

**HICKAM FIELD, FORT KAMEHAMEHA HISTORIC HOUSING
(Hickam Air Force Base, Officers' Housing)
Along Worchester Avenue & Hope Street
Honolulu
Honolulu County
Hawaii**

HABS No. HI-164-AS

HABS

HI-164-AS

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

**Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California**

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HICKAM FIELD, FORT KAMEHAMEHA HISTORIC HOUSING (Hickam Air Force Base, Officers' Housing)

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Location: Fort Kamehameha
Along Worchester Avenue & Hope Street
City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii
U.S.G.S. Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Quadrangle 1999 (7.5 minute series)
Bounded by Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1) 04.607520.2358400 | 2) 04.607650.2358460 |
| 3) 04.607880.2358290 | 4) 04.607880.2357950 |
| 5) 04.607680.2357950 | |

Significance: The Fort Kamehameha Historic Housing lies within the Fort Kamehameha Historic District. Thirty-six officers' quarters were originally constructed by the Army there in 1916 and 1919. The remaining thirty-three quarters are significant for their integration of Craftsman style detailing with regional design to produce buildings with a contemporary look which were well adapted to the Hawaiian tropical climate. Fort Kamehameha was the Coast Artillery fort which guarded the naval base at Pearl Harbor and also was the Army's headquarters for Oahu's harbor defenses.

Description: Fort Kamehemeha Historic Housing consists of thirty-three residences fronting along Worchester Avenue and Hope Street. The spacing of the buildings along the streets varies from about 25' to about 50', and they have a uniform setback of about 30'. The majority of the houses are along both sides of Worchester Avenue which curves slightly, following the contour of the shoreline which is about 150' to 200' beyond the houses on the west side of the street. The set back of the houses along Worchester provide a wide streetscape that is dappled with shade from mature trees; monkeypod, coco palm, norfolk pine, kiawe (mesquite), and others which line the street.

The Pacific Ocean is a dominant feature of most areas of the district. Its close proximity to the houses and the open areas between buildings make it visible from nearly everywhere and easily accessed by all residents.

Beach Road runs behind the houses on the west side of Worchester Avenue (on the seaward or *makai* side of the houses). It is a service road for those houses, giving access to carports and garbage collection areas. Beach Road separates the rear yards of those houses from a section planted with lawn, trees, and shrubs which extends from the road to the beach. The residents of these houses generally use this lawn as an extension of their backyards, giving them access to the ocean from their homes. Drum Road runs behind the houses set on the east side of Worchester Avenue as a service road. The houses on this (*mauka* or inland) side of Worchester have a view of the ocean through the yards of

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the opposite houses. For these residents, access to the beach is almost as convenient, it being possible to easily pass between the wide gap separating the houses to reach the beach *makai* of Beach Road. Fences in the neighborhood are found enclosing only the rear courtyards and a portion of the rear yards of some of the buildings, and plantings of trees and shrubs are widely spaced. This allows very free foot travel around the neighborhood between all the houses and also gives the impression of the yards being public spaces rather than the private enclaves of the residents. The houses on Hope Street are the most isolated from the ocean. A kiawe thicket screens the three houses at the north end of Hope Street from a view of the ocean.

Historical Context: There were thirty-six buildings in the group of officers' quarters that were originally constructed at Fort Kamehameha (Dorrance 1993, 32). The residences along Worchester Avenue were completed first, in 1916, followed by the four quarters on Hope Street (Office of the Deputy Installation Commander 1974, 48) sometime after September 1919 (Wheeler Army Air Field Plan Files 1919).

Information about the early design of the residential neighborhood at Fort Kamehameha is scarce. These officers' houses were laid out at one end of Fort Kamehameha, to the northwest of the rest of the post, on a strip of high ground between the beach and a marsh area at Hope Street and Seaman Avenue. Adjacent to the east end of the row of officers' houses was the administration building and the dispensary. Next, moving eastward (in approximately the center of the post) were the barracks buildings. Just *makai* of the barracks was a single row of small buildings for non-commissioned officers' housing. At the opposite end of the fort from the officers' housing the railroad tracks entered the post. At this end most of the shops, storehouses, garages, and corral were located (Wheeler Army Air Field Plan Files 1919).

The officers' housing buildings were built from plans prepared by the Army's Office of Constructing Quartermaster in Honolulu. The same house designs with slight modifications were later used at Schofield Barracks, Oahu and at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor (Anderson and Bouthillier 1993, sec 7 p. 19).

Sources:

Anderson, Lisa K., and Katherine Bouthillier. 1993. *Fort Kamehameha Historic District, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. Honolulu: Spencer Mason Architects. 23 June.

_____. 1998. *Final Report Data Compiled For Use In The Preparation Of A Management Plan For The Fort Kamehameha Area, Pearl Harbor Oahu*. Honolulu: Prepared by Ogden Environmental and Energy Services Co., Inc. for the Department of the Navy.

Dorrance, William H. 1993. *Fort Kamehameha, The Story of The Harbor Defenses of Pearl Harbor*, Shippensburg, PA: White Mane Publishing.

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J.M. Waller Associates and Mason Architects, Inc. 2003. *Building Preservation Plan of Selected Historic Homes for Hickam Air Force Base*. Honolulu: Hickam Air Force Base.

