

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: Melville and Alice Harris Residence

Other names/site number: _____

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: 1515 Avon Way

City or town: Honolulu State: HI County: Honolulu

Not For Publication Vicinity: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 X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___ A ___ B X C ___ D

<p>_____ Signature of certifying official/Title:</p> <p>_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>_____ Date</p>
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Melville and Alice Harris Residence
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 :
agency/bureau

State or Federal
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)

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

District	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Structure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Object	<input type="checkbox"/>

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register none

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th and early 20th Century American Movements

Bungalow

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: metal shingle roof, vertical tongue and groove walls, post and pier 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.)

Summary Paragraph

The Melville and Alice Harris Residence is situated in a quiet residential neighborhood near the end of Avon Way, on its east side. The 778 square foot house faces west, and sits on a flat, 3,705 square foot lot. The modest, single story, bungalow style house has a metal shingled, lateral running, rounded gable roof with overhanging eaves and exposed rafter tails. It sits on a post and pier foundation, with a horizontal slat apron, and its single wall, vertical tongue and groove walls have a 6" wide exterior girt. The 30' x 32' house has a slightly irregular footprint, the result of the front living room extending 10' beyond the line of the rear kitchen's north wall. The extension's rounded gable roof intersects with the main roof. The house features a centered, projecting, 6' x 13' entry porch with a front facing, rounded gable roof. Figure four brackets adorn both the porch roof and the lateral running main and extension roofs. The two bedroom, one bath house is in very good condition, and retains its historic integrity of design, materials, craftsmanship, location, setting, feelings and associations.

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

Narrative Description

A concrete walkway runs from Avon Way to the front steps of the Harris residence, traversing a front lawn. The three concrete steps with lava rock cheek walls lead up to the front porch. The porch has a tongue and groove floor and a 8'-10" high scored tongue and groove ceiling. Square Doric columns rise from the front corners of the porch and square Doric pilasters grace the rear corners. A 30" high solid, paneled balustrade with a 9.5" wide cap encloses the porch. A metal awning, supported by metal rods protect the steps from the elements. A lunette shaped wood ventilator with horizontal slats is in the porch's gable end. Similar vents are in the house's north and south gable ends.

In the west wall of the porch is an original fifteen pane door which retains its original metal knob and hardware. The door is framed by five pane sidelights. The door opens on the living room. The living room has an 8'-9" high, scored tongue and groove ceiling and walls. An engineered wood floor covers the original deteriorated fir floor in the living room. The walls feature 5" high baseboards, a picture rail and a modest crown molding. A pair of 1 x 1 double hung sash windows is in both its north and west walls. In the east wall of the room is a built-in buffet which has a wood counter backed by a beveled mirror. The buffet has four centered drawers below which are flanked by cabinets with single panel doors. The drawers and doors retain their original glass pulls. Above the counter is a shelf, originally a pair of single pane doors enclosed the shelves. The doors have been store under the house since their removal.

To the south of the buffet, a doorway with no door leads into the kitchen. The kitchen has been remodeled, but retains the pair of 1 x 1 double hung sash windows over its sink, and its scored tongue and groove ceiling and walls. An original cabinet stands to the south of the doorway against the west wall. The cabinet has a counter with two pairs of single panel doors below it and two pairs of single pane doors above. The doors all retain their brass latches.

A doorway with no door in the kitchen's east wall opens on a laundry room, which has also been remodeled, but also retains its original scored tongue and groove walls and ceiling. Other original features in the room include a 1 x 1 double hung sash window in its north wall, a food storage closet in its southeast corner and a five panel door in its east wall. The food storage closet has a single panel door with its original latch, and the bottom of the closet and all the shelves are screens. The five panel door retains its original metal knob and hardware and opens onto a rear, non-historic deck, which is in deteriorated condition.

