

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: Walker Park

Other names/site number: N/A

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: Bounded by Queen Street, Nimitz Highway, and Topa Financial Center building facade

City or town: Honolulu State: Hawaii 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Not For Publication: Vicinity: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 ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A ___B ___C ___D

<p>_____ Signature of certifying official/Title:</p>	<p>_____ Date</p>
<p>_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
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
- Structure
- Object

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>	objects
<u>14</u>	<u>11</u>	Total

Note: See Figure 8: Table: Contributing and Non-contributing Resources

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LANDSCAPE/plaza - green

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LANDSCAPE/plaza - green

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other _____

(Plaza) _____

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: N/A

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

7. Description

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

Walker Park, situated between Honolulu Harbor and downtown Honolulu, is a triangular open green space adjoining a Late Modern pedestrian plaza. The park is bounded by Nimitz Highway, Queen Street, and the Topa Financial Center (formerly Amfac Center's Hawaii Building) facade. Today's Walker Park was originally bordered by three roadways. Initiated in 1952 as part of the Nimitz Highway/Ala Moana Boulevard expansion project, its southeastern boundary was Fort Street. The then-unnamed traffic island was designed by prominent local landscape architects Catherine and Robert Thompson, though it was not typical of their style. In 1971-72, a circular fountain, paved pedestrian walkway, seating area, other hardscape elements, and more plantings were added to the park. These 1971-72 components infilled and redeveloped the last remaining segment of Fort Street, completing the 1969 project that pedestrianized Fort Street into Fort Street Mall. In 1972 the site was officially named Walker Park to commemorate Henry Alexander Walker, Sr. (1885-1969), former executive of American Factors, Ltd., one of the "Big Five" companies that controlled the Hawaiian economy during the Territorial Era. Currently, Walker Park features old and new growth coconut palms, three banyan trees, a single monkeypod tree, and numerous hardscape features, most notably a 19th century cannon, the original H. Hackfeld building's wrought iron gate, and coral blocks from the Old Courthouse. Walker Park retains its integrity of location. It also retains a high level of integrity of design, materials, association, and workmanship. Its integrity of setting is only slightly impaired by the Harbor Court complex facing it across Queen Street that was added in the mid-1990s.

Narrative Description

Walker Park is a 0.6-acre, triangular landscaped park and plaza near the southwestern corner of downtown Honolulu, across Nimitz Highway from the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) Harbors Building and main cruise ship dock at Piers 10 and 11 at Honolulu Harbor. The park is bounded mauka¹ by Queen Street, makai by Nimitz Highway, and Diamond Head by the Topa Financial Center's southeastern facade. Its Ewa end tapers to a point where Nimitz and Queen Street converge.

¹ Mauka is a Hawaiian word meaning "in the direction of the mountains." Makai is a Hawaiian word meaning "in the direction of the sea." Diamond Head is generally refers to the east and Ewa is to the west.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Created in 1952 when Nimitz Highway/Ala Moana Boulevard was expanded and realigned to accommodate more traffic, the park saw significant changes to its layout, use and surroundings during its reconstruction as part of the Amfac Towers development in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Conceived in 1952 as a lightly landscaped traffic island, it originally consisted of only informally arranged coconut palms and banyan trees, grassy lawn, a 19th century cannon, and a paved sidewalk along Fort Street (prior to the street's conversion into a pedestrian mall). The traffic island was designed by Honolulu landscape architects Catherine and Robert Thompson. As the preeminent landscape firm in Hawaii, whose works included the Honolulu Museum of Arts, Shangri-La, Ala Moana Park, and the Board of Water Supply station grounds, this commission was executed very minimally, and not in their more typical classical formality. This green traffic island was part of a larger landscape effort by the firm for the newly constructed Nimitz Highway corridor.