Office of the Deputy Installation Commander, Fort Shafter. 1974. *A History of Fort Shafter 1898-1974, Appendix I: History of Fort Kamehameha*.

Wheeler Army Air Field, Plan Files. 1919. Map "Layout of Post." September.

Project Information: This report was prepared as part of a project to privatize all military housing under the control of the 15 Airlift Wing. Approximately 656 of the 1332 base housing units to be privatized are within the Hickam Historic District or the Fort Kamehameha Historic Housing District. Because the units within the historic districts will be altered, a representative unit of each type was selected for preservation; to be restored as part of the Cultural Resource Management Plan for Hickam's Historic Districts. This report documents the building before its restoration. The photographic documentation was undertaken by David Franzen, photographer. Dee Ruzicka, Architectural Historian at Mason Architects, Inc., wrote the written documentation and conducted field work (November 2005 – January 2006) and research for this report.

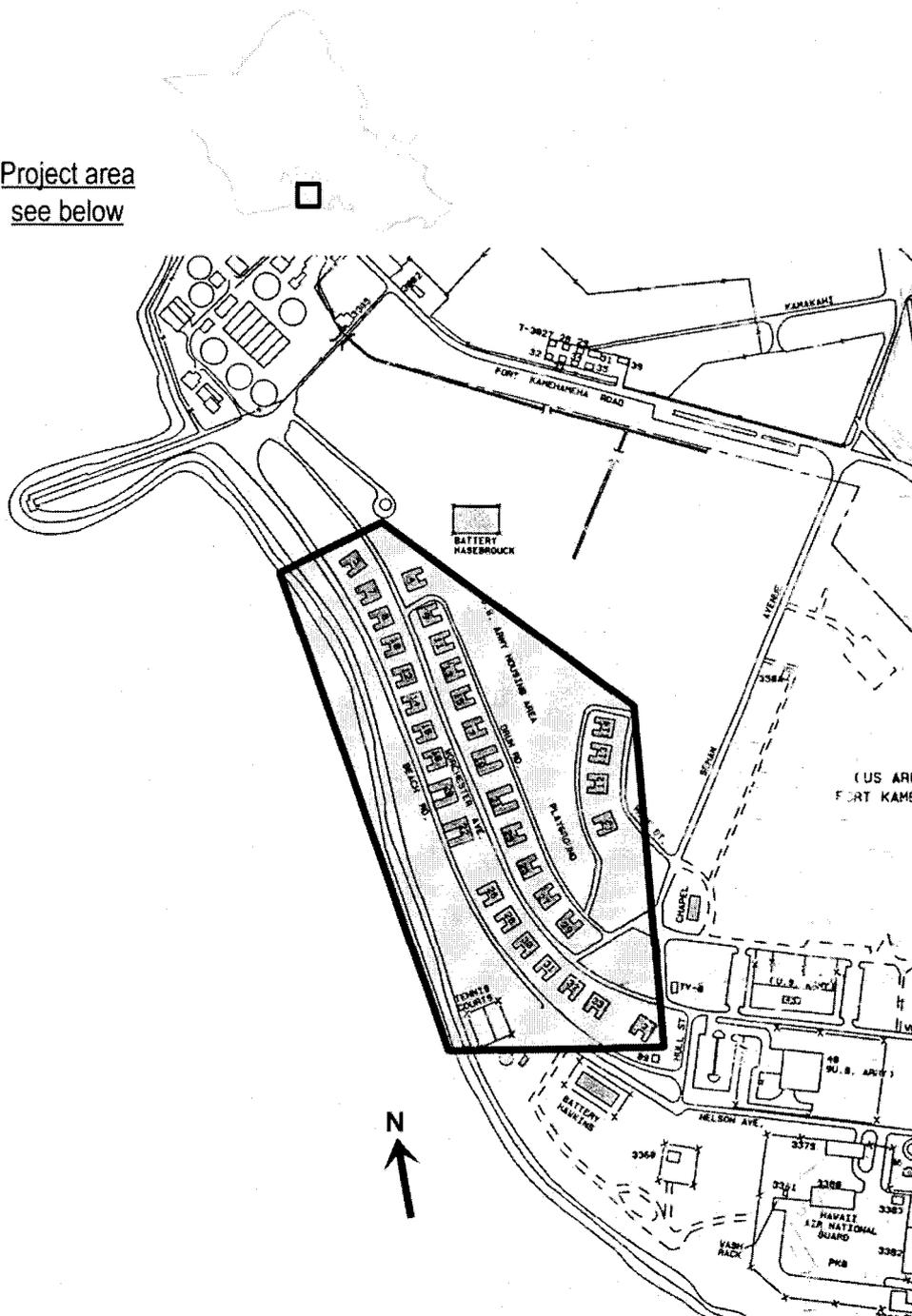
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Fort Kamehameha Historic Housing location map (not to scale)

Project area
see below



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Portion of historic map of Fort Kamehameha, dated September 1919, showing the Officers' Quarters along Worcester Avenue. Note that Buildings 111 – 114 on Hope Street are shown in outline, probably indicating future construction. Wheeler Army Air Field Plan Files 1919.

