

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

NATIONAL HISTORICAL LANDMARK - 1974 UPDATE
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Hawaii	
COUNTY: Maui	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Lahaina

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Lahaina (Historic District)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Lahaina is a port town on the west coast of Maui island; it is 27 miles by road from Kahului airport.

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: **Hawaii** CODE: **15** COUNTY: **Maui** CODE: **009**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bath	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bath	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Various, State of Hawaii, County of Hawaii, Lahaina Restoration Foundation and numerous private owners.

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: _____ CODE: _____

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
State Office Building

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Wailuku, Maui

STATE: **Hawaii** CODE: **15**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
National Survey of Historic Sites and Bldgs., John A. Hussey, Regional Hist.

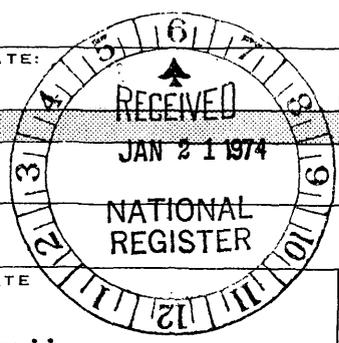
DATE OF SURVEY: **July 17, 1962** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
National Park Service, Washington, D.C.; also Theme XXI, Political and Military Affairs, 1865-1910, Special Study, Hawaii History, 1778-1910, USDI, NPS, 1962; 47th Mtg. Advisory Board, Oct. 15-17, 1962, at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park; Secretarial designation as Landmark;

STREET AND NUMBER:
Historic American Buildings Survey Nos. HA-9, 10, 11, 13, 37, 40, 41, 43

CITY OR TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ CODE: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

For descriptions as to Lahaina conditions ca. 1962, see item 8.

1974 Update: The Board of Supervisors of the County of Maui, on April 21, 1967, following public hearings, passed on its second and final reading Ordinance No. 514 which established the Maui Historic Commission and [county] Historic Districts Nos. 1 and 2 in the town of Lahaina. County historic districts 1 and 2 are shown on the "Lahaina Historic Districts Map," dated and revised March 22, 1967. A copy of this map is part of this update. Ordinance 514 explains that county historic district 2 "differs from [county] District No. 1 in that there are no historic structures or sites within this district to be preserved or restored."

Ordinance 514 contains identical restrictions for county historic districts 1 and 2 on use, building heights, yard spacing and signs; provides for variances; and permits existing non-conforming uses to continue, but such may not be enlarged nor changed to other non-conforming use. (This last is the "grandfather" clause.)

Architectural controls within county historical districts 1 and 2 are exercised by the Maui County Historic Commission to preserve the prevailing historical atmosphere and architecture. County historical district boundaries generally run along street edges closest to the districts, i.e., the "near" side of streets, but in places cut through the interior of town blocks. Photograph No. 1 shows the architectural contrast between buildings inside and outside county historical district 2. County historic districts 1 and 2 include "downtown" Lahaina.

Vested interests in downtown Lahaina and its vicinity are held by the Lahaina Restoration Foundation, a private non-profit corporation; the Maui Historic Commission; Maui county agencies and elected and appointed county officials; State agencies and elected and appointed State officials; several Federal agencies; numerous landowners, some absentee; and the businessmen and residents of the Lahaina and West Maui area. In 1973 the climate of local support and opinion is wider and stronger than a decade before. Some of the Lahaina businessmen recently organized to further the historical project, hold weekly breakfast meetings, and are now (Dec. 1973) investigating the return of horses, wagons and carriages to Front Street.

The Lahaina Restoration Foundation, with statewide support from individuals and trusts, owns and/or operates several of the key historic features. It also has income-producing operations, such as admission fees and rentals from commercial use of some of its property. The Foundation has a paid staff and operates on a business basis. It sponsors and co-sponsors archeological and historical research; restorations (see photos 2 and 3), on-site

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Colonial Period
 18th Century
 19th Century
 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

(1974) The American whalers, businessmen and missionaries who headquartered at the port town of Lahaina during many decades of the 19th century generated economic, cultural and governmental conditions which made great contributions to the Americanization of the Kingdom of Hawaii and the subsequent annexation of the islands by the United States. Lahaina preserves the atmosphere and architecture of a mid-19th century Hawaiian seaport.

