

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 3 1980
DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Bernice P. Bishop Museum
AND/OR COMMON
Bishop Museum

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
1355 Kalihi Street
CITY, TOWN
Honolulu VICINITY OF
STATE
Hawai'i 96818 CODE
15 COUNTY
Honolulu CODE
003

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"/> 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 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 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
	<u>NA</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Board of Trustees, Bernice P. Bishop Museum
STREET & NUMBER
1355 Kalihi Street (Mail: P. O. Box 19000-A, Honolulu HI 96819)
CITY, TOWN
Honolulu VICINITY OF
STATE
Hawai'i 96818

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Bureau of Conveyances
STREET & NUMBER
1151 Punchbowl Street
CITY, TOWN
Honolulu STATE
Hawai'i 96813

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Hawaii Register of Historic Places # 80: 14: 1353
DATE
1980 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Department of Land & Natural Resources
CITY, TOWN
Honolulu STATE
Hawaii

7 DESCRIPTION

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

The Bishop Museum Historic Complex consists of four structures (1) the exhibition buildings of Museum Hall, Polynesian Hall, and Hawaiian Hall, (2) Pākī Hall, (3) Konia Hall, (4) Bishop Hall, plus their surrounding land, comprising approximately 4.72 acres. The complex is set within what essentially is a fifteen acre block, sloping gently to the southeast, with other buildings and intrusions (see aerial photo and also tax map, enclosure 2). The historic buildings include the main exhibition areas and all but two of the curatorial storage and work areas. Ashlar masonry, using quarry-faced native grey lava rock, is the construction material for the exhibition complex and Bishop Hall. The remaining structures are concrete.

In addition to a physical link between Hawaiian and Pākī Halls, the exhibition complex, with Pākī and Konia Halls, encloses an informal courtyard with an ethnobotanical garden. The area is used as part of the exhibits and for public and private functions. A small luncheon facility is located at one side of the courtyard (photo 4 and enclosure 1).

(1) The First Museum building, built in 1889, consists of the main entrance and tower, flanked (facing the front) by a one-story exhibit room at the left (Kahili Room), and a two-story exhibit area on the right (The Vestibule, over which was the original Picture Gallery). In 1893, Polynesian Hall was added at the rear and, to the right, Hawaiian Hall was added in 1899. These stone buildings present a varied silhouette of one, two and three-storied sections, designed after the Romanesque revival style of Henry Hobson Richardson (photos 1 & 2).

Two large arches, resting on squat sandstone columns with floral capitals, frame the entrance porch. The tower, which rises three stories, is capped with a high-pitched pyramidal roof sheathed with striated copper. A central gabled section intersects this area creating a raised pediment bearing in relief stone letters showing the Museum's name and date. Arches form the lintels of the third story windows while fenestration of the second story is rectilinear.

The remaining roof surfaces of these main exhibit buildings are hipped and covered with striated copper. The original decorative ridge crests are missing. Pairs of gabled dormers appear on the east and south sides of Hawaiian Hall (photo 3). These projections are ornamented with single round windows, set above three square windows on the south side and four on the east side. All other Hawaiian Hall fenestration is rectilinear. Decorative features on the three-story Hall include dentils set below a plain, heavy rock cornice. Below the cornice, at the center of the south side, a smooth-faced stone is incised with the date, "1889."

(Please refer to Continuation Sheets)

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 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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"/> 1900-1964	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

