

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places Registration Form**

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

**1. Name of Property**Historic name: Myra V. Fisher ApartmentOther names/site number: Unit 5

Name of related multiple property listing:

La Pietra Townhouse

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

**2. Location**Street & number: 3020 La Pietra CircleCity or town: Honolulu State: HI County: HonoluluNot 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 X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

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

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Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

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State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

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: ☒
- Public – Local ☐
- Public – State ☐
- Public – Federal ☐

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s) ☒
- District ☐
- Site ☐

Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

1

7

### 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/Multiple Dwelling

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## Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Multiple Dwelling

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Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Modern

Regional Hawai'i

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

Principal exterior materials of the property: lava rock walls, horizontal lap wood walls,  
poured concrete foundation

### Narrative Description

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

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### Summary Paragraph

The Myra V. Fisher apartment is situated in the La Pietra Townhouse complex, a quiet residential neighborhood on the western base of Diamond Head, between La Pietra and Kapi'olani Park. It faces south and sits at a bend on La Pietra Circle where the road completes the circle. It features a fairly flat parcel with its front lawn flowing down to the street. It is the left half of a two-story, modern Hawai'i style duplex which has lava rock walls on the first story and horizontal lap siding on the second. The unit is slightly recessed from its neighboring unit. The unit has a low pitched, Euroshield shingled, hip on hip roof with overhanging eaves and exposed rafter tails. The building sits on a poured in place reinforced concrete foundation. The two bedroom, two and a half bath townhouse has 2,228 square feet under roof, and is in excellent condition. It retains its historic integrity of location, setting, design, materials, craftsmanship, feelings and associations.

Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

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## Narrative Description

The Myra V. Fisher apartment is located at the start of La Pietra Circle, facing south. Four large, square, precast concrete stepping “stones” with stones imbedded into the concrete, lead from the street to the unit’s entry lanai. The floor of the lanai is made of the same material as the stepping “stones”.

The balanced, asymmetric façade of the unit is two bays wide with three projecting, 8’ high lava rock walls demarcating the bays, with a wall extending out from each corner of the unit and another from the middle. The left bay is essentially a wall of glass, with a pair of sliding doors flanked by single pane fixed windows on the first story and three single pane fixed windows on the second, which extend to the building’s top plate. A wood sun screen projects from the interstice between the first and second stories.

The right bay contains the right-of-center entry as well as a pair of single pane sliding windows. The entry is framed by the center projecting wall on its left side and a lava rock pilaster on the right. The windows, like all windows and exterior sliding doors in the townhouse complex, are bronze anodized aluminum, and if not original, replaced the originals in-kind. The entry is sheltered by a projecting second story balcony, which runs the length of the right bay.

A historic, wood double door with recessed panels provides entry to the unit. It retains its original thumb latch and hardware. The door opens on a 5’-1” x 6’-9” entry foyer. On the east side of the foyer a hallway runs down to the dining room. There is a door in both the east and west sides of the hallway. The east door, which is not original, opens on the downstairs bedroom. The bedroom’s floor is of wood and of recent vintage, and its ceiling features two original, exposed beams. In the south wall a pair of single pane sliding windows provides light and ventilation. In the room’s north wall a non-original solid hinged door opens on the bathroom. The polished travertine tile floored bathroom has been remodeled.

The door on the west side of the hallway opens on a half bath or powder room which has been remodeled. The cube which contains the powder room forms an “island” around which flow the foyer, hallway, living room and dining area. In the north wall of the powder room island is a set of double doors, behind which a wet bar originally was placed. The wet bar no longer remains and its space serves as a closet.

An 8’ high opening on the foyer’s west side flows into the living room with its 17’-2” high ceiling. The ceiling is adorned with three, original, exposed lateral running beams. At the front, south side, of the living room is a pair of 8’ high, single pane sliding doors, which are flanked on either side by a fixed single pane window. Above these doors and windows is a set of three single pane, fixed windows which extend almost to the ceiling. The living room and foyer have polished travertine tile floors with 4” high baseboards, both of which appear to be original.

Myra V. Fisher Apartment

Name of Property

Honolulu, HI

County and State

The rear, north, wall of the living room features a pair of 8' high, single pane, sliding doors flanked by single pane fixed windows on either side. These windows and doors are surmounted by four single pane fixed windows. The doors lead out to a rear patio which encompasses most the back yard.