(1972) "Lahaina preserves the atmosphere of a mid-19th century Hawaiian seaport. It is prominently associated with the American whaling industry in the Pacific, an important commercial activity that influenced the Americanization of Hawaii and its subsequent annexation by the United States. As the former capital of Maui, it was intermittently the residence of Hawaiian kings. American missionaries made Lahaina a center of activity and left important architectural influences." (The National Register of Historic Places, 1972, National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C., p. 121.)

(1962) "Significance: Perhaps no island town so well preserves the atmosphere of a mid-19th century Hawaiian seaport as does Lahaina; and thus it seems to be the key site for illustrating and commemorating one of the broad factors which resulted in the Americanization of Hawaii and which helped lead eventually to the annexation of the islands by the United States--the whaling industry. From about 1830 to about 1860 the semi-annual visits of the American whaling fleet to Lahaina and other Hawaiian ports constituted the dominant force in island economy, stimulating a diversified agriculture and a general trade which helped spread Western technology among the Hawaiian people. Also, the thirsting of thousands of seamen for liquor and women resulted in annual struggles with the authorities attempting to enforce the missionary induced "blue laws," a long campaign which the forces of law and order eventually won, with important effects upon the social and political conditions in the islands. The vital and long-continued need of the whalers for bases in the islands was one of the primary factors bringing Hawaii to the attention of the United State Government. In addition, Lahaina was the royal residence

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Alexander, Mary C., Dr. Baldwin of Lahaina, Berkeley, 1953.

Apple, Russell A., "Crime and punishment, mid-nineteenth century Hawaii" and "The Monarchy's jails at Lahaina," mss. Lahaina Restoration Foundation, Lahaina, 1971.

Community Planning Inc., Proposal for the historical restoration and preservation of Lahaina, Honolulu, 1961.

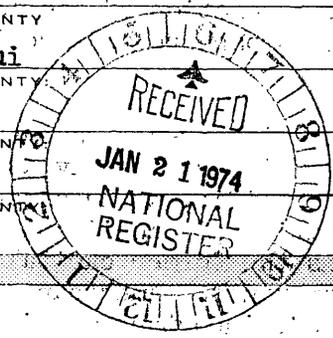
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	20° 52' 39"	156° 42' 17"				
NE	20° 53' 28"	156° 41' 06"				
SE	20° 51' 50"	156° 39' 50"				
SW	20° 51' 01"	156° 41' 00"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1,671 (water: 1,333 ac.; land: 338 ac.)**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Hawaii	15	Maui	009
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Russell A. Apple, Pacific Historian

ORGANIZATION: **Hawaii Group, National Park Service, USDI** DATE: **Dec. 21, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Suite 512, 677 Ala Moana Blvd.

CITY OR TOWN: **Honolulu** STATE: **Hawaii 96813** CODE: **15**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date **9-13-74**

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7. DESCRIPTION - page 1 of 6

interpretation (see photo 4) and purchase of historic sites and buildings. The Maui county planning department has assigned a planner part-time to Lahaina matters and has provided him with an office in the historic Court House (see photo 5). An architectural style-book, which includes signs and alphabets, has been published to guide new construction within the county historic districts. The Commission meets regularly.

Architectural character of Front Street (see photo 6) within the county historic districts has been retained, and new construction (see photos 7 and 8) along this street continues the architectural theme. This is also true of the more inland parts of the county historical districts, but Front Street has the advantage of the adjacent Pacific ocean, with intermittent unobstructed views of the anchorage, the channel, and Lanai island. The last corner lot along Front Street to the north within county historical district 2 is vacant (see photo 9), and only the front 100 feet of this corner lot lies within county historic district 2. The last corner lot along Front Street to the south within county historical district 1 is undergoing development (see photo 10) as a shopping center under a "grandfathered" zoning situation. On that portion of the property just outside the historical district a high-rise condominium is under construction. Further along Front Street to the east (see photo 11) landscaped single-family dwellings predominate, with those on the right in photo 11 fronting on the ocean. The shopping center/condominium when completed will dominate this portion of Front Street when seen from the anchorage and from the nearby sites of Hawaiian royal dwellings and grounds within county historical district 1.

