

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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

For NPS use only
received SEP 13 1983
date entered OCT 24 1983

1. Name

historic Grace Cooke ^{House} Residence
and/or common Harold St. John Residence

2. Location

street & number 2365 Oahu Avenue not for publication
city, town Honolulu vicinity of [redacted]
state Hawaii code 15 county Honolulu code 03

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Dr. Charles S. Bouslog
street & number 2365 Oahu Avenue
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

title State Historic Sites Inventory #80-14-1359 has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1980 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 Grace Cooke residence is a single story frame residence rendered in a bungalow style. It sits on a lava rock foundation and is capped with an asphalt shingled hip roof. A gable roofed wing extends from the left front and is balanced by a wrap-around porch to the right. The exterior walls are finished with painted cut shingles, as are the porch columns. The shingles are elongated and are alternately overlapped to give the walls a U-shaped shingle pattern.

Both the hip and gable roofs are overhanging with exposed rafters. Figure four brackets embellish the gable, as also do two rectangular vents and a cornice-like, denticulated band. The rafters supporting the roof over the porch entry exhibit fine craftsmanship, being bowed to conform with the bend in the roof.

All windows are double-hung sash, some of which contain wooden designs in the upper light that mimic beveled glass. The shingles above the windows and doors exhibit a sawtooth edge.

Dressed bluestone blocks lead up the sloping front yard to the house. Two sets of double doors provide access to the interior from the porch. The porch has a simple balustrade with cut-out boards as corner posts. A plank, wide enough to serve as a seat, rests on top of the balustrade. The corner of the house under the porch roof is clipped to provide more outdoor living space and a bay window effect on the interior.

The interior of the house remains relatively intact. The living and dining rooms form a large, flowing space. They have coffered ceilings and paneled walls. The original candle-like light fixtures are still on the walls. Narrow double doors of five panels each lead from these to the bedrooms and bath situated on the left side of the dwelling. The kitchen is situated off the dining room to the right. All the doors have their original hardware and an original brass chandelier still hangs in the kitchen.

The house contains a basement which originally served as a maid's quarters. The attic has also been partly finished. This work was undertaken by Harold St. John in the 1930s and included the placement of two dormers, one on both the east and south sides of the roof. The construction of these dormers is the only major alteration to the house. Other than that there has been no additions.

The house sits on a 13,500 square foot lot which is distinguished for the mature trees in its front yard. These trees include two Royal Poinciana (Delonix regia), a West Indian Mahogany (Swietenia mahogani), a Sandbox (Hura crepitans), and two Silk Oak (Grevillea robusta). The Sandbox Tree has been nominated to the City and County's register of exceptional trees. The two Silk Oak were part of the original landscaping on Oahu Avenue. At one time this species lined both sides of the street, but now only scattered clusters remain. The rock terraces near the house, part of which is natural and part of which results from human efforts is another significant landscape feature contributing to the overall character of this property.

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

Specific dates 1912 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

The Grace Cooke residence is architecturally significant as a good example of early bungalow style architecture in Honolulu. It is also significant in the history of science for its associations with Harold St. John, who lived here from 1929 to 1958.

Originally built for Grace Cooke in 1912, the house is a good example of the early bungalow/craftsman style in Hawaii with its hip roof, prominent front gable, shingle siding and interior decor. It displays a high quality of workmanship and materials as evidenced especially in such features as the porch's roof rafters and the entry steps. The integration of the natural rock outcropping with the steps and the landscaping further reflects the craftsman orientation of the period.

Harold St. John, a graduate of Harvard University, purchased this house in 1929 upon his arrival to Hawaii. He was a Professor of Botany at the University of Hawaii from 1929 to 1950, and a Senior Professor from 1950 through 1958. He has gained an international reputation in the field of botany, and has written over 380 scientific books and articles on the subject. He is the world expert on pandanus and has written the definitive books on botany in Hawaii. For his work in the field, he was made a fellow in both the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Linnean Society of London. At the age of 90 he is still active in the field, working at the Bishop Museum. He currently resides in a modest cottage to the rear of the Grace Cooke residence, on land which he subdivided from the original parcel.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Research at Bureau of Conveyances

City Directory

Pacific Science (1979) vol. 33, No. 4, "Harold St. John"

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 13,500 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name Honolulu

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

This nomination includes all the property described by tax map key 2-9-5:56 in 1983, belonging to Dr. Charles Bouslog.

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 Dr. Charles S. Bouslog

organization NA

date April 1983

street & number 2365 Oahu Avenue

telephone (808) 548-6408

city or town Honolulu

state Hawaii

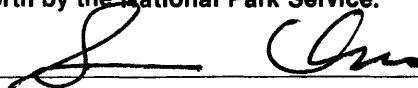
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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



SEP - 8 1983

title

date

For NPS use only

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


Keeper of the National Register

date 10-24-83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration