1. **Name of Property**
   - Historic Name: Bright, Mary P. House
   - Other names/site number: Tax Map Key (2) 4-6-002:004
   - Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
   (Enter “N/A” if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. **Location**
   - Street & number: 429 Front Street
   - City or town: Lahaina  
   - State: HI  
   - County: Maui
   - Not For Publication: ❑  
   - Vicinity: ❑

3. **State/Federal Agency Certification**
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
   - ☑ National  
   - ☑ Statewide  
   - ☑ local

   Applicable National Register Criteria
   - ☑ A  
   - ☑ B  
   - ☑ C  
   - ☑ D

   Signature of certifying official/Title
   ____________________________ Date

   State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

   In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

   Signature of commenting official
   ____________________________ Date

   Title: ____________________________ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper __________________________ Date of Action __________________________

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private [X]
Public – Local [ ]
Public – State [ ]
Public – Federal [ ]

Category of Property (Check only one box.)

Building(s) [X]
District [ ]
Site [ ]
Structure [ ]
Object [ ]
Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

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Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter Categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter Categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling
7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter Categories from instructions.)

| 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS |
| CONTEMPORARY/MID-CENTURY MODERN |

Materials (enter Categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:
Concrete Masonry Unit (CMU), Cor. Mtl. Roof

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

Summary Paragraph

The Mary P. Bright House is a Contemporary/Mid-Century Modern dwelling that was built in 1963 at 429 Front Street. It was erected on a beachfront parcel on the makai or ocean side of the thoroughfare, is oriented Northeast-Southwest with views toward the islands of Lānaʻi and Molokaʻi, and is located in a residential district in the Lahaina National Historic Landmark (NHL). The house is 1,264 s.f. in area and includes an attached 375 s.f. carport and a 112 s.f. storage shed and washhouse that are located on a 13,627 s.f. lot. The house is sited over 30’-0” feet from the street which produces a front yard depth that is greater than those of dwellings that were erected during the 1910s-1930s. Constructed of concrete masonry units (CMU), the house has a concrete foundation that is slab on grade that contributes to its low silhouette and modest appearance. It features gabled and shed roofs but is devoid of lanais or porches, common features of residences from previous periods, and the closest section of the house to the street is the carport, which is illustrative of the predominance of the automobile for houses erected during the late 1950s and early 1960s. The house retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, although its setting has changed.

Narrative Description
Lava rock perimeter walls, once typical features of all of the residential properties on Front Street still enclose the Northeast (front), Northwest (side), and Southwest (rear) edges of the
**Narrative Description**

property, along with an angled rock wall that borders a concrete driveway, leading to the carport. Lava rock walls are historic demarcation devices that were erected along Front Street as well as between parcels, and along the shore during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The relationship of house to thoroughfare and ocean as well as between adjacent lots can still be found on a few remaining parcels along the arterial as well as on parcels fronting roads in less developed areas of Hāna, Maui and Kaunakakai, Moloka'i.

Other landscape elements such as mature palm, noni, and mango trees are also located on of the property. A mature mango tree is located on the mauka side of the parcel, and several mature palms still exist on the mauka side of a rock wall that fronts the beach. The varieties of flora appear to have been selected and maintained by its original owner for subsistence as well as cultural practices.

There is a single-story, wood frame “‘ohana” or “family” cottage that is 195 s.f. in area that has been erected at the Northwest corner of site (1951). It has a lanai or porch and appears to have replaced another dwelling that had been erected at an earlier date. Unfortunately it has been altered and is a non-contributing building on the site.

The Mary P. Bright house is constructed of concrete masonry units (CMU) that have been painted. The house has a gable and shed roofs covered with corrugated metal. It measures 30'-0" x 42'-0", is one story in height, four bays in width, and five bays in depth. Typical of houses produced in the late 1950s and early 1960s, the exterior is fenestrated with jalousie windows that have been installed as individual units, or in pairs, or banks, slab doors (some of which have been replaced with contemporary single light wood doors), and is devoid of all embellishment except for a horizontal frieze board that is located above the windows and extends around the entire building. Exposed gable ends are finished with plywood (an original building material) above the frieze board and the building’s multiple roofs have open soffits with exposed wood rafters whose ends are capped with wood trim.

Entry into the Mary P. Bright House is made from the driveway through a formal entry door in the Northeast (front) facade of the dwelling or through a side door in the Northwest (side) façade that is accessed through the carport. The formal entry opens to a living room (100) and a kitchen (101) with dining area on the southeast side of the house. A master bedroom (102) with master closet (103), master bath (104), vanity (105), bedroom (106) with closet are on the northwest side of the dwelling. The service areas of the house include: a carport (107) and storage room (108).

The dwelling is an example of a house type that was identified by McAlister (2002) as one of two subtypes of the “Contemporary Style (1940-80)” and sometimes categorized as “Mid-Century Modern.” The style was described by McAlister as “the favorite of architect-designed houses built during the period from 1950-80” that “occurs in two distinctive subtypes based on roof shapes: flat or gabled.”\(^1\) The gabled subtype is “strongly influenced by the earlier modernism of the Craftsman and Prairie styles. It features overhanging eaves, frequently with exposed roof beams [and h]eavy piers [that] may support gables.”\(^2\)

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\(^2\) Ibid.
**Narrative Description**

Character defining features of the Contemporary/Mid-Century Modern Style typically include: one or one-and-one-half story heights; simple geometric massing, flat or low-pitched roofs; integrated carports or garages; unadorned wall surfaces and minimal decorative details; de-emphasized entries; exposed post-and beam construction; and modern (plywood and concrete masonry unit or block) or natural building materials.³

