

United States Department of the Interior
 National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Burbank Street

Name of Property
Honolulu, Hawaii

County and State
Burbank Street

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number E Page 1

The Burbank Street multiple property nomination addresses the development of Burbank Street from 1925 to 1945. The nomination contains descriptions, analysis, and evaluative tools for understanding the development of this historic subdivision located in Nuuanu, Hawaii, with regard to National Register criteria. In its initial phase the nomination touches upon two historic contexts addressing the development and growth of Nuuanu, and the actual development of the Burbank Street Tract. The initial phase of the nomination includes five of the fifteen residences on the street, which meet the Hawaii and National Register of Historic Places criteria. The time frame for the nomination extends to 1940 (change when found out last construction), as that is the date of construction for the two most recently constructed houses on the street.

Development and Growth of Nuuanu, 1900-1940

The development of the Burbank Tract is an example of a common trend prevalent in Honolulu during the early 1900s, in response to the growing population and city core. There are several examples of housing tract developments in the area of Honolulu, each with unique advantages and selling points. Housing tracts were typically formed in the Nuuanu area through the subdivision of large estate lots. Large estates were often sold to development companies and subdivided into manageable lots that were large enough for moderate sized homes, which were ideal for families.

The Burbank Tract was developed by Realty Associates Ltd. in 1925 after the purchase of the original estate from Mary Burbank in 1924. The lot was subdivided into 14 parcels each around 6,000 to 7,000 square feet. The location of the tract was ideal for professionals and families alike as a quiet lush neighborhood with a quick commute into town. The original homes associated with the tract were built between 1925 and ____, but many of the lots were presold due to the desired location of the tract.

The Burbank Tract was advertised heavily in the Honolulu newspapers with the main selling points of the development being the convenient location, manageably large housing lots, abundance of trees, private feel and overall attractiveness of the area. The homes were built in the same time period using the same base style of Craftsman Bungalow with slight variations in style inspiration and influence. The original homes remaining are oriented to face Burbank Street. From the historic sanborn map, majority of the garages and carports associated with the homes are original to the layout. The one and two story Craftsman style bungalows along this road have high integrity and are in good condition. The non historic homes on this street are few, but are also residential and one to two story.

Development of Burbank Street, 1924-1945

Burbank Street is located in Nuuanu on the island of Oahu. It is a small, slightly over five hundred foot, residential street, that spans between Coelho Way and Wyllie Street. To the northwest, the Waolani Stream runs behind the Burbank Tract house lots. The Burbank Tract was developed by Realty Associates Ltd in 1925 after the purchase and subdivision of the Burbank Estate on Wyllie Road in Nuuanu. The Burbank Tract is an example of the subdivision and tract developments common during the development of the Nuuanu area in the 1900s, and is specifically important because of the number of original homes in good condition with high integrity which remain today, most originally owned by influential members of Honolulu Hawaii.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Burbank Street

Name of Property
Honolulu, Hawaii

County and State
Burbank Street

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number E Page 2

Mary A. Burbank, 1847-1946

Burbank Street is named after Mary Abby Burbank who was entrusted the lot in 1895 by Maria Louis Hoffman, and inherited the property after Hoffman's death in 1902. Mary Burbank was a prominent citizen of Honolulu from 1858 until her death in 1946 at 98 years old. Mary Burbank first moved to Kauai with her mother and father, Samuel Burbank, when she was four years old. Her father moved to Kauai, from Cherryfield Maine, to be the proprietor and manager of the Koloa Sugar company at the request of his brother-in-law, Dr. Robert W. Wood – one time owner of the Koloa Sugar Plantation. In 1858, the Burbank family moved to Honolulu, Hawaii where Samuel Burbank established himself as a prominent lawyer and later judge. Mary Burbank later wrote about the Koloa Sugar Plantation in published articles and books.

Mary Burbank attended Punahou School from 1861 until 1863. In 1884, she was appointed one of the first librarians of the Honolulu Library, previously located in a brick structure on the corner of Hotel Street and Alakea Street. The Lot was donated by Liliuokalani, regent for Kalakaua, and the funds to build were raised by means of fairs, concerts, lectures and various contributions. She also served on the board of directors for the library for several years. Mary Burbank is featured and mentioned in many Honolulu newspaper articles from 1862 to 1946 all related to her work in the library and her general life accomplishments. Mary Burbank was recognized as one of Hawaii's oldest Kamaainas and honored as a true Daughter of the American Revolution by the Aloha Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution in 1937.