In the living room's south wall, a five panel door, which retains its original metal knob and hardware, opens on a front bedroom. Unless otherwise noted, all interior door in the house are five panel and retain their original metal knob and hardware. This room

Melville and Alice Harris Residence

Name of Property

Honolulu, HI

County and State

has its original fir floor with a 6" high baseboard. The room has an 8'- 10" high, scored tongue and groove ceiling, as well as scored tongue and groove walls. The walls feature a picture rail and a modest crown molding at the ceiling. It has a pair of 1 x 1 double hung sash windows in its front, west wall, and one 1 x 1 double hung sash window in its south wall. Two five panel doors are in the room's east wall. The southern one no longer retains its original knob and opens on a closet. The other retains its original metal knob and leads into a front-to-rear running hallway.

The hallway has a vinyl tile floor and a scored tongue and groove ceiling. A door in its north wall leads into the kitchen, and one in its south wall accesses a bathroom. The bathroom has been remodeled but retains its original scored tongue and groove ceiling and walls. An original 1 x 1 double hung sash window is in its south wall.

At the end of the hallway is a door which opens into the rear bedroom. This room retains its fir floor and scored tongue and groove ceiling. Its walls are also of scored tongue and groove and feature a 6" baseboard, 8' high picture rail and a modest crown molding. It has a 1 x 1 double hung sash window in its east and south walls. The five panel closet door in its west wall has a non-historic, plastic "glass" knob.

In addition to the house, the foundation of a former single car garage remains on the property to the northwest of the house. Situated at the end of a short concrete driveway which diagonally cuts into the northwest part of the lot, the concrete foundation is 8'-5" wide and 16' long. On the south side its raised curb is 11" high, and on its north side it is 20" high. The concrete floor remains in place.

The Harris residence retains a high sense of historic integrity, with all its windows, walls, ceilings, and doors remaining intact, as well as its exterior appearance. With so much of the house extant, the re-flooring of the living room, kitchen, laundry and hallway do not detract from the historic character of the house. Similarly the remodeling of the kitchen and bathroom, both of which retain a number of their original features, have occurred in secondary spaces, and do not impinge on the house's integrity. The deteriorated deck is in the rear of the house and not visible from the street, and at some juncture will be replaced by a more compatible back porch.

As such the property retains:

1. its historic location, as it remains precisely where it was constructed.
2. its historic setting as its neighborhood remains residential.
3. its historic design as minimal alterations have transpired to the design.
4. its historic materials as minimal alterations have transpired.
5. its historic workmanship as minimal alterations have transpired.
6. its historic feeling as minimal alterations have transpired.
7. its historic association as minimal alterations have transpired.

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
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

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
architecture

Period of Significance
1926

Significant Dates
1926

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

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
unknown

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
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 Melville and Alice Harris Residence is significant on the local level under criterion C, as a good example of a bungalow style house built in Honolulu during the 1920s. The house includes a number of distinctive features and is typical of its period in its design, materials, workmanship and methods of construction.

The 1926 period of significance was chosen in accordance with National Register Bulletin 16A as 1926 is the year of construction.

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

The craftsman/bungalow style is an American architectural style and philosophy that began in the last years of the 19th century. As a comprehensive design and art movement it remained popular into the 1930s. The American craftsman style has its origins from the British arts and crafts movement which began as a philosophy and artistic style founded by William Morris in the 1860s. The British movement was a reaction to the industrial revolution with its perceived devaluation of the individual worker and the dignity of human labor. Seeking to ennoble the craftsman once again, the movement emphasized the hand-made over the mass-produced and urged social reform. The American arts and crafts movement shared the philosophy of the British reform movement and encouraged originality, simplicity of form, local natural materials, and the presence of hand craftsmanship. It was concerned with ennobling the modest homes of the rapidly expanding American middle class, a concern embodied by the craftsman bungalow style. The movement's name came from the magazine, *The Craftsman*, founded in 1901 by designer, furniture maker, and editor Gustav Stickley, and was popularized through such national periodicals as *House Beautiful* and *Ladies' Home Journal*.

The style is usually associated with a low horizontal profile, gabled roofs with wide, unenclosed eaves, often with figure four brackets, battered columns, partially paned entry doors, wide dormers with more than one window, and the use of natural materials. On the interior there is an emphasis on openness, built-in furniture and finely crafted, unpainted woodwork.