Inland within the county historical districts are a few "grandfathered" architectural non-conformities, but the mid-19th century atmosphere and architecture prevails. Much of the inland parts of the county historical districts consists of single-family homes, a county park, churches, cemeteries and grounds. Across the quiet tree-lined streets, adjacent but outside the county historical districts, are many single-family homes, a few of modern architecture, some open lots, churches, and some fields of sugarcane. Almost all roofs are well below treetops. There is much greenery in the large yards. The atmosphere of the residential areas of the town is quiet and peaceful in contrast to downtown Lahaina, with its businesses, parking problems, and relative throngs. From the inland perimeters of the county districts are many places where vistas of the West Maui mountains (see photo 12) are customary. Most of the town blocks inland and on the sides of the boundaries of the county historical districts contribute to the historical atmosphere of Lahaina in 1973.

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During a great portion of the 19th century, Lahaina was frequently one of the residences of the kings and paramount chiefs of the Kingdom of Hawaii. During the first and middle thirds of the century, the area which is now in the southern part of Maui county historic district 1 contained the persons, events, structures and buildings which give Lahaina importance for the themes of "royal residence and capital during much of the critical period when Hawaii was changing from a feudal autocracy to a constitutional monarchy." During the middle third of the century, when the theme of "whaling" became dominant, the focus of activity shifted slightly north, centered around the fort and missionary structures. Some structures from this middle period are still standing, but the county park, armory, and school are among the modern uses of the sites of the royal residences and grounds. The theme center for "whaling" is in the center along the waterfront of the county historic districts, but the theme center for "royalty and government change" lies adjacent to the southern boundary of the districts. This theme center receives county legal protection only on one side. Its other side is already threatened (see photo 10).

In his 1962 study, Dr. Hussey indentified nine structures as included among the principal historic structures and sites then visible. Those and additional ones are listed in Lahaina, A Walking Tour of Historic and Cultural Sites, a copy of which is included in this 1974 update. Additional information is presented below.

Baldwin House: House and grounds restored as historic house museum (see photo 3) and operated by the Lahaina Restoration Foundation. Admission fee.

Masters Reading Room: House and grounds restored (see photo 2); adaptive interior used as office of Lahaina Restoration Foundation. The building was started in 1833 by the missionaries to provide a place for ships' officers to read periodicals, such as hometown newspapers. Adjacent to Baldwin House.

Old Prison: (see photo 14) The standing cell block was destroyed by fire and rebuilt in the late 1960's. The entrance gate house was also rebuilt at that time by the County of Maui. It is open daily. Historical research done in 1971.

Court House: Traffic court still operates on second floor; county planning and other county departments have offices in the building. The cellar (for art classes) and part of the first floor (for sales room) are leased to an art studio.

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Hale Aloha: The standing walls are roofless and still deteriorating. However, the county has purchased the property from the Wainee Church, and restoration is imminent. To protect the historic mortared walls, the new roof will be supported on pillars independent of the walls.

U. S. Marine Hospital: Purchased in 1973 by the Lahaina Restoration Foundation; historical research done in 1973. Restoration planned by Foundation.

Pioneer Hotel: New construction in 1965, which matches the 1901 waterfront wing, added two sides and two wings to the block. Of the two new wings, the lower floors are businesses and the upper are hotel rooms. The original wing retains offices, restaurant and bar. See photo 8 for the new wing which faces the Court House square.

Anchorage: About 100 ships anchored at any one time in the Lahaina roadstead during the spring and fall seasons of the peak whaling period 1843-1854. This is a fair estimate based on records as shown by Kuykendall, Vol. I, pp. 307-308. Average depth of water was considered as 60 feet to give an average anchor chain length of 270 feet; making an effective radius from a point over the anchor of 220 feet to bow of ship. A ship was considered to average 100 feet in length to give an anchorage radius of 320 feet to make the anchorage circle for each ship have a diameter about 225 yards. See bibliography in item 9 for additional sources. The boundaries of the anchorage portion of the landmark were determined with the help of the Aids to Navigation Branch, Operations Division, 14th Coast Guard District, U. S. Department of Transportation.