In February of 1968, Amfac, Inc. announced plans to demolish the buildings on the block bounded by Fort Street, Queen Street, Bishop Street, and Nimitz Highway/Ala Moana Boulevard, to develop twin tower office buildings. The 1852 Old Government Courthouse on Queen Street, which H. Hackfeld & Co. had acquired ca. 1875, was demolished in December of 1968. Coral blocks from its basement were salvaged. Amfac president Henry A. Walker said Amfac would memorialize the courthouse in a historic display of the salvaged materials.²

In early 1970, the first tower, fronting Bishop Street and Nimitz Highway, was completed, and Amfac moved into its new headquarters. Amfac's former home, the historic, ca. 1899, H. Hackfeld & Co. building that stood on Fort Street opposite the park, was demolished in April of the same year, in preparation for the construction of the second of the two Amfac Center towers.

In May of 1970, Fort Street between Queen Street and Nimitz Highway was closed to vehicular traffic "to permit completion of construction of the Fort Street Mall."³ Amfac Inc. and developer Center Properties were granted permission by city, state, and federal agencies to use the small triangular park and the former roadway as a staging site during construction of the second tower. Amfac and Center Properties "volunteered to construct a mall in the short stretch where traffic used to go on Fort Street," completely re-landscaping the park and Amfac agreed to maintain it at its own expense.⁴

By the end of 1971 the former Fort Street roadway was converted to a pedestrian walkway as an extension of the Fort Street Pedestrian Mall. This block of the mall functioned as an entry plaza to the second Amfac Tower, called the Hawaii Building. The road surface was replaced with pavers, and the new area was designed to include several large planters and a large, circular fountain. The wrought iron gateway that had originally stood between the H. Hackfeld & Co. building and the Old Government Courthouse was installed near the fountain, and coral blocks taken from the Old Government Courthouse basement were placed adjacent to the gates. A sculpture created with some of the basalt blocks from the H. Hackfeld & Co. building was placed in the park along Queen Street.

² "Courthouse Demolition to Start Friday," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, December 25, 1968. p. 50.

³ "Section to Close," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, May 14, 1970. p. E-8.

⁴ "The Kokua Line," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, June 9, 1970. p. 2.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

In early 1972, Amfac Inc. president Henry Alexander Walker, Jr. (1922-2000), dedicated the pedestrian plaza and park to his father, Henry Alexander Walker, Sr., and named the area Walker Park in his honor. In 1991, a bronze sculpture by Sean K. L. Brown was added to the fountain in honor of Una Walker (1887-1987), Henry Alexander Walker, Sr.'s wife and prominent Honolulu society matron.⁵ Two years after Henry A. Walker, Jr. died in 2000, a plaque was placed between the bench and the H. Hackfeld & Co. gates to commemorate his contributions. These later minor additions to Walker Park strengthen its ties to the family, but do not fall within the park's period of significance.

Walker Park has had no significant changes since the completion in 1972 of the pedestrian walkway and entrance plaza alterations. The landscaped portion of the park is primarily triangular with an indented vehicular turnout lane on the Queen Street side and a portion of the stone-paved, circular fountain protruding in from the Fort Street side. Ground cover is grass of varying species and fallen leaves. Three banyan trees planted during the park's 1971 construction loosely define the three corners of the park. A single Monkeypod tree with an interpretive panel indicating it was transplanted from the Old Courthouse site, was added in 1971 and sited between the two banyan trees on Queen Street. Informally arranged coconut palms cover nearly all the park. There is a linear cluster of old-growth coconut palms dating from the 1920s and 30s at the center, and a small expanse of open lawn along Nimitz Highway, opposite the Monkeypod tree.⁶

The park contains an assortment of objects. In the west-southwest corner, near the intersection of Nimitz Highway and the Fort Street pedestrian mall is a muzzle-loading cannon with a wooden carriage on a circular concrete plinth. The cannon is believed to have been part of the armament of Fort Kekuanohu, also known as Honolulu Fort (1816-1857). The cannon, which had been moved to Punchbowl National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, was returned to a small, paved traffic island at the intersection of Queen and Fort Streets ca. 1938 by then Honolulu Mayor Charles Crane as a historical marker for the fort. He commissioned the wooden carriage at that time.⁷ That paved traffic island was eventually removed when Fort Street was incorporated into Walker Park in the early 1970s. The cannon was then placed on a circular concrete base at its current location on the Nimitz Highway side of the park.

