1. Name of Property

historic name  ____________________________
Kyoto Gardens of Honolulu Memorial Park

other names/site number ____________________
Sanju Pagoda and Kinkaku-ji Temple columbariums and Japanese Garden

2. Location

street & number 22 Craigside Place
not for publication

city or town Honolulu
vicinity Nuuanu
state Hawaii code HI county Honolulu code 003 zip code 96817

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant. __ national __ statewide __ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official ____________________________ Date 10/07/03

State or Federal agency and bureau _____________________________________________

In my opinion, the property does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official ____________________________ Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____________________________________________

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register

✓ determined eligible for the National Register

✓ other (explain): ____________________________

Signature of Keeper ____________________________ Date of Action 2-11-04
5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)
- [x] private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)
- [x] building(s)
- district
- [x] site
- structure
- object

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Memorial Park

Number of Resources within Property
Contributing Noncontributing
- 2 0 buildings
- 1 0 sites
- 0 0 structures
- 0 ±50 objects (cinerariums and tombstones)
- 3 0 Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: FUNERARY
Sub: CEMETERY

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: FUNERARY
Sub: CEMETERY

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
OTHER: JAPONISM*

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
Sanju Pagoda:
- foundation Concrete
- roof Elastomeric coating over reinforced concrete on steel frame
- walls Concrete columns, Plaster walls
- other Eave "kumimono" bracketing system

Kinkaku-ji Temple:
- foundation Concrete posts on footings
- roof Copper shingles
- walls Steel columns, encased in plaster, Plaster walls
- other Intricate eave and roof "kumimono" bracketing

Mirror Lake Garden:
- foundation Black sand foundation pad
- water features waterfall
- decorative features symbolic rocks
- other Stone lanterns and foliage

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
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)

_ X_ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

_ X_ 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.

_ X_ 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.)

Property is:

_ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

_ B removed from its original location.

_ C a birthplace or a grave.

_ D a cemetery.

_ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

_ F a commemorative property.

_ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
ETHNIC HERITAGE- ASIAN
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
RELIGION

Period of Significance

1966

Significant Dates

1966

Significant Person

(Calculate if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

_ Americans of Japanese Ancestry

Architect/Builder

Architect: Robert Katsuyoshi, AIA
Contractor: D.K. Nagata and Co.
Designer and General Supervisor: Akejiro Kimura of the Kimura Komuten Co. of Kyoto, Japan
Designer of the Mirror Lake Garden and Park Landscaping: Kinsaku Nakane
Landscape Contractor: Patrick Oka
Copper Roof Installation: T. Arita Plumbing Co., Ltd.
Interior Woodwork (Sanju Pagoda): K. Fujii Carpenter Shop

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Primary Location of Additional Data

_ State Historic Preservation Office

_ Other State agency

_ Federal agency

_ Local government

_ University

_ Other

Name of repository: _ Honolulu Memorial Park

_ Other
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.2098 acres

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

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See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lorraine Minatoishi Palumbo, Ph.D. Architectural Historian
organization Friends of the Honolulu Memorial Park
date July 1, 2003
street & number 323 Hanakapiai Street
telephone (808) 285-1184

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Map
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Honolulu Memorial Park, Kyoto Gardens
c/o Councilman Rod Tam
street & number 530 South King Street, Room 202
telephone (808) 547-7006

city or town Honolulu state HI zip code 96813

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Description:

Overall Cemetery Description:
The Kyoto Gardens is a portion of the Honolulu Memorial Park cemetery with two large columbarium structures and a Japanese garden at the eastern half of the Honolulu Memorial Park.

Access to the area is via a narrow sloping paved dead-end road off Craigside Place that leads one down to the area between the Pagoda and the Kinkaku-ji towards a circular turnaround. The Nuuanu stream runs along the east side of the property and a three-foot high concrete masonry block wall at the stream edge delineates the cemetery area. The Pagoda sits on the north side of the property, directly adjacent to the road turnaround. The Kinkaku-ji sits on the southern portion of the site, with its back to the stream. The Mirror Lake Gardens surround the Kinkaku-ji. Open space between the two columbarium buildings is lined with several freestanding columbariums, also known as cinerariums, and plots. Another area for plots is located south of the Kinkaku-ji, also part of the Kyoto Gardens area.