Recommendations for the preservation of the house type include: retaining original exterior materials or replacement with in-kind materials; retaining original door and window openings; retaining original massing as well as additions that do not detract from the dwelling’s historic appearance; and retaining original rooflines.⁴

**Integrity**

The Mary P. Bright House retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, although its setting has changed. The exterior surfaces of its concrete masonry unit walls have been retained without modification. Its original massing and fenestration, visible from the public right-of-way, have also been maintained (including original jalousie windows), as when the dwelling was originally constructed. Changes to the exterior are minor and are located on the side and rear facades, out of view of the public right-of-way.⁵ They consist of replacement doors at two locations, and replacement of one jalousie window with glass block in a bathroom and removal of another jalousie window (out of view from the public right-of-way). A rehabilitation of the Mary P. Bright House has been performed (following the above preservation recommendations) so that the integrity of design, materials, workmanship, as well as feeling and association has been maintained. Consequently, the property continues to express the historic character and aesthetic sense of the time in which it was built, and it is sufficiently intact to convey this association to an observer.

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⁵ Exceptions for modifications to the rear facades of NRHP-eligible properties (provided that they are not visible from public right-of-way) are allowed as indicated in NCHRP Report 723, *A Model for Identifying and Evaluating the Historic Significance of Post-World War II Housing* (2012), pp. 41-43.
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark “x” in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

- Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

- 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.

- Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

- Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes

- Removed from its original location

- A birthplace or grave

- A cemetery

- A reconstructed building, object, or structure

- A commemorative property

- Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years
Bright, Mary P. House
Lahaina, HI
Name of Property
County and State

Areas of Significance
(Enter Categories from instructions.)

Architecture
Ethnic Heritage-Pacific
Islander/Asian
Social History

Period of Significance
1963-67

Significant Dates
1963 – Year of construction

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

Cultural Affiliation
Native Hawaiian/Euro-Hawaiian

Architect/Builder
A&B Commercial/Architect
Sadao Takayama/Builder
Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Mary P. Bright House at 429 Front Street in Lāhainā, Maui is a Contemporary Style/Mid-Century Modern residence and appears to be among the first examples of the style to be erected along that thoroughfare during the post war period. At the time of its construction in 1963, Front Street was still largely comprised of early twentieth century dwellings. While a small number of post war dwellings in the town predate the Mary P. Bright house, this dwelling helped further that trend. The house was paid for by James Keawe Bright (1894-1964), a retired luna or foreman at Baldwin Packers, Ltd., a pineapple cannery located in the vicinity of Māla Wharf, built for his wife Mary Ka'aikauna “Poni” (P.) Kealaka’a Bright (1899-1987), and completed eight months before his death. It was erected by a Nisei (second generation) contractor from Honolua named Sadao Takayama with plumber Masao Takayama and electrician Yoshito Matsuda using plans, specifications and materials provided by A&B Commercial Co., Ltd. in Kahului. The Contemporary Style/Mid-Century Modern was often associated with improving the living conditions of Maui’s non-Euro-American (plantation labor) population It also typically represented a transition from rental housing provided by a plantation company to individual home ownership. The dwelling embodied the changing attitudes of residents toward housing styles imported from the US mainland that became prevalent in Lāhainā and on Maui during the late 1950s and early 1960s. Its adoption by a Native Hawaiian/Euro-Hawaiian family is consistent with a historic preference for “new” or “current” house types and building systems that was exhibited throughout the Post-Contact period. The property is eligible under Criteria A for History and C for Architecture with a period of significance of 1963-67, corresponding with the year of construction and the 50-year threshold for NRHP eligibility per the NPS standard.

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

Criterion A

The Mary P. Bright House was built in the 400 block of Front Street, a thoroughfare that was known by several monikers during the early twentieth century including: “Main Street,” “Main Road,” and “Government Road.” The Brights lived on Front Street for four decades and many of their neighbors, who resided in the 200-400 blocks, included members who were regarded as the Kamaʻāina or “native born” class. They were either Native Hawaiians or the hapa sons and daughters of European and Euro-American families who married Native Hawaiians, Chinese Hawaiians or each other. All lived in fashionable houses on or near the beach and constituted the members of Lāhainā’s social and political elite who remained physically and psychologically removed from the lives of immigrant laborers who lived on the edges of Lāhainā Town or in their very midst. Kamaʻāina households included those of Deputy Sheriff William K. Kaluakini (NR 13000458), Pioneer Mill Co. (PMCo) luna or overseer Charles K. Farden, as well as the Kalepa, Lindsey, Young, Ho‘opi‘i‘a and other ‘ohana. Sometimes extended

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6 Although “1894” is the official year of birth for James Keawe Bright, “1895” is the birth year provided for him on Sheet 7A of the 1900 Census. A sibling named Honipa’a Bright was identified in the census of that year as being born in 1894, was identified as one year older than James, and did not appear to be a twin.

7 Cockett 2008: personal communication.
family members retired to Honolulu, but still built and maintained dwellings on Front Street among their relatives such as the Lucy Kaiewe Searle House (SHPD No. 50-03-9034).

After 1930 the area was often referred to as “Haole Camp” by PMCo workers after members of the company’s management moved into beach houses along the shore. A 1936 map of “Pioneer Mill Company Beach Residences” included houses with such occupants as the PMCo Manager, Manager of the Lahaina Store, Sugar Boiler, Chief Chemist, Civil engineer, Electrical Engineer, and Head Overseer.

