

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 15000885

Date Listed: 06/07/2016

Friendship Garden  
Property Name

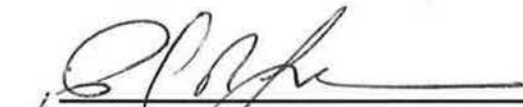
Honolulu  
County

HI  
State

N/A  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

6/7/2016  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

**Resource Count/Description:**

The resources built, rebuilt, or moved into the garden post-1948 are outside the period of significance and are considered non-contributing. While not considered "contributing/historic" for purposes of the National Register nomination, features such as the rebuilt bridge pavilion (1984), the moved and reconfigured cabin shed (1985-86), and the Kokokahi stone basin (1999) are nonetheless compatible features of the designed garden landscape.

The contributing resources within the nominated property include the overall garden site (1 site), the system of stone and lava rock stairs, walls and trails found throughout the park (1 structure), the pavilion bridge 1 structure, and various stone lanterns and sculptures (3 objects). No revision to the resource count is necessary as the non-historic resources are of insufficient scale to merit individual citation.

**Geographical Data:**

Please note that the geographical coordinates given under the UTM block are in fact Latitude and Longitude coordinates.

These clarifications were confirmed with the HI SHPO office.

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DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

APP 2 2 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Friendship Garden

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing: \_\_\_\_\_

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: 45-226 Kokokahi Place

City or town: Kaneohe State: Hawaii County: Honolulu

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national X statewide \_\_\_ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D

<p>Signature of certifying official/Title: _____</p> <p><i>Alan W.</i></p> <p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>		<p>Date</p> <p>4.12.16</p>
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<p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>Signature of commenting official: _____</p>	<p>Date</p>
<p>Title: _____</p>	<p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>


Friendship Garden Honolulu  
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County and State

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

  
Signature of the Keeper

6/7/2016  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
<u>1</u>	_____	sites
<u>2</u>	_____	structures
<u>3</u>	_____	objects
<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Landscape  
Park  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Landscape  
Park  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
NA  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: \_\_\_\_\_NA\_\_\_\_\_

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

Friendship Garden is a ten acre park which is sited at the rear of Keana in Kaneohe on the island of Oahu, and is the *mauka* terminus of the Kokokahi residential subdivision. Planted as a forest area, the park is penetrated by lower and upper loop trails, both of which are unpaved, and is characterized by mature vegetation, with different plant varieties located in distinct areas. The park's character is further defined by its stone entry steps, two wood structures, and several Asian style masonry objects. The property is in very good condition and retains its historic integrity of design, materials, craftsmanship, location, setting, feelings and associations.

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### Narrative Description

A set of fifteen, broad lava rock steps with six inch risers, provide a gradual transition from the street to the park. The stone steps were former curbstones salvaged when Beretania Street was widened between Punahou and McCully streets. The steps lead to a terrace held in place by a three foot lava rock wall, which is faced with stone

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salvaged from the Waipahu Irrigation ditch. At the terrace the steps fan outward to make an amphitheater-like, four tier seating area. African tulip (*Spathodea campanulata*), Washington palms (*Washingtonia robusta*), milo (*Thespesia populnea*), mock orange (*Murraya paniculata*), and a monkey pod (*Samanea saman*) form the canopy for this area, while blue thunbergia vine (*Thunbergia laurifolia*) and Mexican creeper (*Antigonon leptopus*) provide a backdrop. A large natural stone dominates the left corner, and a small concrete bench is located here. In the right corner stands a three foot high, cylindrical stone basin, on which is inscribed in Japanese, "Kokokahi 1936---Doshisha". The latter dates from 1999 and is a replica of the original stone basin, which was given to the garden in 1936 as a gift from Doshisha University. Fearing for its safety, the original was removed in the 1960s, and now sits at the entry to the Japanese garden at the East-West Center.

The lower loop trail joins the entry area from the left rear and the right side. The left rear trail crosses over an intermittent stream that drains the left side of the park. The trail ascends up the left slope of the stream's valley. The floor of the valley is vegetated with Brazilian bower bush (*Adhatoda cydoniaefolia*), while philodendron (*Philodendron sp*) covers much of the hillside. The mature canopy includes Christmas berry (*Schinus terebinthifolius*), silver oak (*Grevillea robusta*), ironwood (*Casuarina equisetifolia*), octopus tree (*Brassaia actinophylla*), and kukui (*Aleurites moluccana*). A set of 12 concrete and stone steps assist in the initial climb, and further up the trail is a second set of 11 stone steps. At the top of the second set of steps is a small opening to the side of the trail, which is presided over by a large Chinese banyan (*Ficus retusa*) whose roots drape down a hillside as imitating a waterfall to form a scenic backdrop for this area. A small pavilion may have once stood here, as some remnants of what appear to be a concrete footing are evident. The trail continues upward, past a cup of gold (*Solandra hartwegii*), and leads to a giant banyan (*Ficus benghalensis*), which dominates the left valley and marks the upper extent of the lower loop trail. Prior to reaching the banyan, a rock marks the intersection of the lower loop trail with the upper loop trail, and a 30 foot long stone and mortar retaining wall adds structural stability to the trail. Just before the banyan on the uphill side of the trail is a cluster of coffee plants.

At the banyan, the lower loop trail crosses over a simple slab, concrete bridge that spans the intermittent stream and then ascends up the right slope of the valley, aided by a set of 7 stone steps. The trail passes a cup and saucer bush (*Holmskioldia sanguinea*), levels out, and continues around a bend to an area where Kaneohe Bay may be viewed. An Asian style masonry lantern is at this point, standing in front of a Chinese banyan. The pathway leading to this point is bordered by plumbago (*Plumbago capensis*) and night blooming cereus (*Hylocereus undatus*) climb the trees. From here the trail leads to a Japanese pavilion bridge. This bridge spans the intermittent stream that flows down the right side of the garden. The pavilion has a hipped-gable roof supported by four posts, with plank seats on either side. It sits on a stone, round arched bridge. When the stream is active, a waterfall is behind the pavilion, flowing under the bridge to a pool below. A stone Japanese lantern stands to

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the side of the pool. At one end of the bridge is a clump of golden bamboo (*Bambusa vulgaris*) and golden dew drop (*Duranta repens*), and Bamboo palms (*Rhapis excelsa*) are to the other. Vandals at some point tipped the pavilion's decaying wood superstructure into the pool, and the pavilion was rebuilt in 1984 upon the original stone bridge. Beyond the pavilion the lower loop trail goes through a grove of lemon eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus maculata*) and then commences its descent back to the entrance of the gardens. The upper loop trail connects to the lower loop trail in the eucalyptus grove. At a bend in the lower loop trail, just beyond the eucalyptus grove is a small alcove, where the Doshisha University stone basin originally stood. Bamboo palms (*Rhapis excelsa*) border this area. As the trail descends it passes two allspice trees (*Pimenta dioica*), a royal poinciana (*Delonix regia*), a Bo tree (*Ficus religiosa*), and goes through an area of ironwood and brassaia with Chinese violet (*Asystasia gangetica*) serving as a ground cover. Near the road it emerges into a grove of macadamia nut trees (*Macadamia integrifolia*), with bamboo (*Sinocalamus beecheyanus*) to one side. Near its terminus the trail passes under a small cabin which extends from the hillside and is supported by wood posts. A stone bench is under this board and batten cabin. Stone steps lead up to the entry to the cabin, which is used for storage of maintenance equipment. The single wall, gable roofed cabin was originally located down on the Kokokahi camp property, next to an amphitheater. It was used as overnight accommodations for campers. When that area was subdivided for houses, two cabins were salvaged, and from their materials this cabin was reconstructed in 1985-86 and placed in use as a tool shed. It retains the original dimensions and style of the earlier cabins, including the ornate wood screens that cover the rectangular openings that run along the top of the walls on each side.

The upper loop trail accesses the higher elevations of the garden. It branches off the lower loop trail on the left side of the park by a large rock and gradually ascends up through a bamboo grove (*Sinocalamus beecheyanus*). At the end of the bamboo is a natural rock outcrop, on which a small pavilion once stood. From here the trail winds through an area vegetated by silver oak, brassaia, Christmas berry, strawberry guava (*Psidium cattleianum*), and red Chinese hibiscus (*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*). In the course of the uphill climb Chinese violet becomes the predominant ground cover, with some Jamaica vervain (*Stachytarpheta jamaicensis*) also present. Where the upper loop trail levels off, a branch trail goes off to the left and leads to the ridge of the mountain. The top lookout, approximately 400 feet in elevation, offers a panoramic view of Kaneohe Bay and the Koolau mountains, and parts of Kailua also may be glimpsed. Here the branch trail connects with a ridgeline trail which ascends to an upper elevation of 795 feet.

The upper loop trail, upon leveling off, passes a line of Cook Island pines (*Araucaria columnaris*). From that point forward, much of the remainder of the upper loop trail was lost over time to erosion, but was reconstructed during the 1990s by Ted Talbott in memory of his grandfather Paul Dudley. The trail wends its way past a hillside covered in plumbago, and a stand of swamp mahogany (*Eucalyptus robusta*) with a lauae fern (*Microsorium scolopendria*) ground cover, affording a grand view of the Koolau

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mountains before rounding a bend and descending 17 stone steps to commence the journey down to its intersection with the lower loop trail at the eucalyptus grove. As in other parts of the garden philodendron forms a ground cover and Christmas berry, silver oak, and octopus tree contribute to a mature canopy.

Friendship Garden retains its historic integrity, although some modifications have occurred over time. All the vegetation in the garden is original or self-propagated, with the exception of two trees, the monkey pod at the entry and the Bo tree (*Ficus religiosa*), which stands near the right side terminus of the lower trail. The Bo tree derives from a cutting from the tree at Foster Botanical Garden, which reputedly derives from the Bo Tree in India under which Buddha sat when he attained enlightenment.

From the intact trees and shrubs the original design intention of the garden is still very evident. The entry to the garden is new, having been made in 1976, following the design of landscape architect Janet Gilmar. The new entry was necessitated by the development of houses on either side of the garden in the 1950s, which destroyed parts of the original lower loop trail. Originally the lower loop trail commenced at the present entry, but went off immediately to the left, over the intermittent stream by way of a Chinese style bridge with red railings, before proceeding up the hillside. The construction of the house to the left of the garden resulted in the destruction of the bridge and the covering of a segment of the trail. The bridge's stone abutment is still visible behind the small concrete bench. Similarly, the construction of a house on the right side of the garden resulted in the loss of a portion of the loop trail where it returned to exit onto Kokokahi Place on the right side of the garden. Russ Porter in 1979 constructed the new segment of trail which connects the lower loop trail back to the entry on the right side, thus avoiding the precipitous dead end to the trail that had resulted when the new house lot had been bulldozed. The relocated YWCA cabin was placed in the garden in 1985. Aside from the need to reconfigure the garden's access, the replacement of the pavilion over the Japanese bridge, and the reconfiguration of a segment of the upper loop trail in the late 1990s, the historic character of the 10.08 acre garden remains unchanged except for the natural on-going growth and regeneration of the plant life.



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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social History  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**  
1927-1948  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**  
1927  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**  
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**  
NA  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**  
Richard Tongg, landscape architect  
Francis Bowers, landscape architect  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Friendship Garden is significant at a statewide level for its associations with the development of the Kokokahi tract, and the Pan-Pacific Movement (Criteria A). The period of significance commences with the platting of Kokokahi as a subdivision and concludes with the death of Theodore Richards.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Friendship Garden is an integral part of the Kokokahi Tract, which was developed in 1927 as a consciously designed Christian, multi-ethnic community based on a belief in the brotherhood of mankind. The name of the subdivision, Kokokahi, translates "one blood," and recalls a quotation from Chapter XVII of *The Bible's* book of Acts, "God has made of one blood all nations of men." The inspiration of Theodore Richards, the subdivision was intended to demonstrate that all the peoples of Hawaii could live together in harmony.

To make this, at the time seemingly idealistic, vision a reality, Theodore and Mary Atherton Richards in 1926 sold lands they owned in the Kauluwela district, which was roughly bounded by King and School streets, and Nuuanu Avenue and Liliha Street. They used the realized moneys as a down payment to acquire from Kaneohe Ranch the 39 acres of land which would eventually become Kokokahi. The total price for the land was \$45,000, and in 1927 the valley was platted with 87 lots. Richards envisioned Kokokahi as a Christian convention and recreation center, and vacation settlement. He established a camp at the lower elevation of the valley, and private house lots were laid out along the winding road which was constructed up the valley. The top of the valley was left undeveloped as an open space park for hiking, and was named Friendship Garden.

Church organizations were given the first option on the house lots, and then the remainder were sold on a quota basis to members of Hawaii's different ethnic groups. To assure that all ethnic groups in Hawaii were represented in the new community, numbers were drawn by representatives of Hawaii's ethnic groups, Hawaiian, Japanese, Portuguese, Filipino, Chinese, and Anglo-Saxon, to determine the order in which house lots would be selected. Each group was allocated a certain quantity of lots in accordance with the proportion of the population it represented. Covering the opening of Kokokahi, the July 3, 1927 *Honolulu Advertiser* called it, "one of the most unique real estate, as well as sociological ventures ever undertaken in Hawaii."

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Ethnically based committees screened potential purchasers within their ethnic group, and an executive committee granted a final approval, to assure that all community members were of high Christian character. All resales also had to be approved by the executive committee. By November 1927, 23 of the 58 house lots had been sold. The executive committee for 1929 included: H. Metcalf, Ah Sun Lung, L.R. Killiam, S. Fukuda, H.C. Smith, C. H. Min, and Yap Kui.

By the end of 1928 the roadway and waterlines for the subdivision were completed. Thanks to donations, Camp Kokokahi's modest facilities were expanded in 1930 and 1931, when ten, one-room cabins, called the Kauhale (small village) were built following plans by Mark Potter, who also designed an amphitheater for the camp. The camp grounds and amphitheater were demolished in the 1980s, making way for a housing development. A cabin built from the materials of two of the Kauhale cabins and following their design and detailing, sits today in Friendship Garden.

The upper lands, which were covered with lantana and haole koa, were gradually planted with a variety of trees, including eucalyptus, silver oak, iron wood, Cook Island pines, and monkey pod. Many of the plants were donated by friends, as Richards accepted any plants that were offered, and a nursery was established to grow young trees to transplant. In 1938, *Star Bulletin* reporter May Day Lo found a Japanese garden "already flourishing" with its lily pond, iron storks, and stone basin. The Chinese garden's landscaping and planting had just begun. "Rustic benches conveniently located at various places invite the wanderer to rest and listen to the wind which is playing in the trees before dashing up the pali. It is in such surroundings that the spirit of Kokokahi has flourished." [Lo, 1938]

The development of Kokokahi, with its conscious implementation of the idea of "one blood," is closely associated with the Pan Pacific Movement, which laid the foundations for Hawaii's acceptance of a cosmopolitan society, where all were treated with respect. The movement proclaimed the islands to be the "Crossroads of the Pacific," where East met West in harmony, and promoted multicultural accord in Hawaii as well as international understanding throughout the Pacific. In large part this frame of mind was publicized and actively catalyzed by Alexander Hume Ford through his monthly *Mid-Pacific Magazine* (1911-1936), and the Hands Around the Pacific Club (organized in 1911). One spin-off of the latter was the 12-12-12 Club, which periodically invited a dozen representatives from several of the Islands' different ethnic groups to meet over dinner to discuss racial misunderstandings and issues relating to Hawaii in a successful effort to gain each others' perspectives. Hawaii's religious institutions strongly supported the Pan-Pacific movement, and architectural embodiments of this broad minded thinking blossomed in the 1920s and 1930s in such buildings as the Chinese Christian Church, the Korean Christian Church (no longer extant), Makiki Christian Church (HR), and Church of the Crossroads (HR, NR), as well as the Alexander & Baldwin Building (HR, NR).

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Today the Kokokahi tract is dotted with houses of more recent vintage. Only two houses from the pre-war period still remain in the community. Camp Kokokahi and its amphitheater no longer exist, the YWCA's main building, which was designed by Claude Stiehl, has been greatly altered. As such Friendship Garden stands as one of the few tangible reminders of pre-war Kokokahi. As a privately owned park open to all the people of Hawaii, it embodies Richards' belief in the brotherhood of mankind, of east meeting west in a harmonious manner in Hawaii, which initially motivated the development of this community.

Because of its distance from Honolulu, a little under a one hour drive by automobile in 1928, following improvements made to Kaneohe Bay Drive, the Kokokahi subdivision essentially served as a retreat from Honolulu with the YWCA and Camp Kokokahi being focal points for activity. However, by 1937 the newspapers were referring to Kokokahi as a suburban area, and 40 houses stood on the valley's hillsides. By 1955 Kokokahi had become a residential district with 77 owners living in the tract.

Ownership of the non-residential parts of Kokokahi was transferred to the Kokokahi Community Trust, and following Theodore Richards' death Friendship Garden was neglected and fell into disrepair during the 1950s and 1960s. In 1973 Jack and Janet Gilmar were able to obtain a fifty year lease on the property, with the understanding that they would form a non-profit organization to manage and maintain the garden, which would eventually obtain ownership of the garden. In 1974 the Kokokahi Community Trust was dissolved and its assets, including Friendship Garden, were given to the YWCA. In 1978 the Friendship Garden Foundation was established as a 501(c)(3), and in the following year the Foundation obtained a lease for the garden. Finally, in 1998, the organization acquired fee simple title to Friendship Garden. The Foundation is intent upon preserving the garden's historic character and maintaining the garden as an open space. To this end, in 2002 the Foundation successfully petitioned the City and County of Honolulu to down zone the property to preservation, and the placement of the property on the Hawaii and National Registers of Historic Places is viewed as another level of legal protection for the property.

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## Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Allen, Gwenfread, *Bridge Builders, The Story of Theodore and Mary Atherton Richards*, Honolulu: Hawaii Conference Foundation, 1970.

Black, Cobey, "Kokokahi, The Possible Dream," Honolulu: Kokokahi Community Trust, 1973.

Hibbard, Don. "Hawaii---The Cross Roads of the Pacific," *CRM*, vol. 21, no. 8, 1998.

Lo, May Day, "Kokokahi, A Decade of Christian Service," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, March 26, 1938, section 3, p. 1.

Nellist, George, *Men of Hawaii*, Honolulu: Star-Bulletin, 1925, p. 733

Nellist, George, *Men of Hawaii*, Honolulu: Star-Bulletin, 1930, p. 411

"Kokokahi Open to Inspection in Two Weeks," *Honolulu Advertiser*, June 19, 1927, p. 12.

"Inter-Racial Tract Opened at Kaneohe," *Honolulu Advertiser*, July 3, 1927, p. 15.

"Kokokahi, Oahu's Christian Inter-Racial Development," *Honolulu Advertiser*, November 6, 1927, p. 10.

"Plan Theater at Kokokahi Community," *Honolulu Advertiser*, June 7, 1931, p. 12.

"Suburban House Lots Over Kokokahi Way," *Honolulu Advertiser*, April 25, 1937, p. 13.

"Theodore Richards Dies on Eve of 81<sup>st</sup> Birthday," *Honolulu Advertiser*, March 28, 1948, p. 1.

"Friendship Center at Kokokahi," *Honolulu Advertiser*, July 17, 1955, magazine section, p. 4.

"Friendship Garden Grows from Its 72-Year-Old Roots," *Honolulu Advertiser*, April 25, 2002, page A6.

"Spend \$10,000 for Kokokahi," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, January 9, 1929, p. 11.

"Kokokahi Proves Interesting Stop During Sunday Driving," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*,

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February 22, 1930, section 2, p. 1.

“Funeral Services Tuesday for Dr. Theodore Richards,” *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, March  
29, 1948, p. 1.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**9. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** 10.08 acres

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Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |          |                     |                      |
|----------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: 21.40576   | Northing: 157.77744  |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: 21.40577   | Northing: 157.777046 |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: 21.405425  | Northing: 157.776641 |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : 21.404808 | Northing: 157.777875 |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property being nominated includes all the property owned by the Friendship Garden Foundation in 2014, as described by Tax Map Key 4-5-31:76.



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**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This is the land historically associated with Friendship Garden.

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**10. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Don Hibbard  
organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number: 45-287 Kokokahi Place  
city or town: Kaneohe state: Hawaii zip code: 96744  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone: (808) 542-6230  
date: January 25, 2014

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

**Owners Address:**

Friendship Garden Foundation  
P. O. Box 2902  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96802

Friendship Garden  
Name of Property

Honolulu

Hawaii  
County and State

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Friendship Garden

City or Vicinity: Kaneohe

County: Honolulu

State: Hawaii

Photographer: Don Hibbard

Date Photographed: 2008

Description of Photograph: View of pavilion bridge from the northwest:

1 of 6



Friendship Garden Honolulu  
Name of Property

Hawaii  
County and State

Name of Property: Friendship Garden

City or Vicinity: Kaneohe

County: Honolulu

State: Hawaii

Photographer: Don Hibbard

Date Photographed: 2008

Description of Photograph: View of former cabin, used as a tool shed from the northwest:

2 of 6





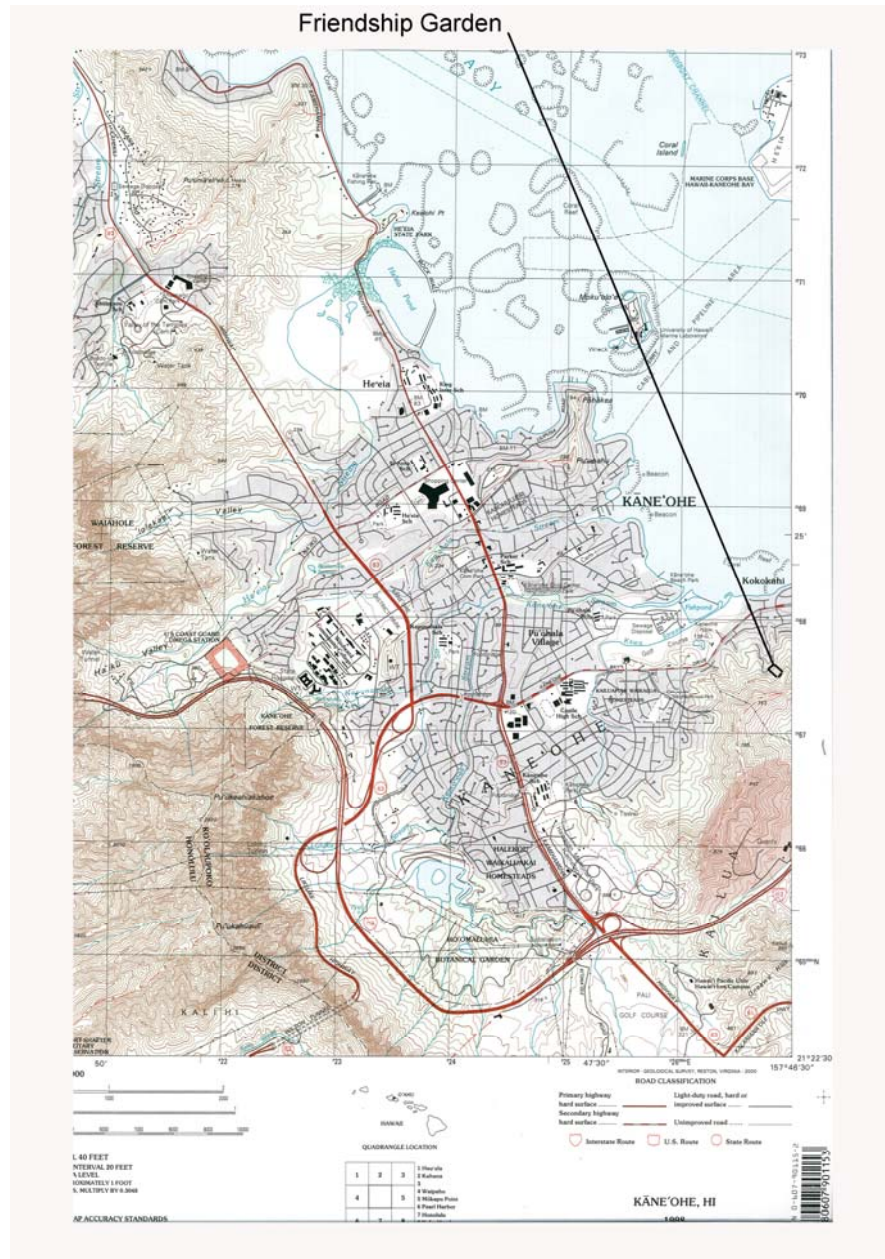
Friendship Garden

Honolulu

Hawaii  
 County and State

Name of Property

USGS Map



**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

## Photo Log

Name of Property: Friendship Garden

City or Vicinity: Kaneohe

County: Honolulu State: Hawaii

Photographer: Don Hibbard

Date Photographed: 2016

View of the lower path passing through Eucalyptus grove from the southwest

3 of 6





Name of Property: Friendship Garden

City or Vicinity: Kaneohe

County: Honolulu State: Hawaii

Photographer: Don Hibbard

Date Photographed: 2016

View of lower path passing under cup and saucer plant from the southeast

4 of 6



Name of Property: Friendship Garden

City or Vicinity: Kaneohe

County: Honolulu                      State: Hawaii

Photographer: Don Hibbard

Date Photographed: 2016

View of the upper path passing through bamboo from the southeast

5 of 6





## Photo Log

Name of Property: Friendship Garden

City or Vicinity: Kaneohe

County: Honolulu                      State: Hawaii

Photographer: Don Hibbard

Date Photographed: 2016

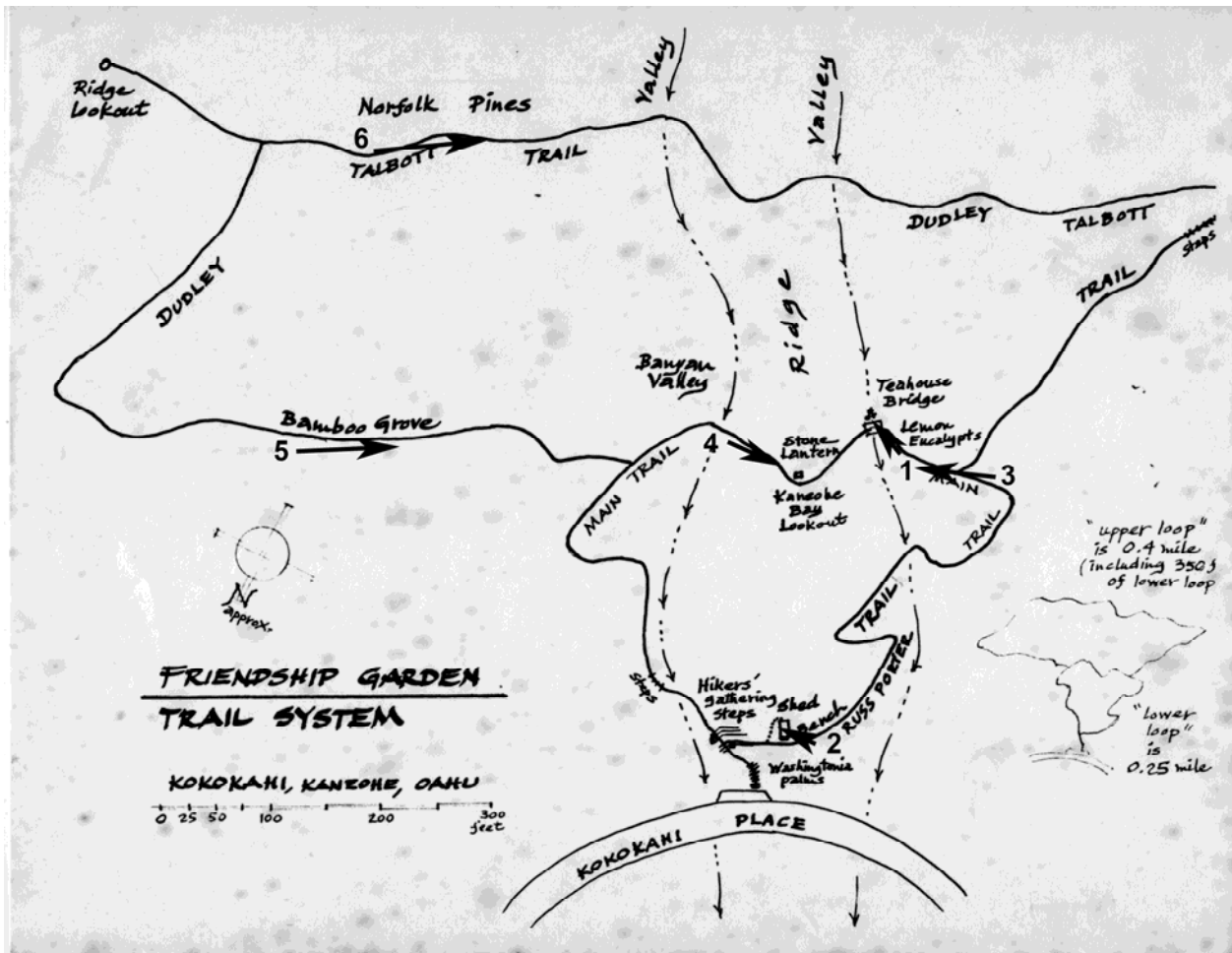
View of the upper path lined with Norfolk Island Pine from the southwest

6 of 6





# Photo Key





























National Register of Historic Places  
Memo to File

# Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



RECEIVED 2280

OCT 30 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION  
KAKUHIHEWA BUILDING  
601 KAMOKILA BLVD, STE 555  
KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

JESSE K. SOUKI  
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAIHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

October 28, 2015

Paul Lusignan  
National Park Service  
1201 "Eye" Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Friendship Garden National Register Nomination  
45-226 Kokokahi Place  
Kaneohe, Koolauoko, Oahu

Dear Mr. Lusignan,

Hawaii State Historic Preservation Division is forwarding Friendship Garden Nomination to be considered for the National Register of Historic Places. **The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Friendship Garden to the National Register of Historic Places.** Thank you for reviewing and processing this nomination. You may contact Megan Borthwick at [Megan.Borthwick@hawaii.gov](mailto:Megan.Borthwick@hawaii.gov) or (808) 692-8029 with any questions pertaining to this submittal.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Downer".