East-northeast of the cannon is the iron gate of the old H. Hackfeld & Co. Complex. The gate has two ornate Corinthian, cast iron columns atop elevated, octagonal bases and they are topped with elaborate, entablature-style capitals. The columns flank a decorative, filigreed, wrought iron gate, and support a matching frieze that reads "H H & Co LTD," referring to Heinrich Hackfeld, founder of the company that became Amfac, Inc.⁸ The gateway rests atop a poured concrete plinth and is flanked by coral blocks from the old Honolulu Courthouse.

⁵ *Monument to Una*, Ron Ronck, Honolulu Advertiser, December 23, 1991, p 15.

⁶ HHF Planners, "Walker Park Cultural Landscape Report," (2018), pp. 3-2.

⁷ *Big Guns on the Waterfront*, Kathryn Bender, Honolulu Star-Bulletin, January 11, 1999, p.B-11

⁸ In 1917 the United States declared war on Germany and its allies which initiated the beginning of the end for the German community in Hawaii (Wagner-Seavey 1980: 117-118). That same year the U.S. Congress passed the Trading with the Enemy Act (40 Stat. 411), which established an Office of Alien Property, to "assume control and dispose of enemy-owned property in the United States and its possessions" (NARA Guide to Federal Records, Records of the Office of Alien Property: n.d.: 1). In 1918, the Trading with the Enemy Act was amended to require that alien property confiscated by the government had to be sold at public auction to American citizens (Cornell University, "U.S. Code Collection, ch. 28 § 1, 40 Stat. 460," n.d.: 1). H.Hackfeld & Company assets were sold in July, 1918, through a quiet acquisition by a consortium of American owners for \$7.5 million. The purchase was explained decades later as having occurred in order "to prevent the possibility of resale to the former enemy owners after the

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Another object within the landscaped portion of Walker Park is a sculpture of basalt blocks from the H. Hackfeld & Co. building that sits on a raised, circular, concrete plinth along the Queen Street border near the vehicle turnout lane. Parts of the sculpture appear to have been removed, evidenced by rusted bolts protruding from its concrete portions. Unfortunately, no photographs of the sculpture in its early years were located. The sculpture is fronted by a raised, concrete, interpretive plaque stand, but the plaque is no longer in situ.

The makai views of Piers 10 and 11, and the HDOT Harbors Division Building, appear much the same as when the traffic island was created in 1952. However, other makai views of Irwin Park and Aloha Tower have evolved since the park's inception. Namely, in 1965 a terminal and ramp were constructed along the fronts of Piers 9 and 10. In 1994, the Pier 10 terminal was partially demolished, and the terminals of Piers 8 and 9 were fully demolished, leaving Aloha Tower as a free-standing structure for the first time. Mauka of the park, earlier two-story buildings (visible in Figure 5) had been replaced by the five-story, brutalist, Campbell Estate headquarters building in 1967, before the construction of the park's 1972 plaza. The most significant change in the mauka view plane was the construction of the 41-story, Post-Modern, Harbor Court Building, finished in 1994.

The plaza portion of Walker Park is an extension of Fort Street Mall from Queen Street to Nimitz Highway, which connects the 1952 triangular landscaped traffic island to the Topa Financial Center (the original twin Amfac towers and a parking structure). The plaza design creates a meandering pedestrian way from Queen Street to Nimitz Highway, due to the location of the large fountain and the placement of various landscaped areas and raised planters. Looking makai from Queen Street are three raised, concrete planters – two circular and one capsule shaped – in an irregular arrangement placed at the entrance of the walkway. Left of the planters and directly abutting the facade of the Topa Financial Center is an at-grade planting area with three coconut palms and ferns as groundcover.