Mary P. Bright, whose maiden name was Mary Ka’aikauna P. Kealaka’a, was born in Lāhainā in 1899. She was recorded in the 1900 Census as “Ka’aikauna Pali” and shown as living with her mother, grandparents, and several other relatives. Her father was not identified by name but was described as an immigrant from China. In 1910 Mary was recorded in the census of that year as residing in Lāhainā and identified as the hanai (adopted) daughter of Ahekalono (A.) Kealaka’a, a fisherman from Pālāwai, Lāna’i. He was divorced from a previous marriage and lived with a lodger named Annie, who was a hatmaker (“hat weaver”).

James K. Bright was the third child of seven children born in Kamuela to a Native Hawaiian woman named Lahela and Euro-Hawaiian James Bright, a notary in South Kohala, in 1894. Like his father before him, he was initially sent to Honolulu to work, and was employed by H.H. Wichman & Co., then he returned to Hawai‘i Island and worked as a driver for the Waimea branch of Volcano Stables & Transportation Co., Ltd in Hilo. By 1916 he was hired by the famed Parker Ranch in Waimea where he was identified as an “emp[yee],” then promoted to “luna” by 1918, and employed by the ranch in that position through 1919.

Mary Ka’aikauna P. Kealaka’a and James K. Bright were married at an indeterminate date in Lāhainā (possibly as early as 1912) and appear to have spent their first five years together in Waimea before returning to Maui in 1920. James was first listed in the Maui island directory in the following year as an “emp[yee]” of Baldwin Packers. They were enumerated in the 1920 Census and recorded as residing along with three children, James, Annie, and Albert, as well as a boarder named Albert and two children named Rebecca and Rine at an unadressed dwelling on “Main Street” (Front Street) in Lāhainā. At the time of the 1930 Census they were residing in a house that was addressed as “467” on the “Main Road” while during the 1940 Census, they were recorded as living on Front Street with no address provided.

Baldwin Packers, Ltd.

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8 Ibid. As late as 2017, the moniker of “Haole Camp” was still in use to refer to this section of Front Street. Nishiyama 2017: personal communication.
9 Thirteenth Census of the United States, “Lahaina,” April 18, 1910, Sheet 2A, Lines 14-16; Kalanu G. Terry Young in his book, Rethinking the Native Hawaiian Past, 2012, p. 157, substantiated that “Mary was hanai to a family named Kealaka’a” and that the initial “P.” in her name was for “Poni” and not for her mother’s family name of “Pali,” which had been given to an elder sibling who died.
10 Ibid. 1916: 855; 1917: 903; 1918: 877.
12 Polk-Husted 1911: 158; 1912: 771.
14 No record of the marriage of James Keawe (K.) Bright and Mary Na’aikauna Poni (P.) Kealaka’a was found in the Index to Marriage Records in the Hawaii State Archive, Island of Maui, 1842-1910, 1911-29 or any other volumes for the other Hawaiian Islands. The year “1912” was calculated based upon the ages of their children as indicated in the 1920 Census.
In the year that James Bright was hired by Baldwin Packers, the company had just completed the construction of a new pineapple cannery at Mālā Wharf in Lāhainā. It was moved 10 miles southeast from Honolua, where it was originally built (along with a can factory) in 1912 as part of the 20,000-acre Honolua Ranch and Plantation after the Baldwin Family opted to transition from cattle to pineapple. The cannery delivered its first pack of 5,975 cases in 1914 and production increased steadily from that year onward with 9,180 in 1915; 18,222 in 1916; 19,498 in 1917; and 41,702 in 1918. In 1919, the pack was 80,000 cases, and during the harvest of that year manager D.T. Fleming announced the company’s decision to relocate the Honolua pineapple cannery to Lāhainā and operate under the name “Baldwin Packers.”

Erection of the cannery began in November 1919 with the excavation, construction of formwork, and pouring of concrete foundations. By January 1920 the steel framing was completed, the metal siding was applied, and machinery installed in time for the harvest of that year. PMCo extended its narrow gauge railroad to transport pineapple from Honolua to Māla, cans were shipped in from an American Can Co. factory at Kahului, and the cannery’s pack for 1920 was 93,089 cases. The facility was first listed in the city directory of 1921 as a “pineapple cannery,” with David T. Fleming as manager. Its operating name was incorporated as “Baldwin Packers, Ltd.” in 1923, it was listed as such in the city directory of the following year, and its production reached 434,000 cases by 1930.

James was promoted quickly from “emp[loyee]” to “oversee” at Baldwin Packers by 1922, then identified as a “luna” prior to and following the company’s name change in 1923. He remained in that position through his apparent retirement by 1950 after which he was no longer identified with the company but only as a resident of Lāhainā. Although new dwellings were erected in two camps that were sited on the Northwest and East sides of the cannery for Baldwin Packers’ workers, James and Mary opted instead to reside in a house on Front Street.

On December 5, 1940, Mary, identified as “((MRS.) MARY PONI BRIGHT),” acquired Lot 1 of the Kaunuohoa Award Lots from the Commissioner of Lands via Land Patent 10903 for $2,685 under a Special Sales Agreement. The 13,677 s.f. parcel that she acquired had been originally conveyed to a Native Hawaiian woman named Kaunuohua during the 1848 Māhele or “Division” of lands. She had lived in the King’s palace (although her title is unknown), was married to a Native Hawaiian named William (W.L.) Moehonua, but died intestate in 1849. Described as “a little house lot in Lahaina,” the property was among five Land Commission Awards that were later included in an 1883 Hawaii Supreme Court case styled, “His Majesty Kalakaua et al v. G.W. Keaweamahi et al.” Besides the Lāhainā parcel they included: the “ili” or “land section” of Aipulena in Mānoa Valley, ili of Mokauea and Ni’ihau 2 in Kalihi, as well as the entire ahupua’a of Kalaupapa on Moloka‘i, where the Bureau of Health (BoH) leprosy settlement was located.

19 Thrum 1918: 29; Ibid. 1920: 29.
20 Maui News, August 8, 1919: 1: 3.
26 Bureau of Conveyances, Kingdom of Hawaii, Award, LCA Award Book 9, p. 284.
27 Hawaii Supreme Court, Reports of Decisions Rendered by the Supreme Court of the Hawaiian Kingdom, Vol. 4, pp. 574-575; 571-583.
28 Ibid.: pp. 574-575.
The Hawaiian Kingdom government, representing Queen Kapi'olani (who was the original grantor of the properties to Kaunuohua as grantee), filed suit against the descendants of W.L. Moehonua. The government contended that following the death of Kaunuohua, her husband Moehonua had claimed that she had verbally transferred the properties to him at the time of her death. The government also charged that testimony of Kaunuohua’s brother was used to substantiate the claim, but that the brother had since died, and that Moehonua had been appointed as trustee of his late wife’s estate in 1852 and could not be the owner of record.

The court found that following the death of Kaunuohua’s brother, there was no longer evidence of a “verbal will,” that land documents (and other records) for the properties appeared to have been altered by the addition of “no Moehonua,” or “for Moehonua.” In addition, the court noted that as trustee he could not claim title to the properties, that such claims were in fact adverse possessions that had been maintained by him and his descendants for some 30 years, and ultimately ordered the return of the lands in question to the Queen.

As a result of the ruling, on December 10, 1891, the Lāhainā parcel reverted back to the Hawaiian Kingdom Government, specifically to F.H. Hayselden, Interior Minister of King Kalākaua and was retained by the governments of the Hawaiian Kingdom, Republic of Hawaii, and Territory of Hawaii for 49 years. The property was then liquidated in 1940 and acquired by Mary P. Bright. The Brights erected a small dwelling on the property in 1951 but waited another 12 years before building Mary’s new modern dream home.

Death of James K. Bright and Other Owners of the Mary P. Bright House

Upon completion, James K. Bright appears to have lived in Mary’s new house from November 13, 1963 until his death on July 18, 1964 and presumably the 1963 Christmas season provided happy memories for the couple. In July of the following year, an obituary was printed six days after James’ death in the Honolulu Advertiser that read:

Funeral services for James Bright, 70, retired Baldwin Packers cannery supervisor, will be held today at Lahaina’s Waiola Church. Mr. Bright dies Friday at Maui Memorial Hospital. He was born in Kamuela, Hawaii. He lived on Lahaina’s Front Street...Mr. Bright is survived by his sons, Albert P., Gordon N., Donald A., of Honolulu and Gideon K. Bright of Lahaina; his daughters, Mrs. Annie K. Yap of Lahaina, Mrs. Lydia L. Pohjola of Minnesota and Mrs. Lilyian K. Iseke of Honolulu, [as well as] 21 grandchildren.

A second obituary was carried by the Honolulu Star-Bulletin on the same date, contained almost identical information, but added that: “James Bright, 70, of 429 Front Street, Lahaina...was born May 3, 1894 in Kamuela, Hawaii.” Curiously, neither paper identified Mary among the surviving relatives.

Eighteen months later on December 1, 1966 Mary P. Bright deeded the property to her son Gideon Bright for "$1 & Love.” Gideon died in 1977 and a Probate Decree enacted following his death.

29 Ibid.: p. 575.
31 Ibid.: p. 5._
32 Ibid.: p. 5._
33 Bureau of Conveyances, Kingdom of Hawaii, Deed, Liber Citation Incorrect; Actual Liber Unknown.
transferred the property to Annie Yap with a life interest to Mary. Mary outlived her husband by 23 years and died in 1987. In the years after her death, Bright and Yap descendants consolidated ownership under the Yap Revocable Trust. On June 23, 2016, the Trust sold the property to Blue Moose LLC, a Colorado firm for $2,960,000. The Trust holds a $1,480,000 mortgage for Blue Moose, LLC.

“Aunty Poni,” Keeper of Traditional Knowledge

Mary P. Bright was the half sister of Dallas Kaukaha Kalepa, Sr., whose genealogy and associated mo’olelo were the subjects of the late Dr. Kanalu Young’s *Rethinking the Native Hawaiian Past* (2012). Young’s research found that a number of the Kalepa ‘ohana were kaukau ali’i or lesser chiefs from South Kohala who settled in Lāhainā when the capital was moved there by Kamehameha I and who performed duties for the ali’i nui or king that were described as hana lawelawe.

Lilia Pali (Mary Bright’s mother) was the daughter of Lily Poholopu Kila Pā’ao’ao, the wife of Rev. James Pali, who was also a kaukau ali’i and protege of Rev. Lorenzo Lyons. Lilia’s husband, James (John) Ma’ihu’i Kalepa (1879-1932) was also a lesser chief by birth. He was the son of Kalepa and a Native Hawaiian woman named Kukana (Susan). His father was a son of Kaeakamahu, the maternal granddaughter of Kana’ina or matrilineal ancestor, Moana wahine and Palila Nohomualani.

Mary Poni Bright was the offspring of a mother from the chiefly class. She was fluent in ‘Ōlelo Hawai’i (Hawaiian language) and may have participated in informal networks that were established by members of the ali’i class (which is probably how she was able to learn about a pending sale of land in Lāhainā that was posted in Honolulu).