A 16" x 19" lava rock column marks the southeast terminus of the living room's rear wall. and to its east is the dining area and kitchen. The dining room and kitchen area has an 9' high ceiling with three exposed beams running laterally across it. The polished travertine tile floor of the living room continues into the dining room and kitchen. A partition wall whose dining room face is mirrored, separates the dining room and kitchen. The kitchen is to the east of the wall and has been remodeled. A louvered door in the kitchen's south wall opens on a laundry room.

The west wall of the dining-kitchen area is of lava rock and has a pair of 8' high single pane sliding doors, and the north wall has a similar pair of sliding doors flanked by single pane fixed windows. Both of these sets of sliding doors open on the rear patio.

The rear patio is paved in travertine tiles and extends out into the back yard. Between the first and second story of the unit a sun screen extends from the living room's rear wall and the dining room's side wall. A balcony projects from the dining room's rear wall. Both the balcony and sun screen are supported by lava rock walls at their termini, with their supporting beams extending beyond the ends of the walls.

An original, metal, spiral stairway is at the intersection of the living room and dining room. It no longer retains its original treads, and in their place there are fourteen oak treads and risers. The stair accesses the second floor and its one bedroom and bath. The stair opens on an open, sitting area, which has a 43" teak railing on its west side, which overlooks the living room. The sitting area has walls on its north and south sides, with the south wall dominated by built-in, wood shelving. The entire second floor features oak flooring, except the bathroom which has a tile floor.

A wide opening in the sitting area's north side flows into the upstairs bedroom. In the bedroom's north wall is a pair of 7' high sliding doors flanked by single pane fixed windows, which access a balcony. The 52" wide balcony has a wood slat floor and a 44" high metal railing, and runs the length of the bedroom. In addition to sliding screen doors, two interior wood louvered sliding doors can further secure the windows and doors.

An opening in the sitting room's south wall accesses a short front-to-rear, hallway which terminates at its south end with a pair of 7' high, single pane sliding doors. These doors lead out to a balcony which is similar to the rear balcony, and runs the length of the façade's east bay. The front wall of the unit jogs out at the west end of the balcony.

At the south end of the hallway an opening on the west side flows into a spacious walk-in closet, while an opening in the east side flows into a bathroom, which has been remodeled.

Myra V. Fisher Apartment

Name of Property

Honolulu, HI

County and State

The Myra V. Fisher apartment retains its historic integrity. The original spatial configuration of the first floor and the indoor/outdoor relationships of the unit, including the second story balconies, remain intact and readily recognizable as also is the exterior massing, walls, roof and general appearance. Also on the interior, such features as the spiral stair, dining room-kitchen's ceiling and mirrored partition wall, the dining room's lava rock wall, and the living room's 17'-2" high ceiling running the depth of the unit, all remain intact. Such alterations as the refinishing of the first floor walls, the remodeling of the kitchen and bathrooms, are typical interior modifications found in many of the units in the La Pietra townhouse complex and do not compromise the historic character of the units within the complex. While the second floor has been reconfigured, its original two bedroom configuration is easily discernible, despite the removal of the bedroom doors and the front bedroom being converted into a walk-in closet.

Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

### Criteria Considerations

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

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



Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture  
Community Planning and Development

**Period of Significance**

1967-1971

**Significant Dates**

1971

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Louis Pursel, architect

Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

**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 Myra V. Fisher apartment is significant on the local level under criterion C, as a good example of a luxury townhouse unit built in Honolulu during the late 1960s in a modern Hawai'i style. The unit includes a number of distinctive features and is typical of its period in its design, materials, workmanship and methods of construction. The townhouse is also significant at the local level under criterion A for its associations with the development of townhouse complexes in Hawai'i and its associations with the historic preservation movement.

The 1967-1971 period of significance was chosen in accordance with National Register Bulletin 16A instructions, as during the 1967-1970 period historic preservation efforts resulted in the reduction in scale and redesign of the townhouse complex and 1971 represents the year the project was completed.

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

The Fisher apartment's architectural significance, as well as its associations with townhouse development in Hawai'i and historic preservation in Hawai'i, are explained in the La Pietra Townhouse multiple property nomination.