Mary Burbank sold the lot, known as Burbank Street/Burbank Tract, to Realty Associates Limited on October 14, 1924 for \$25,000. The property sold to Realty Associates Limited was recognized as one of the "great estates of Honolulu" in an article from Honolulu Star Bulletin in May of 1925. The Burbank property was located on Wyllie Street and was subdivided by Realty Associates Limited, which was well known at the time for creating attractive high-end subdivisions. Many of the Burbank Tract lots were sold prior to the completion of the road, electric, water and gas lines. The lots sold so quickly because the area was an ideal location. The close proximity to town, large – yet manageable lots, overall attractiveness and fair pricing made this tract extremely popular to those looking to settle down near Honolulu. Another main selling point written about in many of the advertisements for the tract was the abundance of large trees offering a private and intimate feel for the area.

The street that was constructed was named after Mary Burbank her shortly after the subdivision of the estate and in September of 1925 the road committee approved plans for the Burbank Tract on Wyllie Street between Nuuanu Avenue and Liliha Street. Advertisements started appearing in the Honolulu Advertiser and Honolulu Star Bulletin newspapers for lots of the subdivided to be purchased and developed. The main selling point of the area was the reasonably priced large lots, location, and the abundant amount of trees offering shade and privacy.

Today, Burbank Street is still a conveniently located, private, and exclusive street shaded by large trees. Most of the homes original to the street remain with a few that have been replaced or altered over the years. The residents of the area are either decedents of the original owners of the homes or have family roots in Honolulu that run deep through the history of Nuuanu.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Burbank Street

Name of Property

Honolulu, Hawaii

County and State

Burbank Street

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number E Page 3

The Burbank Tract is an intact example of a tract development that was created through the subdivision of one of Honolulu's "great estates" that was subdivided as a response to the rapid development of the city. Several of the large estates in the Nuuanu area were subdivided and developed from the mid 1920s to 1940s. The Tract is named after the previous owner of the estate and very prominent and influential Kamaaina of Hawaii, regarded as a historical figure in 1946. Majority of the homes located on the street are historically significant because they are original and hold strong integrity and characteristics of a popular building style of the development period.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Burbank Street

Name of Property
Honolulu, Hawaii

County and State
Burbank Street

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number F Page 1

Associated Property Types

Single-family residences and their setting constitute the main property type associated with Burbank Street during the period of 1924-1945. These dwellings reflect the designs, materials, and methods of construction and workmanship associated with their period of construction. The houses primarily fall under the distinction of craftsman style bungalow, with individual style influences, which were popular in Hawaii during the time of construction.

The houses share many common features and property characteristics. All are on or two stories in height, the parcels are moderately sized rear sloping lots, oriented to the street, are wood framed, some with visible stone foundation, built in the craftsman bungalow style with board-and-batten or clapboard siding. All of the homes are readily visible from the street with small to moderately sized front lawns.

All of the roof forms are covered with asphalt shingle, with exposed rafters but vary in roof pitch. Due to the slope in the rear of the lots, leading to the Waolani Stream, some of the homes on the northwest side of the street have enclosed the stilted area to create a secondary living space basement. The homes that have the excavated and enclosed basement living spaces have not jeopardized the character of the original design and the basement level living space is not visible from the street. On the interiors, most of the homes on the street have board-and-batten interiors or tongue-and-groove interiors. In layout, all of the homes are similar in design. All of the nomination homes on Burbank Street are oriented so that the living rooms are the first spaces accessible from the main entry. Other than the entry porches, there are no hallways or foyers separating the immediate living spaces from the front doors to the house. In addition to similar wall material, the Burbank Street homes have the following character defining features in common:

- Double-hung, multi-lite windows
- Wood flooring
- Small or moderate entry porch
- Carport or garage
- Clapboard or board-and-batten siding
- One or two stories in height

The Burbank Street Homes were originally built as single family and remain as such today. Although there are a small number of non-historic homes on the street, they are residential and no more than two stories in height. This multiple property nomination includes the residences associated with the TMK and addresses listed below, but there are a few more homes on the street that are eligible for the register

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Burbank Street

Name of Property
Honolulu, Hawaii

County and State
Burbank Street

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number F Page 2

in association with the Brurbank Tract that could be nominated in the future. The eligible homes on the street not included in this list are also built in the craftsman style and were built within the eligible time period. Below is a list of the residences nominated.

2408 Burbank Street
Name of Residence: Waterhouse-Walker Residence
Current Owner: Robert and David Reitow
TMK: 180060210000

2414 Burbank Street
Name of Residence: Waterhouse-Walker Residence
Current Owner: Robert and David Reitow
TMK: 180060210000

2420 Burbank Street
Name of Residence: Owens Residence
Current Owner: Florence Puu
TMK: 180060220000

2428 Burbank Street
Name of Residence: Getz Residence
Current Owner: Corinne Ching and Stuart Lerner
TMK: 180060230000

2436 Burbank Street
Name of Residence: Robertson Residence
Current Owner: Debora and Sinclair Brown
TMK: 180060740000