Referred to as “Aunty Poni,” she was interviewed in her native language by Dr. Young in 1979 and provided him with intimate details of life in Lāhainā during the first decades of the twentieth century. From published excerpts, her knowledge appears to have been extensive. Combined with that of her neighbors who resided nearby, she appears to have maintained certain aspects of traditional knowledge in secret and only shared it with other Native Hawaiians.

**Criterion C**

In 1963 when James Bright hired a contractor to erect a modern dwelling for his wife, most of the housing stock on Front Street dated from the first through third decades of the twentieth century, but there were other Contemporary/Mid-Century Modern dwellings that had been built from the early 1950s onward. The Mary P. Bright house joined a trend of Contemporary/Mid-Century Modern style dwellings that were already being erected in Lāhainā. Like most new residential development in the 1950s and 1960s on the island, it was connected (even if inadvertently) to post-war demands by labor for better housing.

**A&B Commercial Co.**

In 1946 Maui and the rest of Hawai‘i were paralyzed by a walkout of some 21,000 sugar workers that was later known as the Great Sugar Strike. Among the strikers’ demands were calls for new and improved housing as well as homeownership opportunities. On Maui, Alexander & Baldwin Co. (A&B)

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40 Young, Kanalu G. Terry. *Rethinking the Native Hawaiian Past*, 2012: 154, 149.
41 Ibid.: 158.
42 Ibid.: 150.
responded to the walkout in 1947 by hiring Harland Bartholomew & Associates out of St. Louis, Missouri, a nationally renowned planning firm to produce a master plan for a new 315-acre planned development. Dubbed “Dream City,” it included 3,500 new houses (as well as relocated plantation dwellings) for company employees and their families from 25 plantation camps, as well as churches, temples, schools, community centers and a shopping mall.

A&B began construction in 1948, then razed all of the company camps of two of its subsidiaries — Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company (HC&S) and Kahului Railroad Co. (KRRC) — as well as the entire Kahului business district. The company also formed the Kahului Development Co. (a precursor of A&B Properties) as well as various departments to provide sales and financial services, design and construction, as well as building materials, hardware, and appliances under the moniker of A&B Commercial Co. (A&B Commercial).

Little is known about the design department of A&B Commercial (or the Kahului Development Company) except that 17 standard designs were offered for Dream City dwellings that were included in permit sets that were submitted for approval to Maui County and for use by building contractors. The houses were of concrete masonry unit (block) or hollow-tile construction, included three bedrooms, a kitchen and a bath, had a minimum floor area of 1,090 s.f., included a carport in lieu of a garage (but did not include appliances), and were priced between $6,000-$9,200. Franklin D. Richards, Director of the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) provided accolades for the product, when he stated in January 1948 that: “The house in Kahului is absolutely the best of its kind [that] I have seen in 15 years’ experience as head of the FHA. I sincerely believe the Kahului home to represent the maximum in low-cost housing. There is nothing better in my experience in the continental United States, Alaska, Puerto Rico, or Hawaii.”

Despite its success, A&B Commercial had announced that it would be “out of the housing business” by February 1, 1963 but construction appears to have been concluded later in that year. Given the positive press that the “Kahului Home” received from the director of the FHA in 1948, it may be conjectured that A&B’s Dream City in Central Maui ultimately served as a model that PMCo’s owner, American Factors, Ltd. (Amfac) adopted for West Maui.

The company platted new subdivisions for plantation workers on the Northwest side of Lahainaluna Road and in an interior block that was located on the mauka side of Front Street. Amfac had already initiated the development of Kā'anapali as a tourist destination in 1962 with the construction of the Royal Lahaina Hotel (1962), and the Sheraton Maui Resort (1963). In advance of additional hotels whose construction was completed during that and the following decades, the company also supported the establishment of the Lāhainā National Historic Landmark (NHL) as an adjunct to its burgeoning tourist trade (1962).

Mary P. and James K. Bright, like most Maui residents, were most certainly aware of Dream City and appear to have opted for a plan that could be produced by the company. A permit set of drawings was produced in September 1963 for submittal to Maui County but the design was different from the standard house designs for Dream City. The company’s success in West Maui, prompted it to announce the opening of a West Maui store in the following year. The Maui News carried an advertisement that indicated that it was “[f]or the convenience of Builders’ Contractors, and Home Owners in the Lahaina, Kaanapali, and Napili areas” of the island. The store opened on March 9,
1964 and was located in a “Quonset building at the rear of Baldwin Packers just off Kapunakea Street [in] Lahaina.” Curiously, there was no mention of design services or house plans that had been provided to the Brights six months earlier, only “Building - Industrial & Tool Supplies.”

An Independent Contractor and Two Subs: Sadao Takayama, Masao Takayama, and Yoshito Matsuda

After A&B Commercial had produced the plans for the Mary P. Bright House, they were attached to a building permit application that was filed with Maui County. Building Permit No. 9739 was issued on September 6, 1963. Sadao Takayama (1919-75) was the contractor of record, with Masao Takayama (1906-96) and Yoshito Matsuda (1918-75) as the plumbing and electrical subcontractors, respectively. At least two of them had sugar plantation roots, had acquired experience in their specialties through various means, and appear to have been engaged in their trades on a part-time basis. Their biographies provide evidence that “weekend tradesmen” in addition to full-time building contractors were involved in the construction of new housing in Lāhainā during the post-war period.

