on either side of Nuuanu stream contain lily ponds.

The house has no additions or major alterations.