NA

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

NA

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bishop Museum Historic Complex is being nominated for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places based on its combination of architectural, cultural, scientific, educational and historical significance. The Museum was founded in 1889 by Charles Reed Bishop (1822-1917), Hawaii's first banker, as a memorial to his wife, Princess Bernice Pauahi (1831-1884), the last of the royal Kamehameha line. Mrs. Bishop had no children, and under her will and estate she created the Kamehameha Schools, part of the original 100 acre site of which is the present Museum grounds. The Boy's School opened first, in accordance with Mrs. Bishop's wishes, in 1887, followed by the Girl's School in 1894. Mrs. Bishop's collection of artifacts, with additions by other royal relatives and friends, formed the nucleus of the Museum's collections. No sets of architectural drawings for the early buildings are known to exist, and little is known of the original architect, William F. Smith.** However, the structures testify to his abilities, particularly in the restraint of his adaptation of the Richardsonian Romanesque style, the attention to interior details, the use of local materials, and the quality of construction. The west end of Polynesian Hall is itself an outstanding example of design (photo 2), presumably pleasing to Mr. Bishop who in 1896 noted that, "Proportions count for more than ornamentation in striving for beauty in a building." Smith also was the architect of Bishop Hall, built as part of the Schools. All of these early structures are Hawaii's first non-industrial use of and the first architectural employment of quarry-faced masonry using native lava rock, sometimes referred to as "Kamehameha blue stone." The Deed of Trust establishing the Museum, at a time when in all the world there were fewer than one hundred major museums, and but thirty-eight states in the union, was both concise and comprehensive, the Museum to be "a scientific institution for collecting, preserving, storing and exhibiting specimens of Polynesian and kindred antiquities, ethnology and natural history, and books treating of, and pictures illustrating the same, and specimens.." This mandate was explained fully to include the entire Pacific area, and it was Mr. Bishop's stated intent that the institution "rank with the museums of the world." Today, the Museum ranks first or among the top for most of its collections, first in its collections of prehistoric and historic Hawaiian material culture, and fourth in the nation in terms of its systematic biology collections. The archeological, ethnological, historical, library, cartographic, photographic and archival collections provide major, unique resources for

(Please refer to Continuation sheet)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED
UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 7.98

UTM REFERENCES

A	04	616800	2359825
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet, and tax map (enclosure 2)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-none-			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

J. C. Wright, Historian, and M-E Fong Mitchell, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Bishop Museum

DATE

February 28, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

1355 Kalihi Street

TELEPHONE

(808) 847-3511

CITY OR TOWN

Honolulu

STATE

Hawai'i 96818

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

[Signature]

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

November 12, 1980

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

William H. Bradford
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

7-26-82

ATTEST:

Patrick Andrews

DATE

7/26/82

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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The other structures of this complex have molded concrete cornices. On the west side of the Kahili Room, a single dormer punctuates the roof line and consists of two arched windows surmounted by a single round window (photo 2).

At the entry, two pairs of heavy koa (acacia koa) doors, with cast bronze hardware, permit access to the exhibit halls, where koa panelling and trim is featured. A wide stairway leads from the entry toward Polynesian Hall, dividing and returning to a balcony one end of which leads to the second floor gallery above The Vestibule. From the balcony may be seen eight plaster bas reliefs by sculptor Allen Hutchinson, showing profiles of Hawaiian types, male and female, young and old (photos 5 & 6). At the left of the stairway, entering, is the double-door entrance to the Kahili Room. This area was 'modernized' ca. 1952-53, the window areas being filled in with small stones, and contemporary exhibit cases installed. The cove ceiling remains. Above the entrance to Polynesian Hall is a maroon marble slab incised with "To the memory of/ Bernice Pauahi Bishop/ Founder of the Kamehameha Schools/ A bright light among her people her/ usefulness survives her earthly life." (photo 6) In this area are fluted jambs, posts, and lintels, carved balustrades and panelled wainscoating. The exhibit area of Polynesian Hall begins on the second level (with office and work areas below), and has a surrounding gallery from which rise stylized rectangular posts concealing iron columns supporting the exposed roof system of arched wooden beams (photo 7). In 1954-55, this gallery also was 'modernized,' with structural changes made to exhibit cases, concealment of the gallery railing and overhead beams, and a bleached finish applied to the koa trim. In 1968, the egg-crate ceiling was removed and in 1973, air-conditioning was installed in the former roof skylight. For security, and in preparation for a major international loan exhibition, the double-hung windows were removed, and the spaces sealed and converted to exhibit use, with the koa trim completely refinished. When funds permit, additional restoration work will be done in this Hall.