Pagoda Description:
The Sanju-Pagoda is a 1 ½ times larger model of the pagoda located on the grounds of the Minami Hoke-ji Temple in Nara, built in the Momoyama Period (1571-1602).

Within the following description, the necessity for using the traditional Japanese architectural terminology in order to properly describe the components of this building type emphasizes the unique cultural aspects of the building features.

The Pagoda columbarium is a three-tiered concrete and steel-framed columbarium in the form of the world-famous Hoke-ji Temple Pagoda in Nara, Japan. Its height from the foundation to the top of the roof, not including the ku-rin copper spire is 80'; the total height, including its spire is 116’. Unlike the traditional pagoda form, which does not have habitable space within the pagoda, this pagoda has six usable floors, accessed by concrete stairs located at the northern corner of the building. Like the traditional pagoda form that steps in at each ascending tier, this pagoda, also, decreases in floor area as it ascends. The foundation measures 22'-7" x 22'-7"; the first, second, and third floor measures 21'-0" x 21'-0". The fourth and fifth floor measures 18'-6" x 18'-6" and the sixth floor measures 16'-6" x16'-0".

1 The Sanju Pagoda near Nara was declared a National Architectural Treasure by the Japanese Government as an outstanding example of the architecture of the Momoyama period (1574-1602).
The roof form and eave structure are historic and architecturally significant forms, comprising of elements specific to the traditional religious architecture of Japan. In Japanese architecture, the roof form and its structural components, including the type of bracketing system, type of curvature, type of rafter pattern and size, defines the style of building and signifies the era it was built in. It is the most important defining architectural element of the pagoda. The roof form of the Pagoda is the *Ho-gyo Ua-mukuri-yane* which translates to "treasure form, with the underside looking up roof" was a form traditionally used for shrine and temple architecture and palace architecture. The roof is a pyramidal shape with curves formed in two directions, both horizontal and vertical. The roof is topped with an ornamental metal spire that measures approximately 35’ in height. In order to support this tremendous amount of weight and lateral load, without the traditional center post to take the force, a large metal ring and web system was built in the roof cavity. Each of the *noki-mawari* or “eave-surround” structural systems, are formed out of steel trusses instead of the traditional timber *hanegi* or “winged wood” members. The roofs were designed to have a copper shingled roof, but funds ran out and the design was modified. Instead, an elastomeric membrane roof, called GASOFLEX roofing, replaced the original design.

The term *noki-mawari* extends far from the building’s walls. This comes from the traditional understanding that the surrounding sides of any building must be protected from the elements. Due to the deep extension of the eave, supporting the eave portion is a structural engineering challenge and the supports at the underside of the eave took on decorative forms and styles. The *noki-mawari* or “eave-surround” form of the Pagoda is similar for both the first and second tiers and the top roof. The *noki-mawari* extends approximately 14’ from the center of the exterior column to the eave edge. Its slope is 6 1/2 : 12. The *noki-mawari* form is that of the *futa-noki, shige-taruki* which directly translates to "double-eaved, traditional rafters." The style of the *noki-mawari* is the *wa-yo*, a common style, where the rafters are set at a 90-degree angle from the beam, rather than splayed. The double-eave form has two layers of rafters cantilevering from the structural post and beams of the exterior wall. The *kumimo*, or bracketing system, that supports the roof is the *mite-saki kumimono*, which translates to “three-projecting integrated bracket pieces,” is a three-layer bracketing support system at the corners of the roof eave.

Balconies, called the *engawa*, wrap each of the three tiers of the pagoda. The *engawa* of the first tier is the widest, at 9’0”, since it has functional use. On the second and third tiers, the *engawa* of the level above is designed into the top portion of the roof eave. The second tier *engawa* is accessed by a small door off the fourth floor. Its width is approximately 2'-0". The third tier *engawa* is off the 6th floor, and also measures approximately 2'-0" in width. The railings of the first tier *engawa* are made of a combination of concrete structural posts supporting intermediate steel railings. The railings of the second and third tier are fully concrete except for the metal top rail that has a traditional form, having an upturned curve at the ends, where the railings intersect at a 90-degree angle.
Access to the interior of the pagoda is through large double doors on the south wall of the pagoda, off the first tier engawa, or balcony. The interior floor plans are simple. The first floor is holds the statue of the Amida Buddha, and a small altar area. It is surrounded by urn niches along the walls. At the upper floors, almost half of the floor is taken up by the stairwell, stair vestibule, and sink area where flower vases and such is available for use. The rest of the floor plan is laid out in a close-packed arrangement of niches along the walls and on the interior aisle. There are approximately 1750 urn niches within the pagoda.