Sadao Takayama (1919-75)

Contractor Sadao Takayama was originally from Olowalu. Along with three brothers named Kenjichi, Tadaichi, and Kazumi and a sister named Chiyoko he was the child of a field hand and a laundress named Jinkichi and Kimi Takayama. The Takayamas emigrated from an unidentified prefecture in Japan in 1899. They were employed at Olowalu Sugar Co. for at least 20 years and Sadao as well as his siblings were born at Olowalu Village. The Takayamas appear to have stayed at Olowalu through a sugar strike that occurred in 1924, then relocated to Central Maui where they were hired by Wailuku Sugar Co. (WSCo).

In 1930 they were recorded as residing at a camp that was in the flood-prone Wailuku River and desirably referred to as “Happy Valley.” By 1940 they were living on Pihana Road in Wailuku. In that year as well Sadao had taken the English first name of “Charles” or “Chas.” and was identified as a “laborer” at the WSCo “sugar mill.” Chas. Sadao registered for military service on October 26, 1940 and was employed at Pacific Naval Air Base (PNAB) at Pu’unēnē, Maui and although his wartime service record remains unknown, he presumably acquired training as a carpenter while employed at PNAB. Chas. Sadao was unfortunately not identified as a “carpenter” in the Maui directories and had relocated to Honolulu by 1961.

Masao Takayama (1906-96)

Plumber Masao Takayama and a younger brother named Tadao were two sons born to Kita Takayama (1873-1965) in Hiroshima-ken in 1906 and 1909, respectively. In 1915 their mother was a widow, and she appears to have left her sons in the care of relatives in December 26 of that year, and emigrated from Japan to Hawaii aboard the Nippon Maru. Arriving in January 6, 1916, she is presumed to have initially worked as a contract laborer although her employer is unknown.

48 Ibid.
49 Ibid.
50 County of Maui Building Inspection Division, Department of Public Works, Application and Building Permit No. 9739.
55 (Charles) Sadao Takayama,” Registration Card, Serial No. 1942, Order No. 457, October 26, 1940.
Kita’s young sons arrived to rejoin their mother in 1919 aboard the Siberia Maru in the care of a sister or sister-in-law named Asayo Takayama, who was employed at Pa’auhau on the island of Hawai‘i. However, it remains unknown where Kita and her children resided during the 1920 census or where she was employed. Asayo appears to have immigrated as a “picture bride” in 1910 to marry Kotaro Takayama in Pa‘auhau, Hawai‘i. The couple remained at Pa‘auhau through an indeterminate date in the 1920s when she and her husband relocated to Hilo so that he could work as a vegetable merchant.

In 1930 Kita and her sons were recorded as residing on Fourth Street in Kahului. By 1932 Kita had opened and operated a restaurant in Wailuku that served “American and Japanese meals,” and in 1940 they were living on Market Street in Wailuku. Unlike most Issei, Kita visited Japan and Hiroshima-ken in 1940. In advance of the trip, she transferred the restaurant’s ownership to her son Masao and it was identified under his name in the city directory of that year.

War was precipitated by the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN) attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 and ended with the complete destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by U.S. atomic bombs on August 6 and 9, 1945. Kita’s return trip which occurred just five months prior to the IJN attack, unlike a number of her fellow Issei on O‘ahu who had gone to Japan during the same period, failed to result in her arrest or transfer to the U.S. mainland for internment.

It remains unknown where Masao received his training as a plumber because he was listed as a “carpenter” in the Maui directory in 1937 and employed by the Wailuku branch of the Von Hamm-Young Company, Ltd. (VH-YCo), a Honolulu automobile dealership, along with his brother Tadao, who was also identified as a carpenter. Carpentry is the only trade that Masao was ever specifically identified with in the directories. He did not register for military service but Tadao did on October 26, 1940 while still employed at the dealership. Unfortunately, his wartime service record is unknown.

Following the end of the war, Tadao was still listed as a “carpenter” in the city directory and although Masao was included, he was not identified with a trade. By 1957 Tadao was described as a “contractor” who resided at 42 Maluhi Drive in Wailuku, while his brother Masao was only identified as living at 46 Maluhi Drive. In 1962 both were living on Market Street with their respective wives and children but their trades were not provided.

Yoshito Matsuda (1918-75)

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57 A Picture Bride or 写真花嫁 Shashin Hanayome was a Japanese (or Okinawan) woman who married an contract worker in the early twentieth century based upon the recommendation of a matchmaker who exchanged photographs between the prospective bride and groom. <http://encyclopedia.densho.org/Picture_brides/> Accessed December 16, 2017.
64 Kita departed aboard the S.S. Tatuta Maru on April 1, 1940 and returned aboard the M.S. Kamakura on July 13, 1940; US Department of Labor, Immigration and Naturalization Service, “List or Manifest of Outward-Bound Passengers (Aliens and Citizens) for Immigration Officials at Port of Departure,” #188, April 1, 1940 and List or Manifest for Alien Passengers for the United States, #25, July 13, 1940.
65 Ibid. 1937: 749; 1939-40: 797.
66 “Tadao Takayama,” Registration Card, Serial No. 2282, Order No, 640, October 26, 1940.
67 Polk-Husted Directory of Honolulu and the Territory of Hawaii 1946: ___.
69 Ibid. 1962: 812.
Electrician Yoshito Matsuda was the only son among three sisters named Kiyoko, Kaname, and Tsuako who were born to PMCo plantation laborer Senoska and his wife, Okam Matsuda.70 His father and mother had emigrated from unknown prefectures in Japan in 1898 and 1908, respectively, and the family resided at Kauaula Camp.