Initially the deed to unit 5 of the La Pietra Townhouse development was conveyed in 1971 to the Headrick Development Company, which was the general contractor for the project. In 1973 the company sold the unit to Myra Voss Fisher. Mrs. Fisher was born in Glencoe, Minnesota in 1920. Her father owned the Commercial Hotel and was also the mayor of the town, a farming community located about fifty miles west of Minneapolis-St. Paul. She graduated in journalism from Hamline College, and during World War II married Carl Fisher who was transferred to Hawai'i by the U. S. Labor Department. In Hawai'i Mrs. Fisher enjoyed a long career in public relations, advertising and real estate. She obtained a Hawai'i real estate brokerage license in 1955 and founded Land Investments. She prided herself in crafting well written real estate advertisements aimed at selling exclusive properties which conveyed a sense of place. ["Myra Voss Fisher," *Hilo Tribune Herald*, May 10, 2009, page 6] Several of her listings for La Pietra well demonstrate her skill:

"19 feet high on two sides of a great dramatic living room. Mauka, the silhouette of Diamond Head less than a block away. Makai a hundred foot span of banyan and broad monkey pod tree. At La Pietra, where the best gets better all the time. Once the site of Walter Dillingham's mansion now home for only 38 very wise, very fortunate families. . . . \$165,000 via condominium plan. This is not leasehold. This is FEE SIMPLE. 1/38 interest in 5 ½ acres of the most valuable property in all Hawaii." *Star Bulletin*, August 5, 1973, page 52

Myra V. Fisher Apartment

Name of Property

Honolulu, HI

County and State

“La Pietra, the colony of dramatic two-story townhouses hidden by tall trees nestled into the slope of Diamond Head. . . . Moss rock walls, floating staircases, 19 foot ceilings, wall of glass” *Honolulu Advertiser*, August 19, 1973, page 72

“1<sup>st</sup> OPEN! Luxury is not too strong a word for this just-listed 3 bedroom, 3 ½ bath home on the slopes of Diamond Head, in one of Oahu’s most exclusive and most perfectly maintained condominiums. The grounds are lushly landscaped and immaculate. There’s a pool. Security is very tight, very private.” *Honolulu Advertiser*, November 25, 1973, page 72

Prior to writing such compelling words, Mrs. Fisher decided to purchase a unit at La Pietra in June 1973. Although she never resided here, she retained this unit until 1980 when Windsor Real Estate and Mortgage, a wholesale mortgage company, acquired it.

Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

City and County Tax Office records.

State Bureau of Conveyances, book 8259, page 192; book 9223 page 295; and book 15237, page 300

Original plans for La Pietra Condominium

Polk's City Directories for Honolulu 1974-1983

"Myra Voss Fisher," *Hilo Tribune Herald*, May 10, 2009, page 6

Classified Advertisement, *Star Bulletin*, August 5, 1973, page 52

Classified Advertisement, *Honolulu Advertiser*, August 19, 1973, page 72

Classified Advertisement, *Honolulu Advertiser*, November 25, 1973, page 72

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### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

### Primary location of additional data:

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

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

Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** less than one acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: Bing Maps:

<https://www.bing.com/maps/?cp=21.261365%7E-157.816837&lvl=16.9>

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 21.261367 | Longitude: -157.816840 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:             |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:             |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:             |

**Or**

### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☐ NAD 1983

- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

The property being nominated includes all the property owned by the 3020 La Pietra Circle #5 LLC as described by Tax Map Key: 3-1-029:0330005

Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

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

This is the parcel of land associated with this building since its construction.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Don Hibbard  
organization: self  
street & number: 45-287 Kokokahi Place  
city or town: Kaneohe state: HI zip code: 96744  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone: (808)-542-6230  
date: December 21, 2024

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

**Owner:** 3020 La Pietra Circle #5 LLC  
c/o Sam and Mary Chen  
3020 La Pietra Circle  
Honolulu, HI 96815

Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

## USGS MAP



Fisher Apartment

Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

## Photo Log

Name of Property: Myra V. Fisher Apartment

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu State: HI

Photographer: Kikuyo Hibbard

Date Photographed: December 11, 2024

1. View of the front from the south
2. View of the front entry from the south
3. View of the living room from the northeast from the second floor
4. View of the living room rear doors and windows from the north
5. View of the living room rear doors and dining room side doors from the southeast
6. View of the dining room from the south
7. View of the spiral stair from the west
8. View of the sitting room and front bedroom from the southwest.
9. View of the rear balcony from the east
10. View of the sitting room from the north
11. View of the walk-in closet from the west



Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

1 of 11



Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

2 of 11





Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

3 of 11



Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

4 of 11



Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

5 of 11





Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

6 of 11



Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

7 of 11



Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

8 of 11





Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

9 of 11



Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

10 of 11



Myra V. Fisher Apartment  
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI  
County and State

11 of 11



**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations 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.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.