Dr. Alan Downer  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

OCT 30 2015

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# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Friendship Garden

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing: \_\_\_\_\_

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: 45-226 Kokokahi Place

City or town: Kaneohe State: Hawaii County: Honolulu

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national X statewide \_\_\_ local  
Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A X B X C \_\_\_ D

Returned

<hr/>	
Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>Alan [Signature] DSHPO</u>	Date <u>10.28.15</u>
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<hr/>	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
<hr/>	
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Friendship Garden  
Name of Property

Honolulu

Hawaii  
County and State

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

---

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

---

#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Returned

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Friendship Garden \_\_\_\_\_ Honolulu  
Name of Property

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
<u>1</u>	_____	sites
<u>2</u>	_____	structures
<u>3</u>	_____	objects
<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Landscape  
Park  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Landscape  
Park  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Returned

Friendship Garden  
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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NA  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: NA  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

---

#### Summary Paragraph

Friendship Garden is a ten acre park which is sited at the rear of Keana in Kaneohe on the island of Oahu, and is the *mauka* terminus of the Kokokahi residential subdivision. Planted as a forest area, the park is penetrated by lower and upper loop trails, both of which are unpaved, and is characterized by mature vegetation, with different plant varieties located in distinct areas. The park's character is further defined by its stone entry steps, two wood structures, and several Asian style masonry objects. The property is in very good condition and retains its historic integrity of design, materials, craftsmanship, location, setting, feelings and associations.

---

#### Narrative Description

A set of fifteen, broad lava rock steps with six inch risers, provide a gradual transition from the street to the park. The stone steps were former curbstones salvaged when Beretania Street was widened between Punahou and McCully streets. The steps lead to a terrace held in place by a three foot lava rock wall, which is faced with stone

Friendship Garden

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salvaged from the Waipahu Irrigation ditch. At the terrace the steps fan outward to make an amphitheater-like, four tier seating area. African tulip (*Spathodea campanulata*), Washington palms (*Washingtonia robusta*), milo (*Thespesia populnea*), mock orange (*Murraya paniculata*), and a monkey pod (*Samanea saman*) form the canopy for this area, while blue thunbergia vine (*Thunbergia laurifolia*) and Mexican creeper (*Antigonon leptopus*) provide a backdrop. A large natural stone dominates the left corner, and a small concrete bench is located here. In the right corner stands a three foot high, cylindrical stone basin, on which is inscribed in Japanese, "Kokokahi 1936---Doshisha". The latter dates from 1999 and is a replica of the original stone basin, which was given to the garden in 1936 as a gift from Doshisha University. Fearing for its safety, the original was removed in the 1960s, and now sits at the entry to the Japanese garden at the East-West Center.

The lower loop trail joins the entry area from the left rear and the right side. The left rear trail crosses over an intermittent stream that drains the left side of the park. The trail ascends up the left slope of the stream's valley. The floor of the valley is vegetated with Brazilian bower bush (*Adhatoda cydoniaefolia*), while philodendron (*Philodendron sp*) covers much of the hillside. The mature canopy includes Christmas berry (*Schinus terebinthifolius*), silver oak (*Grevillea robusta*), ironwood (*Casuarina equisetifolia*), octopus tree (*Brassaia rotinophylla*), and kukui (*Aleurites moluccana*). A set of 12 concrete and stone steps assist in the initial climb, and further up the trail is a second set of 11 stone steps. At the top of the second set of steps is a small opening to the side of the trail, which is presided over by a large Chinese banyan (*Ficus retusa*) whose roots drape down a hillside as imitating a waterfall to form a scenic backdrop for this area. A small pavilion may have once stood here, as some remnants of what appear to be a concrete footing are evident. The trail continues upward, past a cup of gold (*Solandra hartwegii*), and leads to a giant banyan (*Ficus benghalensis*), which dominates the left valley and marks the upper extent of the lower loop trail. Prior to reaching the banyan, a rock marks the intersection of the lower loop trail with the upper loop trail, and a 30 foot long stone and mortar retaining wall adds structural stability to the trail. Just before the banyan on the uphill side of the trail is a cluster of coffee plants.

At the banyan, the lower loop trail crosses over a simple slab, concrete bridge that spans the intermittent stream and then ascends up the right slope of the valley, aided by a set of 7 stone steps. The trail passes a cup and saucer bush (*Holmskioldia sanguinea*), levels out, and continues around a bend to an area where Kaneohe Bay may be viewed. An Asian style masonry lantern is at this point, standing in front of a Chinese banyan. The pathway leading to this point is bordered by plumbago (*Plumbago capensis*) and night blooming cereus (*Hylocereus undatus*) climb the trees. From here the trail leads to a Japanese pavilion bridge. This bridge spans the intermittent stream that flows down the right side of the garden. The pavilion has a hipped-gable roof supported by four posts, with plank seats on either side. It sits on a stone, round arched bridge. When the stream is active, a waterfall is behind the pavilion, flowing under the bridge to a pool below. A stone Japanese lantern stands to

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the side of the pool. At one end of the bridge is a clump of golden bamboo (*Bambusa vulgaris*) and golden dew drop (*Duranta repens*), and Bamboo palms (*Rhapis excelsa*) are to the other. Vandals at some point tipped the pavilion's decaying wood superstructure into the pool, and the pavilion was rebuilt in 1984. Beyond the pavilion the lower loop trail goes through a grove of lemon eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus maculata*) and then commences its descent back to the entrance of the gardens. The upper loop trail connects to the lower loop trail in the eucalyptus grove. At a bend in the lower loop trail, just beyond the eucalyptus grove is a small alcove, where the Doshisha University stone basin originally stood. Bamboo palms (*Rhapis excelsa*) border this area. As the trail descends it passes two allspice trees (*Pimenta dioica*), a royal poinciana (*Delonix regia*), a Bo tree (*Ficus religiosa*), and goes through an area of ironwood and brassaia with Chinese violet (*Asystasia gangetica*) serving as a ground cover. Near the road it emerges into a grove of macadamia nut trees (*Macadamia integrifolia*), with bamboo (*Sinocalamus beecheyanus*) to one side. Near its terminus the trail passes under a small cabin which extends from the hillside and is supported by wood posts. A stone bench is under this board and batten cabin. Stone steps lead up to the entry to the cabin, which is used for storage of maintenance equipment. The single wall, gable roofed cabin was originally located down on the Kokokahi camp property, next to an amphitheater. It was used as overnight accommodations for campers. When that area was subdivided for houses, two cabins were salvaged, and from their materials this cabin was reconstructed in 1985-86 and placed in use as a tool shed. It retains the original dimensions and style of the earlier cabins, including the ornate wood screens that cover the rectangular openings that run along the top of the walls on each side.

The upper loop trail accesses the higher elevations of the garden. It branches off the lower loop trail on the left side of the park by a large rock and gradually ascends up through a bamboo grove (*Sinocalamus beecheyanus*). At the end of the bamboo is a natural rock outcrop, on which a small pavilion once stood. From here the trail winds through an area vegetated by silver oak, brassaia, Christmas berry, strawberry guava (*Psidium cattleianum*), and red Chinese hibiscus (*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*). In the course of the uphill climb Chinese violet becomes the predominant ground cover, with some Jamaica vervain (*Stachytarpheta jamaicensis*) also present. Where the upper loop trail levels off, a branch trail goes off to the left and leads to the ridge of the mountain. The top lookout, approximately 400 feet in elevation, offers a panoramic view of Kaneohe Bay and the Koolau mountains, and parts of Kailua also may be glimpsed. Here the branch trail connects with a ridgeline trail which ascends to an upper elevation of 795 feet.

The upper loop trail, upon leveling off, passes a line of Cook Island pines (*Araucaria columnaris*). From that point forward, much of the remainder of the upper loop trail was lost over time to erosion, but was reconstructed during the 1990s by Ted Talbott in memory of his grandfather Paul Dudley. The trail wends its way past a hillside covered in plumbago, and a stand of swamp mahogany (*Eucalyptus robusta*) with a lauae fern (*Microsorium scolopendria*) ground cover, affording a grand view of the Koolau mountains before rounding a bend and descending 17 stone steps to commence the

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journey down to its intersection with the lower loop trail at the eucalyptus grove. As in other parts of the garden philodendron forms a ground cover and Christmas berry, silver oak, and octopus tree contribute to a mature canopy.

