

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Palm Circle, 100 Area, Fort Shafter

and or common Palm Circle

2. Location

street & number Palm Circle Drive, Fort Shafter

not for publication

city, town Honolulu vicinity of

state Hawaii code 15 county Honolulu code 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name U.S. Army Support Command, Hawaii (USASCH)

street & number Directorate of Engineering and Housing

city, town Fort Shafter vicinity of state Hawaii 96858

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. U.S. Army Support Command, Hawaii (USASCH)

street & number Directorate of Engineering and Housing

city, town Fort Shafter state Hawaii 96858

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title 100 Area, Fort Shafter has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date March 29, 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records National Register of Historic Places

city, town Washington state D.C.

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

Palm Circle, earlier called the 100 Area, is at Fort Shafter, Oahu. The large, grassed parade ground is roughly oval in shape. Fifteen two-story, frame officers' quarters line the north and east sides of Palm Circle Drive which encircles the parade. Former enlisted men's barracks, now converted to administrative offices, and other administrative buildings, including a swimming pool, border the southern side of the drive. Nearly all these structures were completed between 1907 and 1909.

A complex, known formally as Richardson Hall and informally as the Pineapple Pentagon, stands at the eastern end of the parade. It was built in 1944, as was a nearby ornamental fountain which Italian prisoners of war constructed. The Pineapple Pentagon consists of three buildings (T-100, T-101, and T-102) that are connected to one another by exterior bridges. Because of the steepness of the site, two of them are irregularly shaped so as to reduce the amount of excavation. The top floors of building T-100 face the parade ground while T-101 and T-102 are not visible from there. The ground floors have concrete walls and the top three stories are frame structures sided with redwood. The buildings were designed to be as modern and functional as possible. Each of the three structures has a multi-story, concrete vault. They contain a total of 200 offices, the commanding general's suite, an assembly hall, and an impressive court martial room. Recently, the interiors of these buildings have been updated; modifications of the exteriors, however, have been modest.

In connection with Richardson Hall there are three underground, bombproof tunnels in its vicinity. Tunnel 103 is presently a command center, while the current uses of tunnels 113 and 114 are unknown. The 1908 post flagstaff stands across Palm Circle Drive from Richardson Hall. On the nearby site of the original post headquarters (T-13, which burned in 1982), the Army built a gazebo in 1982. This attractive structure is the only intrusion on the historic scene.

With the exception of Richardson Hall, all the structures are typical turn-of-the-century military architecture. They are unpretentious and restrained in design and ornamentation. The more recent Richardson Hall is impressive in its solidity and simplicity as viewed from the parade ground. While the interiors of the administrative structures have been modified extensively, the exteriors of the buildings at Palm circle have changed but little. One change is that of the officers' quarters' porches and the exterior hallways of the former barracks having been enclosed.

Palm Circle received its name from the 200 stately royal palms (*Palmea roystonea regia*) that line the parade ground. Landscaping at Richardson Hall also included royal palms, along with bamboo and other trees. Lawns are attractively landscaped with flowering shrubs and hedges. In general, historic Palm Circle presents a handsome, semi-tropical appearance, its army structures and the vegetation blending into an attractive whole.

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

Specific dates 1941-1945 **Builder/Architect** U.S. Army

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

During World War II, Palm Circle at Fort Shafter housed the offices and quarters of the commanding general and his staff, U.S. Army Forces, Pacific Ocean Areas (USAFPOA), which included all army forces in the Central Pacific and the South Pacific. The commanding officer, Lieutenant General Robert C. Richardson, Jr., was responsible for the supply and administration of all U.S. Army personnel in the Pacific war. He also commanded the Hawaiian Department, U.S. Army, and was responsible for the defenses of Pearl and Honolulu harbors. He directed the construction of the Pineapple Pentagon at Palm Circle for the more efficient conduct of the command's mission. In the summer of 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt arrived in Honolulu and met with Admiral Chester W. Nimitz and General Douglas MacArthur to plan the future conduct of the Pacific war. A "passing-in-review" army parade was held at Palm Circle in honor of the president. For more than sixty years Fort Shafter, the senior Army post in Hawaii, has been home to various headquarters organizations and, today, houses Headquarters, U.S. Army Western Command, Hawaii.

Background

Even before the United States annexed the Hawaiian Islands in 1898, U.S. Army troops had already arrived on Oahu and had established Camp McKinley near Waikiki's famous beaches. Almost immediately, the Army began planning the defenses of Oahu and its important ports of Honolulu and Pearl Harbor. In 1903, the Army decided to establish a permanent post at the Kahauiki Military Reservation halfway between Honolulu and Pearl Harbor. In 1907, the reservation was named in honor of Major General William R. Shafter who had died the year before. Shafter, a veteran of the Civil War, had led American troops in the invasion of Cuba during the Spanish-American War.

Construction of the new post began in 1905, thus making it the first permanent U.S. Army fort in the territory. By 1909, the officers' quarters, enlisted barracks, and administrative buildings were completed in the Palm Circle area. Officer's quarters T-5 became the residence of the senior army officer in Hawaii. Until 1913, the army establishments in Hawaii were under the Department of California. That year, however, the Army created the Hawaiian Department as an independent command subordinate only to the War Department. The dashing Brigadier General Frederick Funston arrived in Honolulu as the first commanding general. Eventually, the Hawaiian Department headquarters was established at Fort Shafter.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property 29 acres

Quadrangle name Honolulu

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UTM References

A

0	4	6	1	5	2	9	0	2	3	6	1	4	5	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

0	4	6	1	5	2	9	0	2	3	6	1	1	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

0	4	6	1	5	1	4	9	2	3	6	0	9	5	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