Continuing toward Nimitz Highway, the plaza widens to incorporate the main entrance to the Topa Financial Center Tower, a second at-grade planting area, and the low, circular water fountain which is bordered with small concrete planters and two commemorative plaques. The egg-shaped planters replace concrete bollards that originally encircled the fountain. At the center of the fountain is a bronze sculpture, and along the park side, in front of the H. Hackfeld & Co. gate is a low, rounded concrete bench that follows the fountain's contour.

Beyond the fountain, the walkway alignment is offset from the mauka portion. This allows room for a long, at-grade planting area with coconut palms and ferns to screen the Topa Financial Center's parking structure. A line of three capsule-shaped concrete planters are set in a row along the length of this makai walkway section, until the termination of the pavers, at which point a poured concrete sidewalk and driveway leads to Nimitz Highway. The walkway is protected from motor vehicles by two concrete bollards and metal stanchions with chains that run parallel

war" (Weiner 1982: 20). American Factors was incorporated on July 20, 1918, specifically "to take over the business of H. Hackfeld & Company, Ltd." and capitalized at \$10 million (Manual of Hawaiian Securities 1939: 58). American Factors was sued by Hackfeld family members in 1924 without success (Maui News, June 27, 1924: 1: 5) and the case remained under appeal through February 17, 1941 ("Johann Frederick Hackfeld [1856-1932]," n.d., n.p. Hawaii State Archives, Box 1-1, M-307). [Source: Solamillo, Stanley. "Pioneer Mill Company Office" NR nomination, Maui County Planning Department, 2007]

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

to Nimitz Highway. A very small, at-grade planting area is located at the makai end of the Topa Financial Center parking structure; it contains a single coconut palm and ferns.

Walker Park has high integrity of location. The site's physical relationship to Nimitz Highway and visual relationship to the Harbor Division Building, Aloha Tower, Honolulu Harbor pier buildings, and the Campbell building support its integrity of both setting and association. Amfac, Inc.'s changes to Fort Street with the development of the pedestrian plaza are considered part of Walker Park's historical period, which was essentially an extension of the 1969 Fort Street Pedestrian Mall. Their incorporation augments the site's integrity of design, feeling, workmanship and materials.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
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

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
TRANSPORTATION
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1952-1972

Significant Dates

1952

1971

1972

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Catherine and Robert Thompson, landscape architect

William D. Podesto, AIA, architect

Anthony M. Guzzardo & Associates, landscape architect

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.)

Walker Park is locally significant under Criterion A for its association with post-World War II community planning and transportation on the island of Oahu, and under Criterion C for its design as a modern pedestrian plaza.⁹ The triangular plot of land is the result of a major road construction and traffic alleviation project initiated in the 1930s and completed in the 1950s. Originally a traffic island created in 1952, the designed plaza portion was added and the site named Walker Park, in honor of former Amfac, Inc. executive Henry Alexander Walker, Sr., in 1972.¹⁰ Walker Park

⁹ Walker Park may also warrant archaeological research and testing to determine whether significance is possible under Criterion D as the original site of a ca. 1816 fort, originally built by a Russian business enterprise but soon taken over by the Hawaiian monarchy. The fort was actively used by the Hawaiian military until its demolition in 1857. The fort's coral blocks were later used to expand the Honolulu Harbor shoreline and berthing facilities. Further research by archaeologists would be required to determine the applicability of Criterion D.

¹⁰ HHF Planners, "Walker Park Cultural Landscape Report," (2018), 1-1.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

retains a high level of integrity of location and a moderate level of integrity of setting and association.

The 1971-72 changes, creating a plaza or mall from a block of Fort Street, and the addition of salvaged historic objects and art to the landscape, are considered integral to the resource. Therefore, most of them contribute to the park's integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Construction of the Harbor Court building in the 1990s across from Walker Park did slightly reduce its integrity of setting and feeling.