Friendship Garden retains its historic integrity, although some modifications have occurred over time. All the vegetation in the garden is original or self-propagated, with the exception of two trees, the monkey pod at the entry and the Bo tree (*Ficus religiosa*), which stands near the right side terminus of the lower trail. The Bo tree derives from a cutting from the tree at Foster Botanical Garden, which reputedly derives from the Bo Tree in India under which Buddha sat when he attained enlightenment.

From the intact trees and shrubs the original design intention of the garden is still very evident. The entry to the garden is new, having been made in 1976, following the design of landscape architect Janet Gillmar. The new entry was necessitated by the development of houses on either side of the garden in the 1950s, which destroyed parts of the original lower loop trail. Originally the lower loop trail commenced at the present entry, but went off immediately to the left, over the intermittent stream by way of a Chinese style bridge with red railings, before proceeding up the hillside. The construction of the house to the left of the garden resulted in the destruction of the bridge and the covering of a segment of the trail. The bridge's stone abutment is still visible behind the small concrete bench. Similarly, the construction of a house on the right side of the garden resulted in the loss of a portion of the loop trail where it returned to exit onto Kokokahi Place on the right side of the garden. Russ Porter in 1979 constructed the new segment of trail which connects the lower loop trail back to the entry on the right side, thus avoiding the precipitous dead end to the trail that had resulted when the new house lot had been bulldozed. The relocated YWCA cabin was placed in the garden in 1985. Aside from the need to reconfigure the garden's access, the replacement of the pavilion over the Japanese bridge, and the reconfiguration of a segment of the upper loop trail in the late 1990s, the historic character of the 10.08 acre garden remains unchanged except for the natural on-going growth and regeneration of the plant life.



Friendship Garden  
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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Returned

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social History  
Landscape Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1927-1948  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1927  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Returned

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Theodore Richards  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

NA  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Richard Tongg, landscape architect  
Francis Bowers, landscape architect  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Friendship Garden is significant at a statewide level for its associations with the development of the Kokokahi tract, and the Pan-Pacific Movement (Criteria A). It is also significant for its associations with Theodore Richards (Criteria B) and as a good example of landscape design in Hawaii during the 1930s (Criteria C). The period of significance commences with the platting of Kokokahi as a subdivision and concludes with the death of Theodore Richards.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Friendship Garden is an integral part of the Kokokahi Tract, which was developed in 1927 as a consciously designed Christian, multi-ethnic community based on a belief in the brotherhood of mankind. The name of the subdivision, Kokokahi, translates "one blood," and recalls a quotation from Chapter XVII of *The Bible's* book of Acts, "God has made of one blood all nations of men." The inspiration of Theodore Richards, the subdivision was intended to demonstrate that all the peoples of Hawaii could live together in harmony.

To make this, at the time seemingly idealistic, vision a reality, Theodore and Mary Atherton Richards in 1926 sold lands they owned in the Kauluwela district, which was roughly bounded by King and School, and Nuuanu and Liliha streets. They used the realized moneys as a down payment to acquire from Kaneohe Ranch the 39 acres of land which would eventually become Kokokahi. The total price for the land was \$45,000, and in 1927 the valley was platted with 87 lots. Richards envisioned Kokokahi as a Christian convention and recreation center, and vacation settlement. He established a camp at the lower elevation of the valley, and private house lots were laid out along the winding road which was constructed up the valley. The top of the valley was left undeveloped as an open space park for hiking, and was named Friendship Garden.

Church organizations were given the first option on the house lots, and then the remainder were sold on a quota basis to members of Hawaii's different ethnic groups. To assure that all ethnic groups in Hawaii were represented in the new community, numbers were drawn by representatives of Hawaii's ethnic groups, Hawaiian, Japanese, Portuguese, Filipino, Chinese, and Anglo-Saxon, to determine the order in which house lots would be selected. Each group was allocated a certain quantity of lots in accordance with the proportion of the population it represented. Covering the opening

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of Kokokahi, the July 3, 1927 *Honolulu Advertiser* called it, "one of the most unique real estate, as well as sociological ventures ever undertaken in Hawaii."

Ethnically based committees screened potential purchasers within their ethnic group, and an executive committee granted a final approval, to assure that all community members were of high Christian character. All resales also had to be approved by the executive committee. By November 1927, 23 of the 58 house lots had been sold. The executive committee for 1929 included: H. Metcalf, Ah Sun Lung, L.R. Killiam, S. Fukuda, H.C. Smith, C. H. Min, and Yap Kui.

By the end of 1928 the roadway and waterlines for the subdivision were completed. Thanks to donations, the Camp Kokokahi's modest facilities were expanded in 1930 and 1931, when ten, one-room cabins, called the Kauhale (small village) were built following plans by Mark Potter, who also designed an amphitheater for the camp. The camp grounds and amphitheater were demolished in the 1980s, making way for a housing development. A cabin built from the materials of two of the Kauhale cabins and following their design and detailing, sits today in Friendship Garden.

The upper lands, which were covered with lantana and haole koa, were gradually planted with a variety of trees, including eucalyptus, silver oak, iron wood, Cook Island pines, and monkey pod. Many of the plants were donated by friends, as Richards accepted any plants that were offered, and a nursery was established to grow young trees to transplant. In 1938, *Star Bulletin* reporter May Day Lo found a Japanese garden "already flourishing" with its lily pond, iron storks, and stone basin. The Chinese garden's landscaping and planting had just begun. "Rustic benches conveniently located at various places invite the wanderer to rest and listen to the wind which is playing in the trees before dashing up the pali. It is in such surroundings that the spirit of Kokokahi has flourished." [Lo, 1938]

The development of Kokokahi, with its conscious implementation of the idea of "one blood," is closely associated with the Pan Pacific Movement, which laid the foundations for Hawaii's acceptance of a cosmopolitan society, where all were treated with respect. The movement proclaimed the islands to be the "Crossroads of the Pacific," where East met West in harmony, and promoted multicultural accord in Hawaii as well as international understanding throughout the Pacific. In large part this frame of mind was publicized and actively catalyzed by Alexander Hume Ford through his monthly *Mid-Pacific Magazine* (1911-1936), and the Hands Around the Pacific Club (organized in 1911). One spin-off of the latter was the 12-12-12 Club, which periodically invited a dozen representatives from several of the Islands' different ethnic groups to meet over dinner to discuss racial misunderstandings and issues relating to Hawaii in a successful effort to gain each others' perspectives. Hawaii's religious institutions strongly supported the Pan-Pacific movement, and architectural embodiments of this broad minded thinking blossomed in the 1920s and 1930s in such buildings as the Chinese Christian Church, the Korean Christian Church (no longer extant), Makiki

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Christian Church (HR), and Church of the Crossroads (HR, NR), as well as the Alexander & Baldwin Building (HR, NR).

Today the Kokokahi tract is dotted with houses of more recent vintage. Only two houses from the pre-war period still remain in the community. Camp Kokokahi and its amphitheater no longer exist, the YWCA's main building, which was designed by Claude Stiehl, has been greatly altered. As such Friendship Garden stands as one of the few tangible reminders of pre-war Kokokahi. As a privately owned park open to all the people of Hawaii, it embodies Richards' belief in the brotherhood of mankind, of east meeting west in a harmonious manner in Hawaii, which initially motivated the development of this community.