There have been very minimal alternations made to this pagoda. The basement floor has undergone an adhoc modification where the west side exterior walkway was enclosed to hold more storage. The enclosure is made of plywood and wood studs, and can be easily removed. The other temporary modification is the addition of a plywood roof covering over the entry stairs up to the main engawa on the first floor. Installation of the plywood covering was necessitated due to falling pieces of concrete from the eave, as a temporary preventative safety measure for those who enter under the spalling eave. The roof has been repaired once, in the 1970s, but has not been repaired since.

The pagoda has been suffering from water infiltration and concrete spalling for the past 10 to 20 years. The problems stem from cracks in the roofing membrane and a general lack of long-term maintenance. The roofing membrane is an early form of elastomeric roofing that has failed, allowing rain to infiltrate the thin layer of concrete below causing the structural steel members to rust in areas. Moreover, the pagoda has not been painted since its original construction, leaving the concrete without a protective coating for several years.

Kinkaku-ji

The Kinkaku-ji columbarium models itself after the world-famous Kinkaku-ji located on the grounds of the Roku-on-ji Temple in Kyoto, built in the Muromachi Period (1335-1573) Style. The original Golden Pavilion in Kyoto was built in 1494. The Roku-on-ji Temple is of the Shokoku-ji branch of Rinzai Zen Buddhism. This late temple style was influenced by the residential form of architecture. Upon close inspection and comparison of the plans of the Hawaii and Kyoto Kinkaku-ji, one will see the near-accurate modeling of the Kinkaku-ji in Kyoto. The two major departures of the design are: 1. The building’s orientation and 2. The redesign of the front façade. First, the side elevation was used as the front elevation in the Honolulu Kinkaku-ji and the original lookout was built as an entry portico off the bridge walkway. Second, the front elevation of the Kyoto Kinkaku-ji is completely open along the first bay width, and a lattice wall runs the entire length. This front elevation was entirely ignored in the Honolulu Kinkaku-ji and, instead, the back elevation of the Kyoto Kinkaku-ji was replicated on both longitudinal sides of the Honolulu Kinkaku-ji. The interior configuration also alters from its predecessor, but this was necessitated by its function.

2 The original “Kinkaku-ji” or Golden Pavilion, in Kyoto is architecturally and culturally significant for its unique design; each floor incorporates styles of different periods of Japanese architecture. On this single structure, three distinct architectural styles are evident.
The Kinkaku-ji columbarium is a three-story steel-framed and plaster finish columbarium. Unlike the structure of the Pagoda, the Kinkaku-ji’s structure has a much lighter outside appearance, similar to that of residential architecture. As such, the structural design uses mainly steel members instead of reinforced concrete. The steel members are disguised: encased in a plaster coating. The exterior walls are 4 1/2" thick hollow plaster walls and all exterior finish are of smooth cement plaster finish. Much of the decorative *kumimono*, or bracketing, and rail work is built of actual carved wood, like its original predecessor, given that creating reinforced concrete forms at such a small cross section was not feasible.

The plan five bays wide and three bays deep. The bay measurements are equal at 7'- 3/4" wide, except for the second bay from the left on the longitudinal side, which measures 10'- 6 1/4". The overall size of the plan is 38' - 7 1/4" by 28'- 1"; the exact size of the original Kinkaku-ji in Kyoto. The Kyoto Kinkaku-ji is built in the measuring unit of the *shaku*, which is virtually identical to the length of a foot (1 shaku is equal to 0.9940 feet). This *shaku* measurement of the Kyoto Kinkaku-ji were translated to feet measurements for the Honolulu Kinkaku-ji.