The Carthaginian I and the Carthaginian II: The first Carthaginian, a barkentine replica, was purchased by the Lahaina Restoration Foundation in 1966 after it appeared in the movies "Hawaii" and "The Hawaiians." It was docked in front of the Pioneer Inn, contained whaling exhibits, and was a major source of income for the Foundation. Tickets to it were included with most package tours to Hawaii, which included Lahaina or the resort area immediately to the north--Kaanapali. On Easter Sunday 1973, enroute to Honolulu for drydock maintenance, the Carthaginian was destroyed after it foundered on the Lahaina reef. A 93-foot, ca. 1920, German built schooner was purchased in Denmark for about \$21,00 and sailed to Lahaina on her diesel engines to become Carthaginian II. Photo 15 shows it in arrival condition. It will be re-rigged as a two-masted brig with square sails and made into a museum ship by the Foundation. Neither the steel-hulled Carthaginian II nor its wharf conform to mid-19th century Hawaiian whaling

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seaport authenticity, but potential income from the ship as a museum will support activities which will advance the theme.

Historic American Buildings Survey: Buildings covered by plans are indicated by "(X)," by historical data "(H)," and by photographs "(P)."

<u>HABS NO.</u>	<u>Identification</u>
HA-9	Court and Custom House (X) (P)
HA-10	Hale Aloha (X) (H) (P)
HA-11	U. S. Marine Hospital (X) (H) (P)
HA-13	Master's Reading Room (X) (P)
HA-37	Old Prison (P)
HA-40	Choo Kung Tong HQ (P) - <i>as per HABS & WALKING</i>
HA-41	Pioneer Inn (P) <i>TOUR BROCHURE HERE</i>
HA-43	Baldwin House (P)

BOUNDARY CONSIDERATIONS

For the Setting

The setting for historic downtown Lahaina consists of near - and far-sight zones. The near zone is much of the rest of Lahaina town. The far zone inland is sloping agricultural land which blends into the backdrop of the West Maui mountains, with summits about five miles away; the far zone seaward crosses the Auau Channel to the backdrop of Lanai island, almost eight nautical miles away. This setting of interrelated architectural, scenic, rural, natural and marine attributes is part and parcel of the history which led to National Historic Landmark designation in 1962 and the passing of Maui County Ordinance 514 in 1967. The entire existing complex of town, land and water gives Lahaina national value to present and future Americans.

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Natural and visual boundaries enclose the "setting" of Lahaina as a National Historic Landmark. These boundaries are the summits of the mountains behind the town; the island of Lanai across the channel; to the north--Puunoa point on the waterfront; and to the south--Makila point on the waterfront. Within these visual limits lie the natural attributes which made Lahaina a 19th century town, royal residence, and international seaport.

For Landmark Boundaries

The landmark boundaries include the following considerations: (1) inclusion of historic sites, buildings, objects and archeological features that comprise Maui County Historic District 1; (2) inclusion of the architectural elements that comprise Maui County Historic District 2; (3) the anchorage without which Lahaina would not have been a seaport; (4) the waterfront along which ships' boats once landed (see photo 13); (5) sufficient town blocks outside the Maui County Historic Districts to include the "near-" sight zone of the setting. These blocks are a major part of the environment which gives Lahaina character and from which, over which and through which downtown Lahaina and the "far-" sight zone of the setting may be viewed as in historic times.

~~Ideally, to preserve the character of a 19th century Hawaiian seaport, but beyond the scope of the Federal Government, a universal building height restriction and land use control should be exercised within the boundaries of Lahaina as a National Historic Landmark. Increasingly more architectural control should be exercised the closer downtown Lahaina is approached. While a landscaped "A" frame house could be permitted near the inland landmark boundary, a home closer to the historic Baldwin House should conform to a more appropriate style.~~

VERBAL DESCRIPTION OF LANDMARK BOUNDARIES

Hawaii terms used: Makai--seaward; toward the ocean
Mauka--inland; toward the mountains

Beginning at a point of land on Puunoa Point, near the makai end of Ala Moana Street (a point of land further identified as having the geographical coordinates of 20° 53' 09" north latitude and 156° 41' 25" west longitude); then proceeding easterly along the southern edge of Ala Moana Street for a distance of approximately 768 feet to the mauka edge of