The period of significance begins in 1952 with the creation of the traffic island, and ends in 1972 when Amfac, Inc. completed the last block of Fort Street Mall, between Queen Street and Nimitz Highway. The landscape and hardscape work done in 1971-1972 expanded the original boundaries of the park up to the new building facade, and added the salvaged historic building materials, art objects, and commemorative signage to the site. This park meets Criteria Consideration F for commemorative properties because it is eligible for the design qualities of its period, under Criterion C.

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

Criterion A – Transportation and Landscape Architecture

The land now comprising Walker Park was originally the intersection of Queen and Fort Streets along with part of a parking lot, a corner of the Pier 11 building at Honolulu Harbor, and a linear, landscaped traffic island mauka of that building.¹¹ A post-World War II boom saw a surge in car purchases and subsequent automobile traffic on the island of Oahu. To accommodate both military and civilian vehicle travel from Pearl Harbor to Waikiki, local leaders drafted a plan for the "Makai Arterial." The arterial would alleviate the bottleneck effect at downtown Honolulu by extending the eight-lane Nimitz Highway along the waterfront on the western boundary of downtown by utilizing and realigning parts of Queen and Halekauwila Streets to become the

highway through downtown. "To accommodate faster speeds, the arterial highway design called for streamlined curves....Approximately 35,000-40,000 square feet of the Pier 11 Terminal Building along Queen Street and a portion of Irwin Park were removed to make way for the necessary diagonal curve leading from Queen Street in to Halekauwila Street." The diagonal sweep of the new highway alignment left a triangle of land too small for building development. The new land encompassed most of the linear traffic island mauka of the Pier 11 building's parking lot, so nearly all the island's linear cluster of 1920s and 1930s coconut palms was maintained as a landscape feature of the new park.¹²

For nearly two decades, the park remained unchanged. It was a verdant, triangular traffic island with grass, old and new growth coconut palms, and three newly planted banyan trees. In a much smaller, concrete triangle at the makai/Ewa corner of Queen and Fort Street intersection stood a

¹¹ HHF Planners, "Walker Park Cultural Landscape Report," (2018), pp. 2-12.

¹² Ibid., pp. 2-21.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

19th century cannon from the fort that once occupied the site. A sidewalk ran the length of the park's Fort Street side. The other two sides were separated from Nimitz Highway and Queen Street, respectively, by a simple, poured concrete curb.

In 1968, Fort Street was converted into a pedestrian mall from Beretania Street to Queen Street. The section of Fort Street from Queen Street to Nimitz Highway remained a vehicular thoroughfare, but the historic traffic pattern that connected downtown Honolulu to Aloha Tower and Honolulu Harbor was significantly altered by the pedestrian mall.

Two years later, in 1970, the historic H. Hackfeld Building was demolished to make room for the second of two Amfac Center towers. In 1971-72, the last block of Fort Street, between Queen Street and Nimitz Highway, was converted into a plaza that served several roles. It created an impressive entry space for the new tower, formed a better pedestrian connection to the traffic-island park, and served as an extension of the Fort Street Pedestrian Mall. This was very typical of the era when downtown shopping locales were being replaced by suburban shopping malls, and municipalities and merchants looked for ways to draw shoppers back to downtown.

The 1971-72 incorporation of the last Fort Street segment into Walker Park created an entrance plaza to Amfac Center's Hawaii Tower. At this time, downtown Honolulu was experiencing the "biggest building boom in history," with the development of corporate high rises, many of which included public spaces or plazas.^{13,14,15} This small but notable addition of acreage to the original park marks a period of drastic change in Honolulu's financial district. It may be the first example in Honolulu of a national trend of open spaces developed by private entities.¹⁶ Salvaged objects and building materials, including the old H. Hackfeld & Co. gate, a basalt sculpture created with H.Hackfeld & Co. building stones, and coral blocks from the Old Courthouse basement, were added to the site in keeping with Amfac's president's oath to develop a historic display.