The height of the building measures approximately 38' high, not including the phoenix finial at its roof peak. The first and second floors measure 38'-7 1/4" x 28'-1". The third floor is substantially smaller, measuring 18'-1 3/4" x 18'-1 3/4". A covered *engawa*, or balcony, wraps around four sides of the structure, on all three floors. The width of the *engawa* on the first and second floor is 3'-7" on all sides, while the third floor *engawa*, is slightly less, approximately 3'-5". The third floor *engawa* is integrated into the lower eave structure. The columbarium is surrounded by water in the front and sides of the building. The floor sits 3 feet above the bottom of a pool of water of the “Mirror Lake Garden” and a stone veneer base makes the structure appear as though it is sitting on an elevated stone foundation.

The gentle roof slope form and less formal eave and *kumimono* structure are historic and architecturally significant forms that are indicators of the later temple style. The roof form of the Kinkaku-ji, like the Pagoda, is the *Ho-gyo Ua-mukuri-yane*, which translates to "treasure form, with the underside looking up roof" was a form traditionally used for shrine and temple architecture and palace architecture. This type of roof is one that slopes upward in both the vertical and horizontal faces, distinctive of the Japanese traditional roof form. This roof is a copper shingled roof. Though it appears authentic from the exterior, the roof structure is composed of a complex structural steel frame. The slope of the roof is 6 1/8 : 12.

The *noki-mawari* or “eave-surround” form is on the second and third levels. The *noki-mawari* extends approximately 7'-5" from the exterior wall face to the eave edge on the second level, and 6'-9" on the third level. The slopes of the eaves are substantially less than the roof, at 3:12. The style of this *noki-mawari* is called *futa-noki*, *han-shige-daruki* translating to "two-layered, intermittent, traditional rafters." The style of the *noki-mawari* is the *wa-yo*, a common style, where the rafters are set at a 90-degree angle from the beam, rather than splayed. The double-eave form has two layers of rafters cantilevering from the structural post and beams of the exterior wall.
The eave supports, called the *kumimoto togyo* "bracket system at the column capitals" along the exterior faces of the walls, are ornamental rather than structural, as in traditional architecture. However, they were carved out of wood. Like the "real" Kinkaku-ji in Kyoto, this Kinkaku-ji replicates the varying *kumimoto* styles on all three levels. Though there is no projecting eave over the first floor, an *engawa* off the second floor is cantilevered over the first floor walkway. The *kumimoto togyo* supporting this *engawa* is the *tsure-mitto*, translating to "extending three-arm piece." The *toyo* at the second level is a *hito-desaki sanbou-to*, which is a bracket piece that is only one layer high and extends outward and to its right and left only. The *toyo* at the third level is *futa-te-saki sanbo-to*, which translates to "two-layer - projecting integrated bracket pieces," ornamental pieces at the intermediate supports and corners of the roof eave.

The third floor is the smallest and most decorative part of the structure. The *sangara-to*, a traditional heavy-frame double door having decorative wood hinges, common to the Momoyama Period is located in the center of the front facade on the third floor. The door is flanked with the *kato-mado*, "a cloud-shaped window". All of these decorative elements are wood carved pieces.

The interior layout is simple and straightforward. The first floor holds an altar with the statue of the Amida Buddha in the center of the space. Surrounding the altar are rows of urn niches organized in an orderly fashion. There are two stairwells, one located at the northwest corner of the building and one at the far southeast corner of the building. From the second floor, access to the third floor is made via another separate staircase in the center of the building. This structure holds approximately 2800 urn niches in total.

Apparently, no alterations have been made to this structure, and it was built according to the drawings. Also, except for the fact that this Kinkaku-ji has never been painted, and is in need of a clean-up and fresh paint, this building is in good condition.

**Mirror Lake Garden**

The Mirror Lake Garden is also designed in the style of the Muromachi Period (1335-1573). The design of the garden is based upon the symbols of the Buddha’s world. Within the garden is the Kinkaku-ji, which has upon its pinnacle, the statue of the phoenix, the symbol of the Paradise of the heavenly buddhas (*Hawaii Hochi*, June 16, 1966:5). Originally, several tens of carp were a part of the Mirror Lake. The carp fish were donated. One portion of the donated fish was donated by a single owner of the grave. The others were donated by various donors. The donors were obviously primarily people of Japanese ancestry living in Hawaii. An article in the *Hawaii Hochi* lists the telephone number of the person to call if one were interested in donating a carp. The significance of the carp fish is a historical and religious one: carp fish are always found in the ponds of the temples for, through the carp, one's sins were washed clean (*Hawaii Hochi*, July 14, 1966:3).
Statement of Significance

The property meets Criteria C for it “embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values.”