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Front Street; thence along the mauka edge of Front Street in a southerly direction approximately 800 feet to the northeast corner of the intersection of Front and Kenui Streets; thence easterly along the northern edge of Kenui Street approximately 1,045 feet to the intersection of Kenui Street with Honoapiilani Highway; then along the makai edge of Honoapiilani Highway in a southerly direction approximately 2,460 feet to the southwest corner of the intersection of Honoapiilani Highway and Lahainaluna Road; thence easterly along the southern edge of Lahainaluna Road approximately 380 feet to the southwest corner of the intersection of Lahainaluna Road and Mill Street; then southerly along the makai edge of Mill Street approximately 4,720 feet to the northwest corner of the intersection of Mill Street and Kauaula Road; thence westerly along the northern edge of Kauaula Road approximately 640 feet to the northwest corner of Kauaula Road and Honoapiilani Highway; thence southerly along the makai edge of Honoapiilani Highway approximately 2,410 feet to the intersection of Honoapiilani Highway with the northern edge of the bed of Kauaula stream; thence westerly along the northern edge of Kauaula stream bed approximately 860 feet to the northerly and seaward point of land of Makila Point (a point of land further identified as having the geographical coordinates of 20° 51' 45" north latitude and 156° 40' 21" west longitude); thence southwest (at 225° by compass from true north) for a distance of one statute mile; thence at 335° by compass from true north for a distance of approximately one and two-fifths statute miles; thence northeast (at 45° by compass from true north) for a distance of approximately one statute mile to point of beginning; enclosing a total area of approximately 1,671 acres, of which approximately 338 are acres of land and 1,333 are acres of ocean and tidal lands. Precise boundaries, as described above, are recorded on a copy of U. S. Geological Survey map: Lahaina Quadrangle, Hawaii, 7.5 minute series (Topographic), 1956; and the land boundaries on a copy of a more detailed map of Lahaina entitled "Lahaina Historic Districts Map" as revised March 22, 1967, to which an extension has been attached, scale of one inch equals 200 feet. Both maps on file with the Historical and Architectural Services Division, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service.



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and capital during much of the critical period when Hawaii was changing from a feudal autocracy to a constitutional monarchy, and it was associated with many of the key events of that transition.

"According to tradition, Lahaina was from time immemorial a favorite residence of Maui kings and chiefs and a convenient port for inter-island travelers. The powerful Kahekili, ruler of all the islands except Hawaii, lived here until his death in 1794; and Kamehameha the Great landed here to begin his final conquest of Maui. By that time the port had become a well-known point of call for trading and exploring vessels, whose captains found the open roadstead a safe and convenient anchorage. For a couple of decades after 1812 it was an important shipping point for the sandalwood trade.

"A new era of prominence and activity for Lahaina began in December, 1819, when Kamehameha II moved his residence here for several months. From then until 1843 Lahaina was a frequent, though not continuous, royal residence and capital. In 1819, also, the first American whaling ships reached the islands, and by 1822 there were 34 whalers making Hawaii a base of refreshment. From that time the number increased rapidly. Although Honolulu was originally the port most favored by the whalers, Lahaina often surpassed it in the number of recorded visits, particularly from about 1840 to 1855. Another event which was to have much effect upon the growth and social structure of Lahaina was the arrival of the first missionaries in the islands during 1820. The first missionaries to become established at Lahaina, the Rev. C. S. Stewart and the Rev. William Richards, arrived in 1823 accompanied by Queen Mother Keopuolani. These three factors--political prominence, visits of whaling ships, and the development of a particularly influential mission under the protection of some of the most powerful chiefs of the land, resulted, as one writer has somewhat exuberantly said, in starting Lahaina "off to a historical romp that probably will never be equalled.

"The great event of 1823 was the death of Keopuolani at Lahaina. Within an hour before "joining the Great Majority" she had been baptized as a Christian, an occurrence which proved a great stimulus to increasing the influence of the missionaries. King Kaumualii of Kauai was, at his special request, buried beside Keopuolani in 1824. The bodies of Kamehameha II and his queen were brought back from London in 1824 and interred at Lahaina until they were later moved to the royal tomb in Honolulu. When Kamehameha III ascended the throne, he settled upon Lahaina as his home and seat of government.