The Vestibule, to the right entering the first floor level, originally was an exhibit area. It, too, was 'modernized' ca. 1954-55, with original built-in cases removed and the tessellated marble chip floor covered with asphalt tiles. In 1970, the room was renovated prior to its present use as the museum sales shop.

Above The Vestibule is an open gallery with a cove ceiling the center of which forms a vent. Originally the Picture Gallery, the space was closed in 1937 and not opened for exhibit use until 1967. When Hawaiian Hall was built, using the wall of the gallery, the windows were blocked in.

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In 1969, two window spaces were opened and stairs installed to provide access for the first time between the gallery and the upper gallery of Hawaiian Hall.

The main exhibition area of the Museum is Hawaiian Hall, designed around an open well (photos 8 & 9). The first floor, of tessellated marble chips, has a raised rectangular platform in the center, used as a stage and exhibit area. Two galleries, reached by stairs, encircle the Hall. Vertical supports for the galleries and roof are provided by pairs of iron columns encased in outer iron columns cast with decorative motifs and fitted with foliated capitals, the designs of which differ for each of the three levels. The column units (appear to) rest on rectangular wooden bases. The upper gallery columns support the panelled ceiling arches, each of which is embellished with a decorative keystone in the form of a cast of a Hawaiian image. Set in the walls above the arches are oval vents. The central part of the coffered ceiling is a skylight, presently blocked to natural light. Ornate wrought iron balustrades support rail cases to enclose each gallery. The first gallery balustrade features cast plaques of the monarchy period Hawaiian coat-of-arms. The second gallery balustrade reflects the motif of the kalo leaf (taro; colocasia esculenta). Built-in exhibit cases are constructed of cedar frames and koa trim. The windows are partially blocked from actinic light by modern panels and louvers (photo 3).

(2) Pāki Hall (named for High Chief Abner Pāki, father of Bernice Pauahi), built in 1909-1911, originally was intended to be built of cut lava rock, but for economy was built of reinforced concrete, one of Honolulu's earliest buildings to use this method. The three-story structure has a fourth floor penthouse centrally located, originally a photographic studio, now a conference room (photo 10). Pairs of double-hung windows are divided into six bays, each articulated by applied pilasters on the east and west sides; the north and south facades are divided into five narrow bays with the same design as the side walls. Simple entablatures are repeated three times, first between the first and second floors, at the top of the third floor, and at the top of the penthouse. In 1928, the dentils below the cornice and the ornamentation of the pilasters and pilaster heads were removed to match the simplified design of Konia Hall. Located on the ground floor of Pāki Hall is a gravity station, Reference Site Number 88 27. Readings have been taken periodically since 1954 (enclosure 4). The Hall presently houses Press publications, invertebrate zoology, library, photo collection, paintings and historical archives.

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(3) Konia Hall (named for Laura Konia, mother of Bernice Pauahi), built in 1928 of reinforced concrete with stucco finish, is a plain, three-story rectangular building (photo 11). Pairs of double-hung windows are recessed slightly in bays of five on the east and west sides, and bays of three on the north and south facades. Entrances to the building, on the north and south sides, are framed by columns and a projecting pediment. All details are limited to raised surfaces. The first and second floors are delineated by a plain string course along the coping of the wall surface. A projecting entablature of plain design caps the building, which houses the anthropology department (two floors) and the malacology department.