0	4	6	1	4	8	4	0	2	3	6	0	9	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

0	4	6	1	4	8	8	0	2	3	6	1	3	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

0	4	6	1	5	1	9	0	2	3	6	1	5	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

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 Erwin N. Thompson

organization Western Regional Office, NPS date June 13, 1986

street & number 450 Golden Gate Ave. telephone 556-4165

city or town San Francisco state California 94102

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 date

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

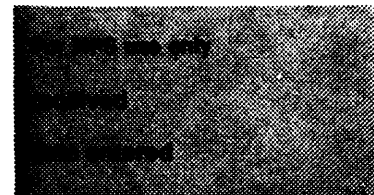
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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List of Structures and Date of Construction

T-3	Officer's quarters,	1907	T-114	Tunnel	1942
T-4	Officer's quarters,	1907	T-115	Administrative	1907
T-5	Commander's quarters	1909		(former barracks)	
T-6	Officer's quarters	1907	T-116	Administrative	1907
T-7	Officer's quarters	1907	T-117	Administrative	1907
T-8	Officer's quarters	1907		(former barracks)	
T-9	Officer's quarters	1907	T-118	Administrative	1907
T-10	Officer's quarters	1907	T-119	Swimming pool	1909
T-11	Officer's quarters	1907	T-121	Administrative	1909
T-12	Officer's quarters	1907	T-122	Administrative	1909
T-14	Officer's quarters	1907		(former barracks)	
T-15	Officer's quarter	1909	T-123	Administrative	1909
T-16	Officer's quarter	1907		(former barracks)	
T-17	Officer's quarter	1907	T-126	Administrative	1907
T-18	Officer's quarter	1924	T-127	Administrative	1909
T-100	Richardson Hall	1944	T-128	Administrative	1909
T-101	Pineapple Pentagon	1944		(former barracks)	
T-102	Pineapple Pentagon	1944	T-129	Gazebo	1982
T-103	Tunnel	1944?	130	Flagstaff	1908
T-111	Administrative	1907	T-131	Fountain	1944
T-112	Administrative	1907			
	(former barracks)				
T-113	Tunnel	1942			

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When the Japanese bombed Oahu on December 7, 1941, Lieutenant General Walter C. Short commanded the Hawaiian Department from Palm Circle. At that time, the command headquarters consisted of four small buildings. General Short was succeeded by Lieutenant General Delos C. Emmons who commanded the department until 1943. His replacement, Lieutenant General Robert C. Richardson, took charge of the Hawaiian Department on June 1, 1943, on the eve of the American offensive in the Central Pacific.

On August 14, 1943, General Richardson added to his duties when he became commanding general of the newly-established U.S. Army Forces in Central Pacific Area (USAFICPA) with his headquarters at Palm Circle, Fort Shafter. His new responsibilities involved the supply and administration of all U.S. Army troops in Admiral Chester W. Nimitz's forthcoming Central Pacific campaign. A year later, Richardson's duties increased when the U.S. Army Forces in Central Pacific Area was superseded by U.S. Army Forces, Pacific Ocean Areas (USAFPOA) under which all U.S. Army Forces in both the Central and South Pacific were consolidated in August 1944. His new headquarters, the Pineapple Pentagon, was ready just in time, the first units having been completed in June - just forty-eight days since construction began. After the war, the headquarters was officially named Richardson Hall in honor of the general. From 1943 to 1945, Richardson's command carried out logistical planning for the invasion of the Gilberts, Marshalls, Marianas, Guam, Palau, and Okinawa.

Palm Circle and the Pineapple Pentagon continue to serve as command headquarters for the U.S. Army in the Pacific. Today, they house the headquarters of the U.S. Army Western Command and the headquarters of its subordinate command, the U.S. Army Support Command, Hawaii. Officers' row also contains the residence of the commanding general, Pacific Ocean Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

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9. Bibliography

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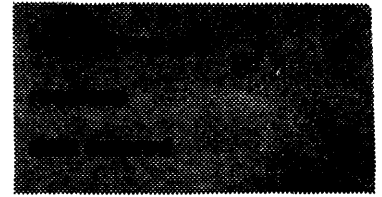
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10. Boundary

Beginning at a point on the west corner of the curb at the intersection of A Street and Morton Place; then westward along the north curb of Morton Place; then continuing westward along the same curb on the northwest side of Carter Drive to a point where a sidewalk leads to an ornamental fountain, T-131; then crossing Carter Drive at right angles and descending a long flight of concrete steps (not shown on the map) northeast of Richardson Hall (T-100) to H Place; then continuing south along the west side of H place, past T-102 and F103 to the northeast corner of building T-105A; then in a straight line along the north side of T-105A and continuing on to the southwest corner of building T-115; then in a straight line along the northwest side of an alley (B Street), past building T-116, to the northwest corner of the intersection of C Street and Funston Road; then in a straight line westward along the north curb of Funston Road to its intersection with Kalia Street; then northwest in a straight line along the east curb of Kalai Street to its intersection with Richardson Road; then northeast along the southeast curb of Richardson Road; then continuing along the same south curb of A street to the point of beginning.

WAIPIAHU

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

157°54' 21°22'30" 615000m E. 51°30"

Palm Circle, Fort Shafter
Honolulu Quadrangle (1:24,000 scale)

- A. 04/615 290/2361 450
- B. 04/615 290/2361 100
- C. 04/615 149/2360 950
- D. 04/614 840/2360 940
- E. 04/614 880/2361 320
- F. 04/615 190/2361 520

PEARL CITY 5.8 MI.
AIEA 3 MI.

WAIHAWA 14 MI.
PEARL HARBOR 3.2 MI.

20'