Meanwhile, the missionaries were making rapid advances, drawing thousands of Hawaiians to worship and persuading the chiefs, especially the able governor of Maui, Chief Hoapili, to institute regulations against the sale of liquor and against visits to ships by island women. These restrictions were considered too rigorous by the "sea-bittered" sailors who swarmed ashore seeking pleasure, and in 1825 the crew of the English whaler Daniel rioted through

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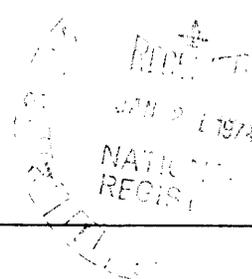
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the town for three days, twice threatening the lives of the Rev. Richards and his wife. Two years later the crew of another English whaler, the John Palmer, actually fired their cannons at the Richards' house to force the release of their American captain who had been detained by the authorities in an effort to obtain the return of four 'base women' who had been illegally enticed aboard the vessel. These difficulties with unruly seamen lasted as long as Lahaina remained a whaling port, but the Hawaiians, by controlling liquor and enforcing curfews, maintained the upper hand, and Lahaina was known as a more orderly port than Honolulu. Even so, one minister in the late 1840's described the town as 'one of the breathing-holes of hell.'

"Lahaina, as the island capital, was associated with many of the most important political developments in the kingdom during the reigns of Kamehameha II and Kamehameha III. Here Kaahumanu, Queen Regent, promulgated the famous laws based on the Ten Commandments. Here the first Hawaiian Legislature met in 1840, and the first written constitution was promulgated at Lahaina during the same year. Since much of this evolution from feudalism was undertaken upon the advice of the Rev. Mr. Richards, it perhaps is not too much of an exaggeration to say that Lahaina at this time was 'the cradle of Hawaiian democracy.' But after the seizure of the islands by the British during 1843, it was decided that the capital should be at Honolulu, and Lahaina was relegated to the position of an occasional royal residence.

"Lahaina was at the height of its prosperity as a whaling port about 1846, at which time about 400 ships a year visited the town to replenish their water and supplies. In that year the population of Lahaina numbered 3,557 persons, of whom 212 were foreigners. There were 1096 houses, mostly strung out along the kukui-shaded main street, 10 schools, a seamen's chapel, 1 main church with 5 or 6 district churches, and a number of public buildings. 'About 500 native families,' it was reported, 'eat at the table in the style of civilization.'

"By 1862 the whaling industry was in a definite and permanent decline. The effect of Lahaina was marked. Prosperity ended, prices fell, cattle and crops were a drag on the market, and ship chandleries and retail stores began to wither. The town subsided to a lower level of economic importance, and life revolved around the sugar mill, later known as the Pioneer Mill Company, which was established about 1860-1861, and around several other mills and plantations which sprung up from time to time in the vicinity. By 1885, when Charles Warren Stoddard visited Lahaina, the town was 'a charming, drowsy and dreamy village.'



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"The principal historic structures and sites still visible include the following:

"1. Baldwin House. This handsome two-story home, built of coral blocks, with a two-story wing, is located on Front Street at Dickenson Street; it and the 42360-square-foot lot on which it stands are owned by the H. P. Baldwin Estate.

"The missionaries at Lahaina were given a tract of land for residence purposes by the local nobility in 1823, and the Rev. William Richards moved into a two-story stone dwelling (since destroyed) there in 1827. In 1823 Ephriam and Julia Spaulding arrived in Lahaina to join the mission staff, and in 1834 Spaulding started construction of the main section and 'cook house' of the present Baldwin House adjoining the Richards dwelling. Completed early in 1835, the house was occupied by the Spauldings until 1836, when they left Lahaina due to poor health. Dr. Dwight Baldwin and his family moved into the house when the Spauldings left and occupied it until Dr. Baldwin was transferred to Honolulu in 1868 (some sources say the Baldwins lived in the house until 1871). During this long occupancy the structure became known as the 'Baldwin House.'

"Dr. Baldwin, in addition to serving as pastor of the Hawaiian church at Lahaina and, for a time, as seamen's chaplain, was a medical doctor; and he was government physician for the islands of Maui, Molokai, and Lanai. It was his duty to greet visitors to the Lahaina mission and the nearby Lahainaluna Seminary; and guests were thus frequent. He renovated the structure extensively in 1847-1849 and added the right wing as a dispensary and office.

"Dr. Baldwin's son, Henry P. Baldwin, was born in this house and later acquired extensive interests on the Island of Maui. The house has remained in the Baldwin family to the present time. It served an important part in Hawaiian social and cultural development when Mrs. Henry P. Baldwin sponsored a community center there which included a kindergarten, night-school, circulating library, language school, and high school. Used until lately as a community center, clinic, and Girl Scout headquarters, it now (April, 1962) appears to be closed but is kept in excellent condition. It is one of the oldest and best preserved missionary dwellings.