The three-tiered Pagoda, the Kinkaku-ji Temple, and the Mirror Gardens located within the Honolulu Memorial Park are significant for being among the best examples of Japanese traditional-style structures and gardens built outside of Japan. The Pagoda at the Honolulu Memorial Park is one of three known inhabitable pagodas in the United States and is the largest of the three. The only two other pagoda structures are known to be in existence in America, one that is located in Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii, on the site of the Lahaina Jodo and the other at the San Francisco Golden Gate Park. Several other structures in America that are called pagodas are either India Buddhist style pagodas or structures that use the term very loosely. Inhabitable Japanese traditional pagoda forms takes on either a three-tiered or five-tiered slender form. Each tier, though traditionally not accessible, is defined by its wide eaves and structural bracketing system that connects to the central post. This central post usually rises from the ground to the roof-top. It is common that the three or five-storied pagoda gradually decreases in size toward the top, giving it a sense of stability.

The Pagoda and the Kinkaku-ji are modeled after Japan’s honored national monuments: the three-story pagoda of Minami Hoke-ji Temple, located outside of Nara and the Kinkaku-ji, otherwise known as the Golden Pavilion of Kyoto. Surrounding the Kinkaku-ji is the Kyomeichi (Mirror Lake) Garden, fashioned after gardens designed in the Muromachi style. Not only are the Sanju Pagoda and the Kinkaku-ji extremely accurate examples of the two monuments that they are modeled after in Japan but they incorporate an ingenious use of new materials in their construction. They are type of artistic blend of East meets Modernity: Modern building technique becomes incorporated into a Traditional design, in a very deliberate and well-executed manner.

Its siting and size made it a visual landmark for all who drive down the Pali Highway on their way into downtown Honolulu.

Sanju Pagoda

The Honolulu Pagoda is architecturally significant for three reasons: 1. It was designed with the original proportions of the Nara Pagoda and uses the bracketing construction techniques found in the traditional eave design. 2. It is said to be the largest pagoda ever built. 3. It incorporates new construction techniques using new materials of concrete and steel.
Upon close comparison of the plans of the Hawaii and Kyoto Pagoda, it is significant to find that the Honolulu pagoda was almost exactly 1.5 times proportion of its original in Nara in nearly every aspect, including the plan dimensions, floor-to-floor heights, and eave extensions. Moreover, types of windows, railings, and decorative exterior details are also similar. The plans show that not only are the overall dimensions equal to 1.5 times the original, but the number of bays are the same and the post-to-post span lengths are identical. The plan measures three bays wide and three bays deep. The pagoda in Nara is built in the measuring unit of the shaku, which is virtually identical to the length of a foot (1 shaku is equal to 0.9940 feet). The shaku measurements of the pagoda in Nara are multiplied by 1.5 and are translated to feet measurements for the Honolulu pagoda here, listed below. In order to re-create the rafters, it is said these were fabricated in Japan or by Japanese craftsmen in Honolulu and molds were cast in Honolulu.

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The Pagoda is significant for its inventive and resourceful construction system. It incorporates new construction techniques using new materials of concrete and steel in order to create usable interior space while still achieving an accurate exterior appearance of a “true” pagoda. Traditionally, the pagoda does not contain usable space, but is used solely as a marker or symbol for temple grounds. The main structural element is the central column, which ascends to the roof pinnacle. A large bronze spire, the symbol of the heavenly levels, is connected to the top of the central column. From this central column, the body of the pagoda is built and the load and other forces, including the spire load, are transferred to the ground.