Few pure craftsman style residences were constructed in Hawaii, and even fewer remain standing, with the Krauss and Burningham residences being two of the best examples. Both of these adhere to the bungalow aspect of the tradition. The earliest bungalows known to have been built in Honolulu date from 1909. The style became a

Melville and Alice Harris Residence

Honolulu, HI

Name of Property

County and State

popular domestic architectural form in the Islands from 1913 through the 1920s. Hawaii's earlier bungalows, built during the teens are characterized by hip or hip-gablet roofs, while those from the 1920s primarily feature gable roofs. Despite the popularity of the style and the fact that a fair number of these residences still stand in Honolulu, only a relatively few have been placed in the Hawaii or national registers of historic places.

There are approximately nineteen bungalows listed in the Hawai'i Register of Historic Places. Of these nineteen, ten were constructed during the World War I era: the Krauss, Bicknell, Edwin Stone, Shields/Moore, Johnson, Souza, Burningham, Bowman, Baird and Walker residences. With the exception of the last two mentioned houses, these bungalows all have hipped roofs. Other bungalows on the register date from after 1920, and include the Noble, Peterson, Horn, Grimshaw, Condon, Newcombe, Matsumoto, Hoogs, and Stephens residences. These all have gabled roofs, except the Matsumoto residence on Kauai.

The Harris residence is a good example of a modest bungalow from the 1920s built in Honolulu. Its projecting lanai with its front facing rounded gable roof, paneled balustrade, and figure four brackets, as well as the use of local lava rock in the cheek walls are all typical of the style, and readily convey the style to the passerby. Similarly its roof's open, overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails is a common bungalow feature in Hawaii, providing the house with a lower profile. In addition, on the interior, the simple living-dining room space with its built-in buffet, and multi-pane front door with sidelights further convey a craftsman sensibility.

Avon Way with its seven houses, was developed in the mid-1920s by John and Laurinda Rosa, who purchased the 42,210 square foot site in August 1924 from John Bowler. Bowler had acquired the Spencer Street house site of James and Mary Lyle with its extensive grounds in 1920, as well as neighboring property following the death of Mary Lyle. Rosa was president and manager of the Oahu Bakery, and was also active in real estate and finance as a member of the board of directors of the Union Mortgage & Guaranty Company. [*Star Bulletin*, August 11, 1926, page 11]

Rosa constructed the subject residence and sold it in February 1926 to Melville and Alice Harris, who were married in December 1924. Mr. Harris was a clerk for Standard Oil Company, while Mrs. Harris immigrated from Ireland to Hawaii in 1914. Mr. and Mrs. Harris lived in this house until 1954 when they sold it to Sueno and Edith Masumoto.

The name Avon Way was bestowed on the little lane at the suggestion of one of the Harris' neighbors, Dr. Lyman Hood, to honor the hometown of William Shakespeare, Stratford-upon-Avon. Dr. Hood was a professor of Theology at the University of Hawaii, as well as a great admirer of Shakespeare. [*Star Bulletin*, October 8, 1925, page 4]

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

City and County Tax Office records

Polk's City Directories for Honolulu, 1925-1955

State Bureau of Conveyances book 746, page 88; book 946, page 203; and book 2900, page 428

"Wedding is Held at Westervelt Home," *Star Bulletin*, October 8, 1925, page 4

"Castro Head of Honolulu's First Mortgage Firm," *Star Bulletin*, August 11, 1926, page 11

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): _____

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .0851

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 21.307695 | Longitude: -157.845769 |
| 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 Thane and Baolan Messinger in 2026 as described by Tax Map Key (1) 2-4-015: 040.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

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

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Don Hibbard
organization: self
street & number: 45-287 Kokokahi Place
city or town: Kaneohe state: HI zip code: 96701
e-mail: _____
telephone: (808)-542-6230
date: February 19, 2026

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.
- **Tax Map**
- **Photo Key**
- **Owner Information:**