"2. Old Spring House. Located 200 feet south of the Baldwin House and set well back from Front Street at the rear of a later frame structure, this small stone building is privately owned.

"It is said to have been built by the Rev. William Richards in 1823 to enclose a spring to supply water not only for his own dwelling nearby but

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for the entire community and for ships anchored off the town. According to local tradition, a hand pump here was visited by crews of sailors who 'constantly rolled huge casks for water.' The Spring House apparently is thus one of the few remaining physical links with the whaling era.

"3. Court House. This solid, two-story stone building stands on Wharf Street, in the 1.94-acre square bounded by Wharf, Hotel, Front, and Canal Streets; it is owned by the State of Hawaii.

"In 1858 a violent windstorm damaged the governor's house and the Hale Piula, the former palace which housed the government offices. A survey early in that year resulted in a recommendation that a new building to house the customs offices and courts should be built on the site of the old stone fort. Funds were appropriated for the 'Lahaina Court and Custom House and Government Offices,' and the new building was reported as nearly complete by December, 1859. In addition to the offices mentioned above, it contained the governor's office, post office, and 'a room in which to starve the jury into unanimity.' The building was extensively rebuilt in 1925, with a considerable change in its appearance. The basic structure remains, however. Still housing about the same types of offices as when it was first erected, it serves as a link with the days of the kingdom. The Court House Square is famed today for its banyan tree, planted by the sheriff of Lahaina in 1873 and proclaimed today as 'Hawaii's largest.'

"4. Old Prison (Hale Paahao), This one-story jailhouse, built of heavy planks, stands at the corner of Waivee Street and Prison Road in grounds 0.82 acre in extent surrounded by a high wall of coral blocks. It is owned by the County of Maui.

"In addition to ordinary criminals, the authorities at Lahaina generally had on their hands a number of boisterous seamen who had run afoul of the law in one way or another during their periods of 'refreshment' ashore. During the 1830's and 1840's prisoners usually were confined in the fort which stood on the seaward side of the present square. The most common cause of incarceration was failure to obey the sundown curfew. Liberty expired with the setting of the sun when, said one visitor during the 1840's, the sailors, drunk or sober, 'must be off to their ships, or into the fort,' and he painted a vivid picture of the reeling seamen hustling along to the shore 'caressed and hung upon by native girls, who flock here in the ship season, from other parts, to get the ready wages of sin.'

"In 1851 the fort physician complained that conditions for prisoners were unhealthful, and evidently as a result construction of a new prison was

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started in 1852. The main cell block, built of planks, was constructed in that year, but the wall around the grounds, built of coral blocks from the old fort, was not erected until about 1854. Prisoners performed much of the labor. The original cell house burned in 1958; and it and the wooden gate house were reconstructed in 1959 and now present a fine appearance. The prison is open to the public as an historical exhibit.

"5. Wainee Church and Cemetery (Waiola Cemetery and Church). The present church structure (1953) and the old cemetery occupy a tract of 2.45 acres on Wainee Street, between Chapel and Shaw Streets. The property is owned by the Waiola Protestant Church.

"For several years after the American Board missionaries reached Lahaina in 1823, services were held in temporary structures. In 1828 the chiefs, led by Hoapili, proposed to build a new stone church, and the present site was selected. The cornerstone was laid on September 14, 1828, for this 'first stone meeting-house built at the Islands.' Dedicated on March 4, 1832, this large, two-story, galleried Wainee Church was twice destroyed by Kauaula winds and once, in 1894, by a fire of incendiary origin. The present church structure was dedicated in 1953, at which time the name was changed to Waiola.

"The adjoining cemetery is said to date from 1823. It contains the body of Keopuolani, wife of Kamehameha the Great and mother of Kamehameha II and Kamehameha III. She was largely responsible for the overthrow of the kapu system, and her early interest in Christianity was of much assistance in the founding of the Protestant missions. She is said to have been the first convert of the missionaries in the islands. Other prominent Hawaiian nobles interred here include Governor Hoapili, King Kaunualii, Princess Nahienaena, Queen Kalakua, and Governess Liliha. Here too is buried the Rev. William Richards, the pioneer missionary and advisor to the Hawaiian monarchy. Seeing his grave near that of the nobles, a visitor late in the 1840's was constrained to write, 'There they lie in the burying-ground, hard by together, the missionary teacher and the converted heathen.'