In the case of the Hawaii Pagoda, in order to create usable floor area, the center column of the pagoda that traditionally supported the roof spire was removed and structural steel members were built in the roof to provide support for the spire. Reinforced concrete and steel substitute the traditional wood members, from which floors, stairs, and walls were built. Yet, in many cases, the “new” materials were cast in molds and then treated as their traditional wooden counterparts. Much of the structure was built of pre-cast pieces that were molded from authentically carved wood models, and assembled in the traditional way. This is true for most of the eave structure, including the decorative kumimono bracketing system and taruki rafter forms. The bracketing system is
constructed out of individually cast pieces and connected using through-bolts. Disassembly of the entire eave could be accomplished by the removal of its bolts and the lowering of its pre-cast panels.

Kinkaku-ji

Upon close comparison of the plans of the Hawaii and Kyoto Kinkaku-ji, one will see the near-accurate modeling of the Kinkaku-ji in Kyoto. The Kinkaku-ji of the Honolulu Memorial Park was built under supervision of Akejiro Kimura of Kyoto, who was the supervisor for the rebuilding of the original Kinkaku-ji “Golden Pavilion” in 1955, after it was destroyed in a tragic fire in 1950 (Honolulu Memorial Park pamphlet; 1966). It is obvious that he had brought his plans to Hawaii for the architect of record, Robert Katsuyoshi to follow in his drawings. The plans show that not only are the overall dimensions equal and the number of bays the same, but that the post-to-post span lengths are identical. The plan measures five bays wide and three bays deep. The bay measurements are equal at 7' - 0¼” wide, except for the second bay from the left on the longitudinal side, which measures 10' - 6 ¼”. The overall size of the plan is 38' - 7 ¼” by 28'- 1”, the exact size of the original Kinkaku-ji in Kyoto. The Kyoto Kinkaku-ji is built in the measuring unit of the shaku, which is virtually identical to the length of a foot (1 shaku is equal to 0.9940 foot). This shaku measurements of the Kyoto Kinkaku-ji were translated to feet measurements for the Honolulu Kinkaku-ji. Moreover, the floor-to-floor heights are also consistent, as are the types of windows, railings, and decorative exterior details. The exterior paint gold color is also reminiscent of the actual Kinkaku-ji in Kyoto, which is faced in gold leaf. In order to re-create many of the details and decorative ornaments of the Kinkaku-ji, it is said that several parts of the temple were fabricated in Japan and assembled in Honolulu, in the traditional Japanese construction technique of mortise and tenon assembly (Malmgren interview; 2003). Finally, the gold-plated copper phoenix finial, at the top of the roof, appears as though it was fabricated in Japan as an exact replica of its Kyoto model. This Golden Pavilion was once a reliquary for the repose of a relic of the Buddha and it is significant that the Kinkaku-ji of the Honolulu Memorial Park holds an exact copy of this image.

The structural aspects of the Kinkaku-ji are the most inventive. Rather than being fabricated out of wood and plaster as is the Kyoto Kinkaku-ji, the entire structure, except for the railings on the second and third level, is built of steel, concrete, and plaster. In order to keep the cross-section of the posts small, as are those of the Kyoto Kinkaku-ji, steel W-flanges were used. These were then covered with plaster and formed to be square posts with bevels on all four corners, just as its predecessor. It is a puzzle as to why it was decided to build the Honolulu Kinkaku-ji out of modern materials rather than proceeding to replicate the structure out of wood, as it does not seem that there would be a great difference in cost or available labor at the time it was built. The only two logical reasons may be that the building codes required it or that the owner or architect deliberately wanted to use modern building materials.
The Kyomeichi (Mirror Lake) Garden is significant for its authentic design and accurate use of symbolism. In the Garden, a waterfall, spring, marshes, rocks, islets, and other elements have been included in design influenced by the gardens of the original Golden Pavilion in Kyoto. The lake holds a special rock that represents the nine mountains and eight seas of the Buddhist mythological Paradise. The waterfall is carefully designed into the landscape and gives the entire Kinkaku-ji area a secluded atmosphere. Kinsaku Nakane, professor at Kyoto University and leading Japanese garden and landscape authority, who reconstructed the gardens of the Kyoto Pavilion after it burned down, was commissioned to design the Kyomeichi Garden at the Honolulu Memorial Park. Originally, several tens of carp were a part of the Mirror Lake, another significant aspect of the gardens. The meaning of the carp fish is a historical and religious one: carp fish are always found in the ponds of the temples for, through the carp, one's sins were washed clean (Hawaii Hochi; July 14, 1966:3).