Walker Park was never a major landscape feature of downtown Honolulu, but it was created during the era of "pocket parks" across the United States and Europe and typifies the trend. "Pocket parks" are "small parks, frequently less than three acres, inserted into interstitial spaces to provide an open space experience of respite from the city."¹⁷ Walker Park is a small, otherwise unusable greenspace within an urban center that provides pedestrians with a visual and physical break from the urban, downtown hardscape.

Walker Park remains largely defined by the highway that created it and the plaza that enlarged it in 1971-72. Its physical relationship to Nimitz Highway and Queen Street, along with its visual relationship to the HDOT Harbors Division Building and Honolulu Harbor, are virtually unchanged from the initial year of significance. The plaza improvements mark the end of the period of significance.

¹³ "Downtown's building projects 'looking up,'" *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, February 21, 1969. p. B-4.

¹⁴ "Downtown reaches for the sky," *Honolulu Advertiser*, January 17, 1971. p. D-5.

¹⁵ Contemporaneous developments include the Financial Plaza of the Pacific, completed in 1968, and Davies Pacific Center, completed in 1972.

¹⁶ Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris and Tridib Banerjee. "The Negotiated Plaza: Design and Development of Corporate Open Space in Downtown Los Angeles and San Francisco." *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. 13:1-12. 1993.

¹⁷ The Cultural Landscape Foundation. "Vest Pocket Park," accessed September 21, 2018, <https://tclf.org/category/designed-landscape-types/public-park/vest-pocket-park>.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Criterion C – Community Planning and Development

Walker Park is evaluated as eligible under Criterion C for its late modern design as a downtown public space and entry plaza to Amfac's Hawaii Tower. While relatively small, the 1972 Amfac entrance plaza portion of Walker Park, with its broad, paved open space, fountain, decorative planters, and seating integrated into the hardscape, is a successful example of office tower plazas typical of the era. The 1972 plaza's connection and integration into the 1952 landscaped traffic island is certainly, for Honolulu, an early, if not the first, example of private development of a public open space.

Georgia and Warren Radford, authors of *Sculpture in the Sun, Hawaii's Art for Open Spaces* (1978) explain that, beginning in the 1960s, there was a renewed interest in providing open space for public use. Following the introduction of plazas into large, mainland city centers, their use at the base of office towers in Hawaii became popular as downtown Honolulu development boomed.^{18,19} Of these towers, the *Hawaii Modernism Context Study* explains, "Rising from podiums and plazas these buildings not only transformed the city's skyline, but also the character of its pedestrian environment, adding open space and landscape elements."²⁰

Walker Park was praised by the Radford's as a successful example of this new regard for open space:

One of the most successful open spaces of downtown Honolulu is Walker Park at the foot of Fort Street Mall, which provides a link between the famous Aloha Tower ...and the newer buildings of the financial section. Adjacent to the Hawaii Building of the Amfac Center and the historic headquarters of C. Brewer and Company, this small, grassy, shaded park is a popular noontime gathering place.²¹

Kenneth Ames, in *On Bishop Street*, also recognized Walker Park as a tranquil oasis within downtown:

This triangular garden of memory is one of the most pleasant of the city's small parks. Despite its downtown location next to a heavily traveled thoroughfare, the park is surprisingly tranquil. A broad expanse of grass, mature trees, and evocations of the past make the site a perfect counterbalance to the modern buildings nearby.²²

¹⁸ The 1958 Seagram Building headquarters building in NYC, designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, was the New York's first tower on a plaza. This new office building typology became internationally prominent. Subsequently, the 1961 "Plaza Bonus" in New York City's building code encouraged developers to add plazas in exchange for greater building heights.

¹⁹ The Financial Plaza of the Pacific (Bishop Street, Ewa side between King and Merchant Streets) and the Pacific Trade Center mall (Alakea Street, Ewa side between King and Hotel Streets) are examples of other plazas built during downtown Honolulu's 1960s and 70s development boom. In contrast to Walker Park, those were built on private property and are smaller open spaces.