(4) Bishop Hall, earlier and when under construction informally called Memorial Hall, was dedicated on Founder's Day, December 19, 1891, with Charles R. Bishop present and for whom it was named. It was designed and used as the Boy's School of The Kamehameha Schools. In 1928, when the Schools moved its campus to nearby Kapalama Heights, the Museum purchased the Hall and surrounding land. The structure of ashlar masonry uses quarry-faced native lava rock, and consists of two intersecting rectangular units of two stories, one with a gabled roof, the other with a hipped roof, both covered with striated copper sheathing (photos 14 & 15). The south end of the gabled roof section features at the first level a massive portico with three large arches, covering a wide stairway to the main entrance. At the east end of the hipped roof section there is a circular tower. Originally, above the second level of the stone tower there was a third level wooden section capped by a high conical dome covered with striated copper. Intended as an observatory, the top section seldom was used and was removed in 1915. Also removed were the decorative ridge crests and the adjoining hipped roof portion. A cast concrete balustrade, with square openings, was installed following the design of the portico roof balustrade. Additional windows were made in the tower at both levels, plus one at the right of the porch, on the first level.

The south side of the building features four two-story arched openings with cast concrete railings enclosing the open verandahs of each floor. The arches spring from five ornate cast concrete capitals designed by sculptor Allen Hutchinson. Fenestration around the building is mainly arched double-hung windows of several sizes (photo 15). Most of the interior is plainly finished in painted wood and plaster. A wide wooden stairway leads to the second floor and to the (original) assembly room. The ceiling of this room is the building's only distinctive interior

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feature, with its trusswork and ceiling detail of fir. For each of the six trusses (two are on the walls and enclose arched windows), a central arch is set within a rectilinear frame of triangular sections, all of which rests on hammer beams whose curved brackets repeat the curve of the central arch. Intersecting beam ends are fitted with lathe-turned pommels. The ceiling surface is articulated with narrow boards set in a herringbone pattern, further delineated into larger rectangular sections by the roof beams (photo 16). The building at present houses the Pacific Regional Conservation Center (an affiliate of the Museum), education offices, anthropology work areas, and the vertebrate zoology department. Plans are being considered for complete interior renovation and exterior restoration, retaining in the interior only the notable ceiling.

(5) Pauahi Hall (named for Princess Bernice Pauahi), is not part of the historic complex. Built in 1964, the Hall is a four-story concrete structure connected to Paki Hall at four levels. Pauahi Hall houses the entomology department (three floors) and the botany department.

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documentation, research, exhibition and education about Hawai'i and the Pacific. Through its Press, publishing continuously for over eighty years, the Museum has earned international recognition and respect.

** Until recent years, most of the Museum's inactive records were kept by Bishop Estate. Only fragments of architectural drawings have survived, most being interior details. Research about Smith has yielded no information on buildings designed by him earlier or subsequent to the Museum buildings, and his San Francisco firm, Smith & Freeman, dissolved.