This property meets Criteria A for its “association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.” The development of this property directed towards the members of the Buddhist faith, in particular the Japanese Buddhist faith, shows the acceptance and respect that the Japanese-American population was receiving by the 1960s. The severe discrimination that the Japanese community underwent before and after World War II had dissipated by the mid-1960s and the Japanese-American population was proving to be a vital economic force in Hawaii’s society. The return of the heroes from the 442nd Regiment after World War II gave pride to the Japanese-American Community. 1959 marked the election of the first Japanese-American, Daniel Inouye in the U.S. House of Representatives. Hawaii’s location and culture make it one of the few plausible locations for a columbarium modeled after Japanese National Monuments.
In regards to Criteria Considerations D, the Honolulu Memorial Park cemetery "derives its primary significance from its distinctive design features" and thus qualifies for consideration for the National Register.

In regards to Criteria Consideration G, though the structures are less than fifty years old, it has exceptional importance as an "important feat of engineering constructed within the past 50 years." The Honolulu Kinkaku-ji and the Sanju Pagoda are among a few of the known reproductions of important Japanese historical structures outside of Japan. The only other known replica is the Byodo-In at the Valley of the Temples cemetery in Kaneohe, Hawaii, designed by the same architect and built shortly after the Sanju Pagoda and the Kinkaku-ji. Also, importantly, they were built during a time when, though the construction workers lacked in skill or experience of traditional Japanese architecture, they were spurred by the energy and perseverance of the entire American-Japanese community in Hawaii, were they able to outperform themselves and accomplish the daunting task of constructing the Pagoda and Kinkaku-ji replicas.
Historical Background

The State of Hawaii established the Honolulu Memorial Park as a community service cemetery in 1958. The Honolulu membership of the Buddhist Federation commended and endorsed the development of the cemetery in 1964 whereupon it was decided that a monument be erected which would venerate the followers of the Buddhist faith. President Herbert M. Richards, President of Honolulu Memorial Park, created the Kinkaku-ji memorial, along with the Sanju Pagoda, which were completed and opened in July 1966, in the amiable tradition of his late father Dr. Theodore Richards.

The name of the Kyoto Gardens was designated in 1966 with the donation of a beautiful bronze bell, similar to that which could be seen on Buddhist temple grounds. The bell was donated by Mayor Takayama of Kyoto and brought to Honolulu via ship in May of 1966. The inscription on the Bell was written in both Japanese and English. In English, it read: World Peace Forever, and continued with the inscription: Praying for the Everlasting Fellowship of Honolulu and Kyoto, Mayor Yoshizo Takayama, January 1, 1966. In Japanese, in large letters, is written “Heiwa no Kane” (translation: Peace Bell.) With the arrival of the bell, the name of Nuuanu Memorial Gardens Funerary Home was changed to Kyoto Gardens (Hawaii Hochi; May 4, 1966: 3)

In 1966, the Senior Minister of the Kinkaku-ji of Kyoto, Japan, Abbot Jikai Murakami, was present for the opening of the Kinkaku-ji memorial and gave his blessing.

The scenic stop area was constructed along the Pali Highway to take advantage of the view of the Sanju Pagoda and surrounding area soon after the completion of the Pagoda.
Bibliography


Honolulu, City and County of, Real Property Tax Office. Records at Bureau of Conveyance.


Petition in Support of the Preservation Efforts of the Pagoda at Honolulu Memorial Park and the its inclusion on the State and Federal Historic Registers. Signed by members of the architectural profession. 2003.


Boundary description

Tax Map Key: 2-2-20-1
The Property is bounded on the east by Nuuanu Stream, on the south by the Craigside Apartments complex, on the west by the additional parcels of the Honolulu Memorial Park and on the north by Nuuanu Memorial Park.