"6. Hale Aloha. This dilapidated stone building stands behind the Episcopal Cemetery in about the center of the large block bounded by Wainee, Hale, and Chapel Streets and Prison Road. It is best reached from Wainee Street. It stands on a 15900-square-foot tract owned by Waiola Protestant Church.

"The predecessor of this building, known as the Hale Halewai, or Hale Lai, is sometimes said to have been built as early as 1823; and it, instead of the Wainee Church, is occasionally claimed as the first stone church in the island. At any rate, this 'sectional' meetinghouse was in bad condition

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by 1855, and the church voted to rebuild completely, the walls being 'too old fashioned to be tolerated in these go-ahead days.' The present building, called 'Hale Aloha,' was completed in 1858 and was 'the largest sectional meeting house of its time.' In 1860 the government fitted it out for use as an English Church. The building is now in a ruinous condition.

"7. United States Marine Hospital. On the landward side of Front Street, between Kenui and Baker Streets, about 0.6 mile north of the Baldwin House (Dickenson St.). It is owned by the Bernice P. Bishop Estate.

"In 1842 Captain John Stetson was appointed first American vice consular agent in Lahaina. Probably it was shortly thereafter that a marine hospital was established for sick and injured American merchant seamen. At any rate, Herman Melville noted that one of his shipmates was discharged from the Achusnet at Lahaina on May 29, 1843, and died in the United States Marine Hospital of a 'disreputable disease.' The hospital could accommodate about 60 men. In 1865 the structure was sold to the Episcopal Church and became a school for girls, and during the 1870's it was turned into a vicarage and served as such for more than 30 years.

"The exterior walls of the two-story stone structure have been covered with shingles but the front verandahs running the length of both stories still remain, and the building retains its historical integrity. It is used as a residence and is in fair condition. It is an important link with the days of Lahaina's maritime glory.

"8. Roman Catholic Church (Maria Lanakila First Catholic Church). At wainee and Dickenson Streets, this building is still an active Catholic Church. It and the adjoining cemetery occupy a tract of 3.091 acres.

"The first resident Roman Catholic priests arrived at Lahaina on April 21, 1846. A church was built on the present site that same year, but it was replaced by a new structure in 1858. The present concrete church, erected in 1927-1928, was built on the same foundation and is almost a replica of the older frame structure, it is said that the original ceiling was retained in the new building.

"9. Pioneer Hotel. This picturesque frame structure stands on the corner of Wharf and Hotel Streets; it is (1958) owned by Mr. Alan Freeland and is under lease to the Lahaina Hotel Incorporation.

"Built in 1901 and therefore not strictly connected with Lahaina's most significant era, this well-known hotel is nevertheless a key part of

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the Lahaina scene. The description of the hotel in one guide book - 'a large box of a building . . . with a wide balcony and decorative wooden railing' - may be accurate, but it fails to convey the tropical atmosphere of Lahaina's first hotel.

"Condition of the Site: Lahaina today is a quiet plantation town which is beginning to stir with new life as recent harbor developments bring additional recreational and commercial boating activity and as nearby newly built resorts increase tourist visits. Despite the fact that surviving historic structures are relatively few, the town preserves much of the atmosphere of a Hawaiian native village and of a mid-19th century island port. The magnificent natural setting, with its backdrop of purple mountains and foreground of blue sea, remains unspoiled; and palms and other trees shade the streets and homes as they did in missionary days. However, paved streets, curbs, new buildings in contemporary architectural styles, and other developments are cumulatively making their effects felt and causing the historic scene to fade.

"Recognizing the economic and cultural benefits of the town's historic heritage, the County of Maui and a cooperating organization, the Lahaina Restoration Committee, have obtained by contract from a planning firm a study of the historical values and a program for restoration. The proposal, presented early in 1961, called for a restoration district which covers 31.79 acres, including all of the principal historic sites except the Marine Hospital. On August 18, 1961, the county adopted an interim zoning ordinance which set aside about 8 1/4 acres as the Lahaina Historic District. Within this area are the Court House, Pioneer Hotel, Baldwin House, and the Spring House." (John A. Hussey, Regional Historian; July 17, 1962; from National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, Forms 10-317 and 317a)



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