²⁰ Fung Associates, Inc. *Hawaii Modernism Context Study*, prepared for Historic Hawaii Foundation. November 2011. p. 4-37.

²¹ Georgia and Warren Radford, *Hawaii's Art for Open Spaces, Sculpture in the Sun*, 1978. p. 8.

²² Kenneth L. Ames, *On Bishop Street, Avenue of Hawai'i Pioneers*, First Hawaiian Bank, Honolulu, HI. 1996. p. 160.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

The *Sculpture in the Sun* authors further praised the design of the plaza's central feature:

Its focus is an elegantly simple fountain with three clusters of bronze water jets, set in a rimless pool and surrounded by twelve concrete bollards. The paved area surrounding the fountain dishes down to form the pool basin, defined by concentric offset circles of alternately recessed pavers that form a checkerboard pattern. Optical effects, called *moire* patterns and caused by the superimposition of curves, can be easily observed.²³

The Walker Park fountain is bordered by a rounded pathway that extends beyond the original Fort Street curb line into the greenspace triangle. A concrete bench curves to follow the contour of the pathway and fountain. The incorporation of these decorative and functional features in Walker Park's plaza – fountain, seating, plantings – are characteristic of corporate tower plazas of the 1960s and 70s.

The plaza and fountain were designed by San Francisco architect William D. Podesto, AIA, and San Francisco landscape architect Anthony M. Guzzardo & Associates. William Podesto (1938-2019) established his architecture practice in San Francisco in 1968, and maintained his business in California for over 50 years, with notable commercial, educational, and retail projects.²⁴ Mr. Podesto also served as the architect for the contemporaneous roof garden atop the 1971 Amfac Center garage (along with local landscape architect George Walters).²⁵

Mr. Guzzardo (1935-) established Anthony Guzzardo & Associates in San Francisco ca. 1969 after several years working for other firms. His portfolio includes landscape design for residences, housing projects, parks, corporate plazas, including several award-winning projects. His successor firm is in practice today as The Guzzardo Partnership in San Francisco, CA.²⁶

Criterion D

No information has been found to assign eligibility under Criterion D to Walker Park, but as the historic location of a portion of a ca. 1816 coral block fort that was demolished in 1857, additional research and sub-surface investigations by archaeologists may be warranted.

As background, the original fort in this location was built in 1815 by a Russian-American company, but King Kamehameha I objected to the implications of a foreign national fort on Hawaiian soil and ordered the fort seized and then expanded for Hawaiian use.²⁷ The new fort was constructed of coral block with 12-foot walls and cannon embrasures.²⁸ The fort was called

²³ Georgia and Warren Radford, *Hawaii's Art for Open Spaces, Sculpture in the Sun*, 1978. p. 8.

²⁴ Obituary for William Podesto at <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/william-podesto-obituary?pid=192582325>

²⁵ "How Does Amfac's Garden Grow? On the Roof," *Honolulu Advertiser*, August 2, 1971. P. E-1.

²⁶ The Guzzardo Partnership, "Introduction," <http://www.tgp-inc.com/introduction/>, accessed September 13, 2019.

²⁷ Bob Sigall, "200 years ago the Russians built a fort, and Fort Street is its namesake," *Honolulu Star-Advertiser Sunday Magazine*, October 30, 2016.

²⁸ HHF Planners, "Walker Park Cultural Landscape Report," (2018), 2-2.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Fort Kekuanohu, also known as Honolulu Fort, and its location gave Fort Street its name. Fort Street began as the road mauka from the main Fort gate, used as a route to inland resources needed by harbor users. Queen Street marked the mauka Fort wall. By the mid-1850s, Fort Kekuanohu was no longer considered necessary, and it was demolished in 1857. The coral blocks used to construct the fort were carried to Honolulu Harbor where they used to expand the shoreline and build up berthing facilities for whaling ships. Some of the coral blocks can still be seen in the water off the old Brewer Pier site at low tide.