Friendship Garden is also significant for its associations with Theodore Richards (1867-1948). Recalling his life, the March 29, 1948 *Honolulu Advertiser* declared, "His was the interest and faith in the many races of Hawaii and in their ability to live together in peace and harmony. He understood the needs and problems of tolerance, and spent his life here in devotion to his ideals." A school teacher and Christian worker, Richards was born in Montclair, New Jersey, and graduated from Wesleyan University in 1888. He attended Columbia Law School in 1889, and later returned to Wesleyan to receive a MA in 1892. He came to Hawaii in 1888 as a teacher for the first class to graduate from Kamehameha School for Boys, and also served as an athletic coach and music teacher. In 1892 he married Mary C. Atherton, and two years later, at the age of twenty six, he was appointed principal of Kamehameha Schools, a position he held until 1899. In that year he became field secretary for the Hawaiian Board of Missions, and in 1900 became the treasurer for that organization, a position which he held for the next 25 years. In addition, he founded the Honolulu Bible Training School in 1905, serving as that institution's superintendent for over a quarter century. He also was a trustee and the first treasurer for Mid-Pacific Institute, and a member of the first board of directors for the Honolulu Theological Seminary. He had an abiding love of music and formed the Kamehameha School Glee Club, compiled and edited the Hawaiian hymn book, *Lei Hoonani*, and instituted a summer music school at Kokokahi. In addition he served as the publisher and associate editor of *The Friend* from 1903 until 1920, and was very active in the YMCA. He and his wife also founded the Friend Peace Scholarship fund, which aided many Hawaii students who wanted to study in Asia, Europe and Africa, and also enabled foreign exchange students to come to the United States.

Friendship Garden is also significant for its landscape design, being typical of its period in its use of plant materials, method of construction, craftsmanship, and design. Richard Tongg, the first landscape architect of Chinese descent known to practice in the United States, helped lay out Friendship Garden, as also did landscape architect Francis Bowers. Tongg certainly had a hand in the Chinese plantings, and his delight in using blue colored flowers, which he noted was the rarest of all floral colors, is apparent in the presence of plumbago, blue thumbergia, Chinese violets, and the blue flowered golden dew drops within the garden. The plant selection reflects the landscaping

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predilections of the period, as the more exotic and colorful plants such as heliconia, are absent from the garden, while such plants as cup and saucer, Brazilian bower bush, and cup of gold appear in the garden, but are rarely observed in contemporary landscapes. In addition, many of the plantings appear to have been carefully selected as, like the desired multi-ethnic human population, they reflect a blending of specimens from various nations, with plants with Hawaiian, Chinese and Japanese associations readily evident. The winding pathways, and less manicured approach to the development of Friendship Garden reflected not only possible monetary constraints, but also the romantic predilections of the time, and the general attitude concerning spiritual communion with nature.

Because of its distance from Honolulu, a little under a one hour drive by automobile in 1928, following improvements made to Kaneohe Bay Drive, the Kokokahi subdivision essentially served as a retreat from Honolulu with the YWCA and Camp Kokokahi being focal points for activity. However, by 1937 the newspapers were referring to Kokokahi as a suburban area, and 40 houses stood on the valley's hillsides. By 1955 Kokokahi had become a residential district with 77 owners living in the tract.

Ownership of the non-residential parts of Kokokahi was transferred to the Kokokahi Community Trust, and following Theodore Richards' death Friendship Garden was neglected and fell into disrepair during the 1950s and 1960s. In 1973 Jack and Janet Gillmar were able to obtain a fifty year lease on the property, with the understanding that they would form a non-profit organization to manage and maintain the garden, which would eventually obtain ownership of the garden. In 1974 the Kokokahi Community Trust was dissolved and its assets, including Friendship Garden, were given to the YWCA. In 1978 the Friendship Garden Foundation was established as a 501(c)(3), and in the following year the Foundation obtained a lease for the garden. Finally, in 1998, the organization acquired fee simple title to Friendship Garden. The Foundation is intent upon preserving the garden's historic character and maintaining the garden as an open space. To this end, in 2002 the Foundation successfully petitioned the City and County of Honolulu to down zone the property to preservation, and the placement of the property on the Hawaii and National Registers of Historic Places is viewed as another level of legal protection for the property.

Friendship Garden  
Name of Property

Honolulu

Hawaii  
County and State

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## Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Allen, Gwenfread, *Bridge Builders, The Story of Theodore and Mary Atherton Richards*, Honolulu: Hawaii Conference Foundation, 1970.

Black, Cobey, "Kokokahi, The Possible Dream," Honolulu: Kokokahi Community Trust, 1973.

Hibbard, Don. "Hawaii---The Cross Roads of the Pacific," *CRM*, vol. 21, no. 8, 1998.

Lo, May Day, "Kokokahi, A Decade of Christian Service," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, March 26, 1938, section 3, p. 1.

Nellist, George, *Men of Hawaii*, Honolulu: Star-Bulletin, 1925, p. 733

Nellist, George, *Men of Hawaii*, Honolulu: Star-Bulletin, 1930, p. 411

"Kokokahi Open to Inspection in Two Weeks," *Honolulu Advertiser*, June 19, 1927, p. 12.

"Inter-Racial Tract Opened at Kaneohe," *Honolulu Advertiser*, July 3, 1927, p. 15.

"Kokokahi, Oahu's Christian Inter-Racial Development," *Honolulu Advertiser*, November 6, 1927, p. 10.

"Plan Theater at Kokokahi Community," *Honolulu Advertiser*, June 7, 1931, p. 12.

"Suburban House Lots Over Kokokahi Way," *Honolulu Advertiser*, April 25, 1937, p. 13.

"Theodore Richards Dies on Eve of 81<sup>st</sup> Birthday," *Honolulu Advertiser*, March 28, 1948, p. 1.

"Friendship Center at Kokokahi," *Honolulu Advertiser*, July 17, 1955, magazine section, p. 4.

"Friendship Garden Grows from Its 72-Year-Old Roots," *Honolulu Advertiser*, April 25, 2002, page A6.

"Spend \$10,000 for Kokokahi," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, January 9, 1929, p. 11.

"Kokokahi Proves Interesting Stop During Sunday Driving," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*,

Friendship Garden \_\_\_\_\_ Honolulu  
Name of Property

Hawaii \_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

February 22, 1930, section 2, p. 1.

“Funeral Services Tuesday for Dr. Theodore Richards,” *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, March  
29, 1948, p. 1.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other  
Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**9. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** 10.08 acres



Friendship Garden \_\_\_\_\_ Honolulu  
Name of Property

Hawaii \_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

Returned

- |          |                     |                      |
|----------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: 21.40576   | Northing: 157.77744  |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: 21.40577   | Northing: 157.777046 |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: 21.405425  | Northing: 157.776641 |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : 21.404808 | Northing: 157.777875 |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property being nominated includes all the property owned by the Friendship Garden Foundation in 2014, as described by Tax Map Key 4-5-31:76.

Friendship Garden \_\_\_\_\_ Honolulu  
Name of Property

Hawaii \_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This is the land historically associated with Friendship Garden.

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**10. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Don Hibbard  
organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number: 45-287 Kokokahi Place  
city or town: Kaneohe state: Hawaii zip code: 96744  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone: (808) 542-6230  
date: January 25, 2014

Returned

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

**Owners Address:**

Friendship Garden Foundation  
P. O. Box 2902  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96802

Friendship Garden Honolulu  
Name of Property

Hawaii  
County and State

**Photo Log**

Name of Property: Friendship Garden  
City or Vicinity: Kaneohe  
County: Honolulu  
State: Hawaii  
Photographer: Don Hibbard  
Date Photographed: 2008

Photo #1 (HI\_Honolulu\_FrendshipGarden\_001)  
Description of Photograph: View of pavilion bridge from the northwest:

Name of Property: Friendship Garden  
City or Vicinity: Kaneohe  
County: Honolulu  
State: Hawaii  
Photographer: Don Hibbard  
Date Photographed: 2008

Photo #2 (HI\_Honolulu\_FreindshipGarden\_002)  
Description of Photograph: View of former cabin, used as a tool shed from the northwest:

Returned

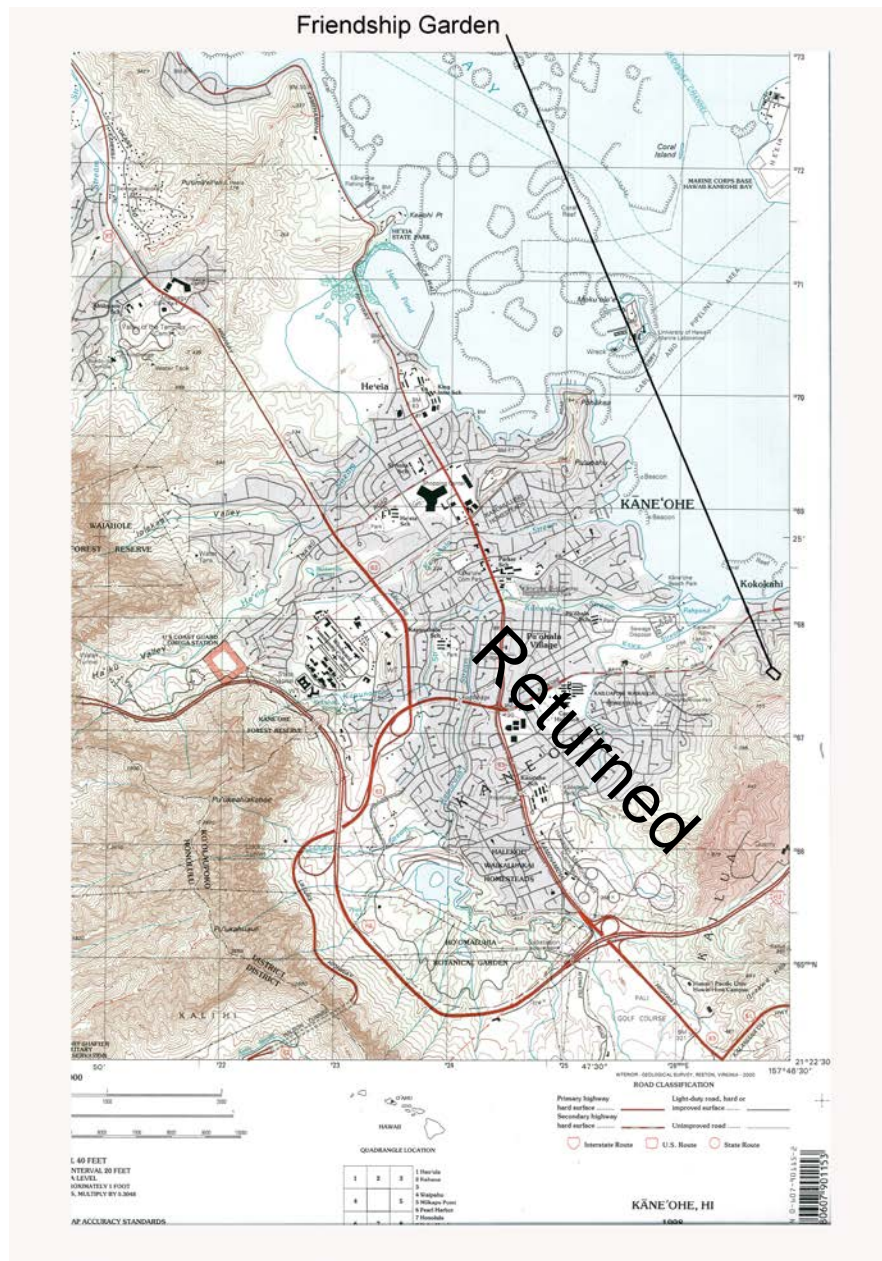
Friendship Garden

Honolulu

Hawaii  
County and State

Name of Property

USGS Map



**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.





Returned





Returned



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Friendship Garden

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: HAWAII, Honolulu

DATE RECEIVED: 10/30/15      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/30/15  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/15/15      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/15/15  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000885

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER:  N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    12-8-2015 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*See attached comments*

RECOM./CRITERIA Return

REVIEWER *Jim Gahly*

DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 12-8-2015

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.





# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

## The United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Evaluation/Return Sheet

Property Name: Friendship Garden, Honolulu County, HI  
Reference Number: 15000885

#### Reason for Return

The nomination for the Friendship Garden is being returned for substantive and technical revision. The submission claims significance under Criteria A and B in the area Social History and for its association with Theodore Richards and under Criterion C for its significance in landscape architecture. The nomination provides sufficient context to understand the garden's role in social history, as the last remaining parcel of the experimental Christian, multi-ethnic community envisioned by Richards. However, there is not sufficient context to understand either its direct association with Richards or its importance in landscape architecture.

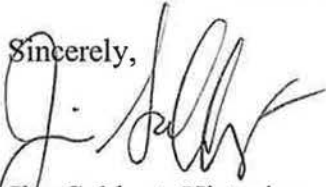
Please refer to the National Register Bulletin *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, specifically when claiming significance under Criterion B. The nomination would need to address why Richards is an important figure (it touches on this) and it must evaluate all properties associated with him during the productive period of his life. Is his home still extant? Did he have an office? It may be that this garden is the last remaining property to which he had a direct tie, but this is not spelled out in the nomination. Also, as the nomination relates to Criterion C, there is no explanation of why this is a *significant* example of landscape architecture. The nomination notes that it is "typical," but does not explain what that means. Please provide a more thorough analysis of the importance of the property in landscape architecture. Does the garden exemplify a distinct design? The nomination notes sections related to the community's various ethnic groups – Chinese and Japanese especially; is this an important feature or is it also part of the "typical" patterning of designed landscapes in the state?

Technical issues

The nomination was submitted with only two photographs of small structures. There are no images of the garden itself, especially those areas of designed landscape that are described in detail in the nomination. Please provide more images of the garden itself, including character-defining details. Of the two structures depicting in the photographs that were provided, one (the tool shed) is of recent vintage and cannot be considered contributing. The other, the Japanese pavilion bridge, was "rebuilt" in 1984. This reconstruction is not sufficiently described. To what extent was it reconstructed? Also, there is no site plan. A map depicting the site, its trails and features, and keyed to any photographs would be helpful.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this nomination and hope that you find these comments useful. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (202) 354-2275 or email at <[James\\_Gabbert@nps.gov](mailto:James_Gabbert@nps.gov)>.

Sincerely,



Jim Gabbert, Historian  
National Register of Historic Places  
12/8/2015

David Y. Ige  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



RECEIVED 2280

APR 22 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION  
KAKUHIHEWA BUILDING  
601 KAMOKILA BLVD, STE 555  
KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707

SUZANNE D. CASE  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKO A KALUHIWA  
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

April 12, 2016

LOG NO: N/A  
DOC NO: 1604MB11

Paul Lusignan  
National Park Service  
1201 "Eye" Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20005

**RE:** Friendship Garden National Register Nomination  
45-226 Kokokahi Place  
Kāne'ohe, Hawai'i 96744  
Kāne'ohe Ahupua'a, Koolaupoko Moku, Island of O'ahu  
TMK: (1) 4-5-031:076

Dear Mr. Lusignan,

I am pleased to recommend Friendship Garden be considered for the National Register of Historic Places. **The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the friendship Garden to the National Register of Historic Places.** Thank you for reviewing and processing this nomination, contact Megan Borthwick, Architectural Historian at [Megan.Borthwick@hawaii.gov](mailto:Megan.Borthwick@hawaii.gov) or (808) 692-8029.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan S. Downer".

Alan S. Downer, PhD.  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
Administrator, State Historic Preservation Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Friendship Garden  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: HAWAII, Honolulu

DATE RECEIVED: 4/22/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/07/16  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000885

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Friendship Garden is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of Social History. Established in 1927, the Garden is directly associated with the unique real estate initiative of Theodore and Mary Atherton Richards during the 1920s, as the couple sought to establish a Christian-based, multi-ethnic residential community on the island of Oahu. The Gardens were a key neighborhood amenity for the planned sub-development (Kokokahi Tract) where Hawaiian, Japanese, Chinese, Portuguese, Filipino, and Anglo-Saxon citizens could live together in harmony. The garden provided residents with a spiritual and contemplative respite from the more developed areas of the planned community.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criterion A

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignea DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE 202-354-2229 DATE 6/7/2016

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR  Y  N