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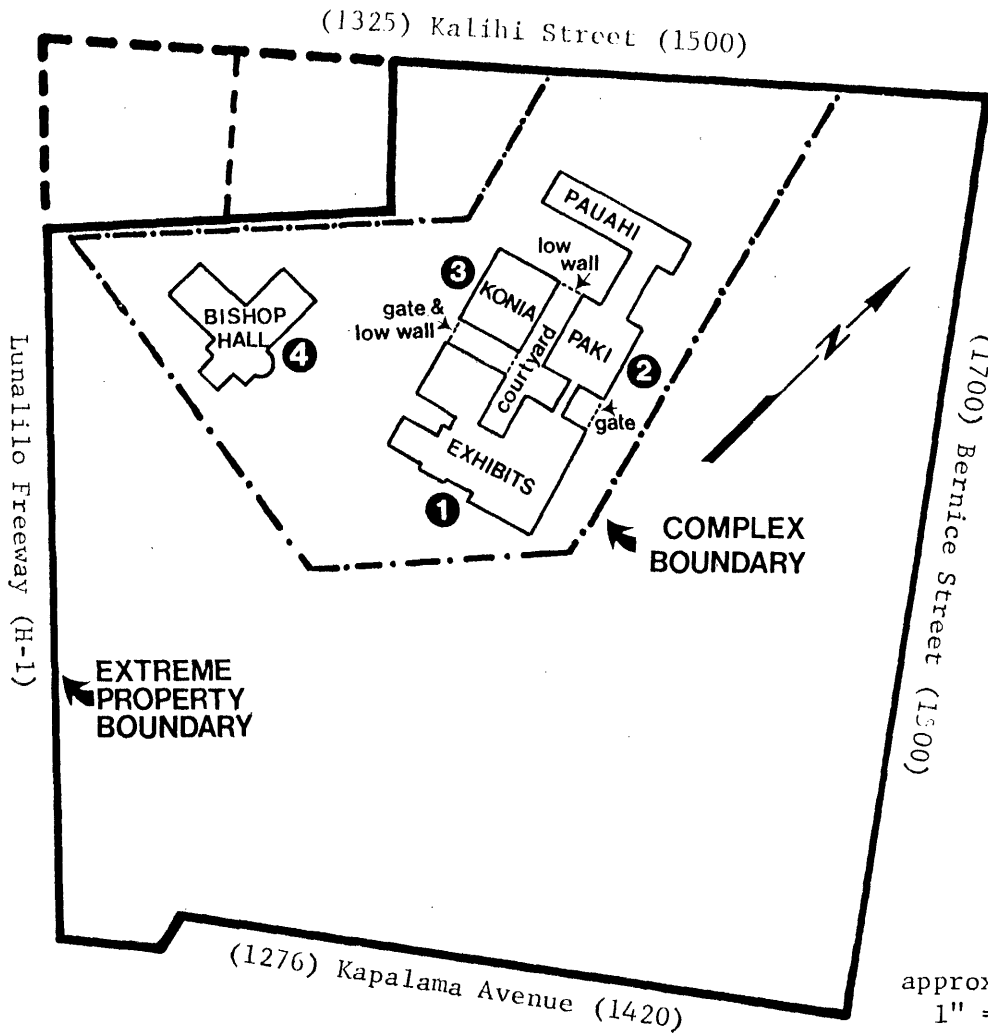
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The property nominated is contained within a larger block owned by Bishop Museum bounded on the NE by Bernice Street, on the SE by Kapalama Avenue, on the SW by Lunalilo (H-1) Freeway, and on the NW by Kalihi Street.

An irregular-shaped portion comprising the historic complex is formed by these boundary lines (distances are approximate):

From the W corner of the extreme property boundary, a line runs NE for 390 feet, then N for 190 feet to Kalihi Street. At a point 200 feet along the Kalihi Street boundary, the line runs S for 500 feet, then SW 280 feet, turning W 400 feet to enclose the Historic Complex boundary.

See tax map (enclosure 2) and aerial photo.



DEC 19 1964

Architectural Styles/Periods:

1. Richardsonian Romanesque, 1889-1899
2. Simplified Classic, 1909-1911
3. Simplified Classic, 1928
4. Richardsonian Romanesque, 1891

DEC 19 1964

BISHOP MUSEUM/Photographs

Aerial photo, R. M. Towill, 1977. Black line indicates extreme property boundary. Intruding lots and other structures are owned by Bishop Museum except for the area at dotted lines. Red line indicates National Register complex boundary.

(Photographs listed below are by Bishop Museum)

1. General view of front of exhibition buildings, main entrance at center. Looking N.
2. View of west sides, exhibition buildings, Kahili Room at right, Polynesian Hall at left. Looking NE.
3. East side, Hawaiian Hall.
4. Portion of Courtyard. Looking S.
5. Entry area, first level, main stairs leading to Polynesian Hall and tower balcony. Portrait of Mrs. Bishop is flanked by one of Mr. Bishop at the left.
6. View up main stairway and entry to Polynesian Hall, over which is Mrs. Bishop's memorial plaque.
7. Polynesian Hall, 1978. Looking E.
8. Hawaiian Hall, 1978. Looking N.
9. Hawaiian Hall, 1978. Looking S.
10. Paki Hall, west side. Looking NE.
11. Konia Hall, west side. Looking SE.
12. (deleted)
13. (deleted)
14. Bishop Hall, view looking NW.
15. Bishop Hall, view looking S.
16. Bishop Hall, ceiling of "assembly room," looking N.