Matsuda was first identified in the 1938 city directory as a “hlpr” or “helper” at PMCo’s Lahaina Ice Co.,71 then as a “clk” or “clerk” at the same company from 1939-42.72 He registered for military service on October 26, 1940 at the Lahaina Courthouse but his record of service is unknown.73 In 1957, he was listed in the city directory as a foreman for Lahaina Light & Power Co., and resided in Lāhainā.74 By 1964 Matsuda was identified in the city directory as retaining the same position with LL&PCo and residing with his wife Chieko at Kelawea Camp75 in Lāhainā.76

A Contemporary/Mid-Century Modern House on Front Street and the Continuation of a Trend

Sadao Takayama, Masao Takayama, and Yoshita Matsuda finished construction of the Mary P. Bright House in November 1963 and final inspection was conducted by Maui County on the 13th of that month.77 When completed, the dwelling was in stark contrast with the adjacent housing stock. Familiar historic dwellings such as the Farden House, dubbed “Puamana” were eventually relocated elsewhere or demolished to provide vacant lots for new houses and new owners. In the case of Puamana,78 the moniker was adopted for a public park as well as a new condominium development that was built in the 200 block of Front Street (1966). As a result, its relationship with the Farden household that produced dancer and musician Emma Farden Sharpe, famed composer Irmgard Farden Aluli (who also penned a song of the same name in 1937),79 and others was nearly forgotten.

Vacant parcels that had been formerly cultivated by PMCo as cane fields and were located mauka of Front Street were re-platted for new subdivisions during this period. Post-war dwellings were erected in these subdivisions as well as on other parcels in Lāhainā. By the time that the Mary P. Bright House was built in 1963, they included houses at 1169 Lahilahi Place (1957; Mr. and Mrs. Akuila Kane), 187 Hale Street (1958; Mr. and Mrs. K. Miyahara), 157 Prison Street (1959), and 142 Baker Street (1962). A majority of the new houses were for non-Hawaiian families. They evidenced improved living conditions for the town’s Asian (merchant and plantation labor) population, a transition from rental to individual home ownership, and a preference of residents for current housing styles that were popular on the US mainland during the late 1950s and early 1960s. The Mary P. Bright helped further an emerging trend of building new contemporary-styled residences throughout the town.

A small number of Native Hawaiians remained in older Plantation-era houses along Front Street through the 2000s, when larger residences of various architectural styles were built, whose massing and scale dwarfed the dwellings of previous periods. Despite the impact of such late twentieth and

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72 Ibid. 1939-40: 783; 1940-41: 834; 1941-42: 916.
73 “Yoshito Matsuda,” Registration Card, Serial No. 572, Order No. 783, October 26, 1940.
75 “Kelawea Camp” was one of 42 camps or “villages” that were built and maintained by the Pioneer Mill Company for its plantation work force. Kelawea was located mauka or above the PMCo sugar mill, on the northwest side of Lahainaluna Road, and makai or below Lahainaluna High School. The camp was later redeveloped as a subdivision for PMCo workers.
76 Ibid. 1964: 543.
77 County of Maui, Building Inspection Division, Department of Public Works, Application and Building Permit No. 9739, September 6, 1963.
twenty-first century infill, the Mary P. Bright House remained an intact example of an early Contemporary/Mid-Century Modern dwelling, and like its owner is understated by comparison.

Comparison with Other Contemporary/Mid-Century Modern Dwellings in Lāhainā

A comparison with four other Contemporary/Mid-Modern houses that were erected within five years of the Mary P. Bright House (1169 Lahilahi Place, 187 Hale Street, 157 Prison Street, and 142 Baker Street) reveals the following observations. With the exception of 142 Baker Street, whose front façade is different from the other three, all are front facing gable designs with three- or four-bay widths and two- to three-pile depths. All front facades have both projecting and recessed (first and second) bays that are fenestrated and split along the centerline of their gables. Only one example has an entry in the front façade, while the remaining three have side entries from adjacent carports. The third or fourth bays consist of carports that are sometimes enclosed to provide an additional room with space for a single vehicle or left open and enlarged to provide space for two vehicles. All of the carports are open and either flush with the projecting front gable end or attached to the side or rear façade and the dwellings are simply massed with low-pitched gable roofs whose plates extend to cover the carports. Original materials used in the construction of Contemporary/Mid-Century Modern houses in Lāhainā include concrete masonry unit (block), wood, plywood, and corrugated metal for roofs.

The Mary P. Bright House is a front facing gable design that employs similar character defining features. In contrast with the previous examples, however, the building has a five-bay width and a four-pile depth with a front-facing entry in its third bay. The first bay is recessed and fenestrated, the second and third bays comprise a projecting full gable end without a split along the centerline and are fenestrated, the fourth bay projects one-pile depth and is also fenestrated, and the carport projects one-pile depth as well and is open. The massing of the front façade is more complex than the previous examples, includes both low-pitched gable and shed roofs, and telescopes toward the street. Materials used in the construction of the Mary P. Bright house are identical to that of the other Contemporary/ Mid-Century Modern examples in Lāhainā.

All of these buildings share common character defining features for Contemporary Style/Mid-Century Modern houses. They include: one or one-and-one-half story heights; simple geometric massing, low-pitched roofs; integrated carports; unadorned wall surfaces and minimal decorative details; de-emphasized entries; slab on grade construction; and modern (plywood and concrete masonry unit or block) building materials. However the Mary P. Bright House is extremely unique in its design and massing and is located on a site where landscape elements from its Native Hawaiian and Euro-Hawaiian occupants are still present.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**
(Enter Categories from instructions.)