Boundary justification

These are the legal boundaries of the Kyoto Gardens property.
Kyoto Gardens of Honolulu Memorial Park
Honolulu County, Hawaii

State of Hawaii Land Court
Land Court Application 689
Subdivision Map (Drawing reduced)
Kyoto Gardens of Honolulu Memorial Park  
Honolulu County, Hawaii


Number A-1, Sheet 1, Plot Plan (Drawing reduced)
Number A-14, Sheet 14, Temple (Pagoda Columbarium) 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th Floor Plans (Drawing reduced)
Number A-15, Sheet 15, Temple (Pagoda Columbarium), Typical Elevation, Reflected Eaves Plan and Details (Drawing reduced).
Number A-16, Sheet 16, Temple (Pagoda Columbarium) Typical Building Sections (Drawing reduced)
Number A-17, Sheet 17, Temple (Pagoda Columbarium) Typical Eave Details (Drawing reduced)
Number A-2, Sheet 2, Temple (Kinkaku-ji Columbarium) 1st and 2nd Floor Plans (Drawing reduced)
Number A-3, Sheet 3, Temple (Kinkaku-ji Columbarium) Penthouse Floor Plan (Drawing reduced)
Number A-5, Sheet 5, Temple (Kinkaku-ji Columbarium) Front and Rear Elevations (Drawing reduced)
Number A-7, Sheet 7, Temple (Kinkaku-ji Columbarium) Cross Section, Section Details (Drawing reduced)

Number A-9, Sheet 9, Temple (Kinkaku-ji Columbarium) Entrance Porch, Section, Elevation (Partial and Reduced Drawing)
Kyoto Gardens of Honolulu Memorial Park
Honolulu County, Hawaii

Photograph of Minami Hoke-ji San-ju Pagoda

Photo from web site:
http://www5a.biglobe.ne.jp/~yukky1/yukky/33/06.htm
As-built drawings for Minami Hoke-ji Pagoda
First Floor Plan
As-built drawings for Minami Hoke-ji Pagoda
Roof Plan
As-built drawings for Minami Hoke-ji Pagoda
Building Section
As-built drawings for Minami Hoke-ji Pagoda
Building Elevation
Photographs of Roku-on-ji Temple Kinkaku in Kyoto


http://www.lab.ss.titech.ac.jp/~keishi/photo/building/jpg/small/06.jpg
As-built drawings for Roku-on-ji Kinkaku
First and Second Floor Plan
As-built drawings for Roku-on-ji Kinkaku
West Side Elevation and Third Floor Plan
As-built drawings for Roku-on-ji Kinkaku
Front Elevation and East Side Elevation
Kyoto Gardens of Honolulu Memorial Park

As-built drawings for Roku-on-ji Kinkaku
Building Sections
SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 04000020          Date Listed: 2/11/04

Kyoto Gardens of Honolulu Memorial Park, Honolulu          HI
Property Name County State

Multiple Name

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          Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 5: The correct category is "District."

The correct resource count is 2 contributing buildings and 1 contributing site, for a total of 3 contributing resources and 0 noncontributing resources. There are 0 noncontributing objects.

Section 8: The property meets Criteria A and C (but not B or D).

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)
INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

HONOLULU MEMORIAL PARK
22 Craigside Place, off Nuuanu Avenue
Honolulu County
Hawaii

David Franzen, Photographer  July 14, 2003
Location of Negative: David Franzen Photography, Kailua, Hawaii


2 OVERALL CONTEXTUAL VIEW OF THE PAGODA AND SURROUNDING CEMETERY. HONOLULU CITY IN THE BACKGROUND. TAKEN FROM PALI HIGHWAY LOOKOUT. VIEW FACING WEST.

3 FULL VIEW OF THE PAGODA. VIEW FACING EAST.

4 VIEW OF PAGODA, LOOKING UP TOWARDS UNDERSIDE OF EAVES. INTRICATE BRACKETING "KUMIMONO" EAVE STRUCTURE IN VIEW.

5 FULL VIEW OF KINKAKU-JI TEMPLE.

6 OBLIQUE VIEW OF UPPER FLOOR AND ROOF OF KINKAKU-JI. PHOENIX FIGURE AT ROOF PINNACLE.

7 PARTIAL VIEW OF MIRROR LAKE GARDEN. TAKEN FROM "ENGAWA" VERANDA OF KINKAKU-JI. ROOF OVERHANG OF KINKAKU-JI IN FOREGROUND.

8 PARTIAL VIEW OF MIRROR LAKE GARDEN. TAKEN FROM ENTRY GATEWAY OF KINKAKU-JI, JUST OFF ACCESS ROAD.