Thane Messinger
1515 Avon Way
Honolulu, HI 96822

Baolan Messinger
2515 Manoa Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

USGS MAP



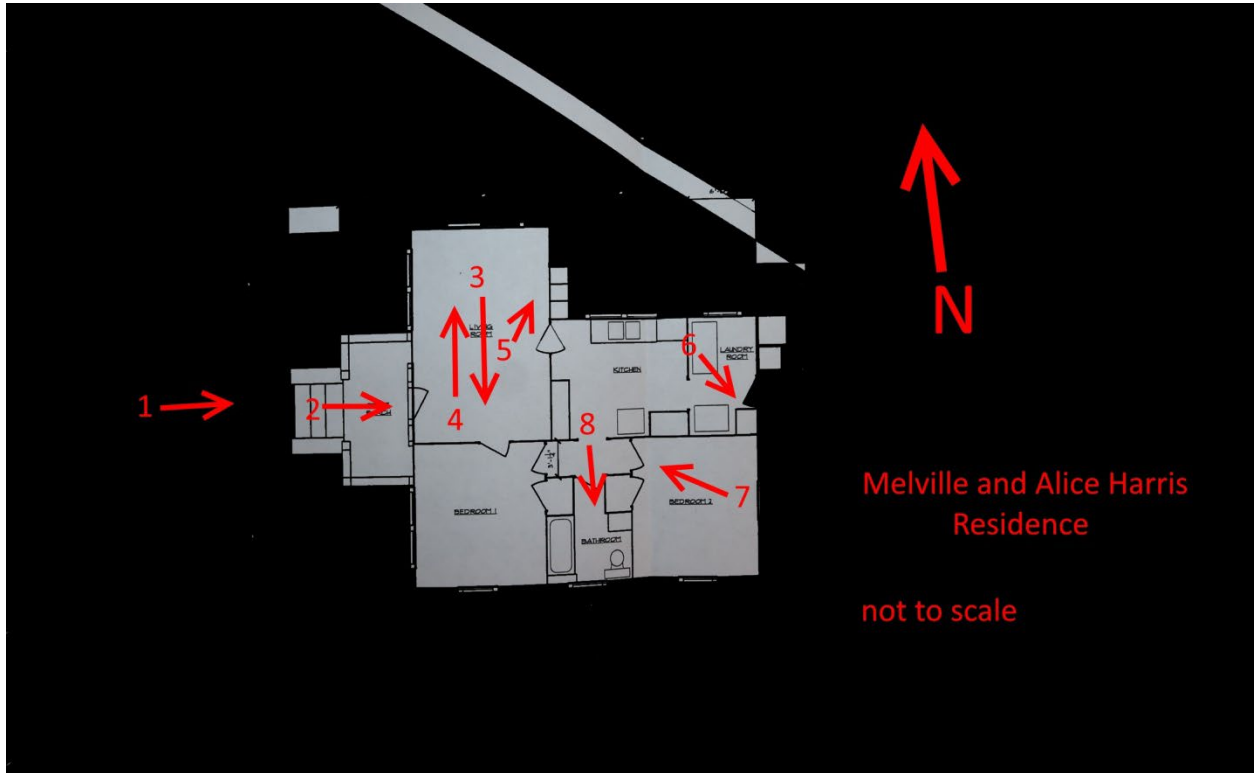
Melville and Alice Harris Residence
USGS 7.5 Series, Honolulu Quadrangle, 1998 (portion)

USGS map with arrow pointing to the location of the house

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

Photo Key



Floor Plan of the first floor of the house which includes numbered directional arrows depicting from where photographs were taken

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Harris Residence

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu

State: HI

Photographer: Kikuyo Hibbard

Date Photographed: February 6, 2026

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1. View of the front from the west
2. View of the entry from the west
3. View of living room from the north
4. View of living room from the south
5. View of the kitchen from the east
6. View laundry room closet and back door from the northwest
7. View of the back bedroom with hallway and kitchen in background from the southeast
8. View of the bathroom from the east

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

1 of 8



View of the front from the west

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

2 of 8



View of the entry from the west

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

3 of 8



View of the living room from the north

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

4 of 8



View of living room from the south

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

5 of 8



View of the kitchen from the east

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

6 of 8



View of the laundry room closet and back door from the northwest

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

7 of 8



View of the back bedroom with hallway and kitchen in background from the southeast

Melville and Alice Harris Residence
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
County and State

8 of 8



View of the back bedroom with hallway and kitchen in background from the southeast

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.