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- ____ Other State agency
- ____ Federal agency
- ____ Local government
- ____ University
- ____ Other

Name of Repository: **State Historic Preservation Division**

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

10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property:** 0.312 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)**

Datum if other than WGS84: ______________
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude:  ____________
   Longitude: ____________

2. Latitude:  ____________
   Longitude: ____________

3. Latitude:  ____________
   Longitude: ____________

4. Latitude:  ____________
   Longitude: ____________
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries described are for the HRHP designation of the entire parcel formerly owned by Mary P. Bright and now owned by Blue Moose, LLC, who has approved the preparation and submittal of this nomination.

Verbal Boundary Description (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The property to be designated is a 0.312-acre portion of State of Hawaii Tax Map Key (2) 4-6-002:004 and is nearly rectangular in shape. From the Northwest corner of the property, the parcel boundary extends 94 feet along an existing rock wall to the northeast corner, 145 feet to the Southeast corner, 94 feet along an existing rock wall along the beach to the Southwest corner, and 145 feet to the point of origin.
Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps**: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Additional items**: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)
SUMMARY OF ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

Maps

- Map 11. Boundaries of NRHP property designation for Mary P. Bright House

Figures

- Figure 1. County of Maui. Building Inspection Division, Department of Public Works, Application and Building Permit No. 9739, September 6, 1963.
- Figure 2. Comparative Views of Lahaina Contemporary/Mid Century Modern Houses: 1169 Lahilahi Place (1957), 187 Hale Street (1958), 157 Prison Street (1959), and 429 Front Street (1963).
- Figure 3. Aerial Photograph of 400 block of Front Street, Lahaina (ca. 1975) with arrow showing location of Mary P. Bright House
- Figure 4. Floor plan of Mary P. Bright House
- Figure 5. Photo Key Plan for Mary P. Bright House

Photos

- Photo Log
- Photos*
  - (See listings in photo log)

*Note that photos are also provided as high-resolution electronic files (TIFFs) complying with the National Register Photo Policy Expansion.
Map 10. PMCo Map of Lahaina (1935) showing the location of Mary P. Bright House along with PMCo and Baldwin Packers-owned dwellings, buildings, and related infrastructure.
Map 11. Boundaries of HRHP property designation for Mary P. Bright House indicated by dashed lines.
Figure 1. County of Maui. Building Inspection Division, Department of Public Works, Application and Building Permit No. 9739, September 12, 1963.
Bright, Mary P. House  Lahaina, HI
Name of Property  County and State

Figure 3: Comparative Views of Lahaina Contemporary/Mid Century Modern Houses: (top left) 1169 Lahilahi Place (1957), (top right) 187 Hale Street (1958), (middle) 157 Prison Street (1959), and (bottom) 429 Front Street (1963, Mary P. Bright House).
Figure 2. Aerial Photograph of 400 block of Front Street, Lahaina (ca. 1975) with arrow showing location of Mary P. Bright House. *Courtesy MAGIS, UH Manoa.*
Figure 4. Floor plan of Mary P. Bright House with room numbers (100-110)
Figure 5. Photo Key Plan for Mary P. Bright House
Name of Property: Mary P. Bright House
City or Vicinity: Lahaina
County: Maui
State: Hawai‘i
Name of Photographer: Brandis Sarich/Jim Blaha
Dates Photographed: April 2017/June 2019
Location of Original Digital Files: Stanley Solamillo, 435 Walina Street, #403, Honolulu, HI 96815

Photo 001 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_001)
Mary K. Bright House, view of front (Northeast) façade, camera facing Southwest (2019)

Photo 002 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_002)
Mary K. Bright House, detail view of front (Northeast) façade, camera facing Southwest (2019)

Photo 003 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_003)
Mary K. Bright House, view of side (Southeast) façade of carport, and front (Northeast) façade, camera facing North (2019)

Photo 004 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_004)
Mary K. Bright House, view of rear (Southwest) façade, camera facing Northeast (2017)

Photo 005 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_005)
Mary K. Bright House, view of rear (Southwest) façade, camera facing Northeast (2017)

Photo 006 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_005)
Mary K. Bright House, oblique view of rear (Southwest) façade, camera facing Northwest (2019).

Photo 007 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_007)
Mary K. Bright House, oblique view of side (Northwest) and rear (Southeast) façades, camera facing Northeast (2017)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Property</th>
<th>Lahaina, HI</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bright, Mary P. House</td>
<td>County and State</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Photo 001 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_001). Mary P. Bright House, view of front (Northeast) façade, camera facing Southwest South.
Bright, Mary P. House
Name of Property

Lahaina, HI
County and State

Photo 002 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_002). Mary P. Bright House, detail view of front (Northeast) façade, camera facing Southwest
Bright, Mary P. House  
Lahaina, HI  

Name of Property  
County and State  

Photo 003 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_003). Mary K. Bright House, view of side (Southeast) façade of carport and front (Northeast) façade, camera facing North.
Bright, Mary P. House
Name of Property

Lahaina, HI
County and State

Photo 004 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_004) Mary P. Bright House, view of rear (Southwest) facade, camera facing Northeast
Bright, Mary P. House
Lahaina, HI
Name of Property
County and State

Photo 005 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_005) Mary P. Bright House, detail view of rear (Southwest) facade, camera facing Northeast
Bright, Mary P. House
Name of Property

Lahaina, HI
County and State

Photo 006 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_006). Mary P. Bright House, oblique view of rear (Southwest) facade, camera facing Northwest.
Bright, Mary P. House

Lahaina, HI

Name of Property

County and State

Photo 007 (HI_Maui_MaryPBrightHouse_007). Mary P. Bright House, oblique view of side (Northwest) and rear (Southeast) façades, camera facing Northeast.
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

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