It is unknown if any evidence of the fort remains below the surface of Walker Park, but if found, such materials could yield information relevant to the early history of Honolulu and Honolulu Harbor.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Beechert, Edward D. *Honolulu Crossroads of the Pacific*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1991.

Bender, Kathryn "Big Guns on the Waterfront," *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, January 11, 1999, p. 11.

The Cultural Landscape Foundation. "Vest Pocket Park." Accessed September 21, 2018. <https://tclf.org/category/created-landscape-types/public-park/vest-pocket-park>.

Fort Street Mall Business Improvement District. "Fort Street Mall: Historic Buildings." Accessed August 20, 2018. <http://fortstreetmall.org/historic-buildings/>.

HHF Planners. "[Preliminary Draft] Walker Park Cultural Landscape Report." Prepared for Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation and CH2M Hill Inc. 2018.

Loukaitou-Sideris, Anastasia and Tridib Banerjee. "The Negotiated Plaza: Design and Development of Corporate Open Space in Downtown Los Angeles and San Francisco." *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. 13:1-12. 1993.

Ronck, Ron. "Monument to Una," *Honolulu Advertiser*, December 23, 1991, p 15.

Sigall, Bob. "200 years ago, the Russians built a fort, and Fort Street is its namesake." *Honolulu Star-Advertiser Sunday Magazine*, October 30, 2016.

Solamillo, Stanley. "Pioneer Mill Company Office" NR nomination, Maui County Planning Department, 2007

The Guzzardo Partnership. "Introduction." accessed September 13, 2019. <http://www.tgp-inc.com/introduction/>,

Thompson, Erwin N. *Pacific Ocean Engineers, History of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the Pacific, 1905-1980*. Washington DC: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1980.

Newspaper articles (anonymous, in chronological order)

"Courthouse Demolition to Start Friday," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, December 25, 1968. p. 50.

"Downtown's building projects 'looking up'," *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, February 21, 1969. p. B-4.

"Section to Close," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, May 14, 1970. p. E-8.

"The Kokua Line," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, June 9, 1970. p. 2.

"Downtown reaches for the sky," *Honolulu Advertiser*, January 17, 1971. p. D-5.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

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): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.6 acre

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: 21.308474 | Longitude: -157.863956 |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Zone: UTM 4 | Easting: 617828.94 | Northing: 2356711.01 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

The boundaries for Walker Park are Nimitz Highway from Topa Financial Center parking garage facade to Nimitz's intersection with Queen Street, and Queen Street from Nimitz Highway to the Topa Financial Center building facade. These boundaries define the perimeter of what is now experienced by the user as Walker Park.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Nimitz Highway and Queen Street were selected because they are the original boundaries of the traffic island, with only the slight alteration of a vehicular turnout lane on Queen Street. The boundary of Walker Park on the Diamond Head side is now the northeastern facade of the Topa Financial Center building and garage. The block of Fort Street and adjacent sidewalk between Queen Street and Nimitz Highway were replaced with a pedestrian plaza that expanded the original footprint of the park, and that extended into the former traffic island.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Lindsey Walsworth and Polly Tice
organization: Mason Architects, Inc.
street & number: 119 Merchant Street, Suite 501
city or town: Honolulu state: Hawaii zip code: 96813
e-mail pt@masonarch.com
telephone: 808-536-0556
date: May, 2021

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.)

List of figures:

Figure 1: USGS Honolulu Quadrangle. Hawaii-Honolulu Co. 7.5-Minute Series 2013 (arrow added)

Figure 2: GIS Map showing boundary of Walker Park

Figure 3: Aerial photo of Honolulu Harbor's Piers 8-11 with view of newly created Walker Park, ca. 1952.

Figure 4: View of Walker Park from Nimitz Highway facing Fort Street, 1952.

Figure 5: View of Walker Park facing north from the H. Hackfeld & Co. Building, 1952.

Figure 6: View of Walker Park from Aloha Tower in 1953.

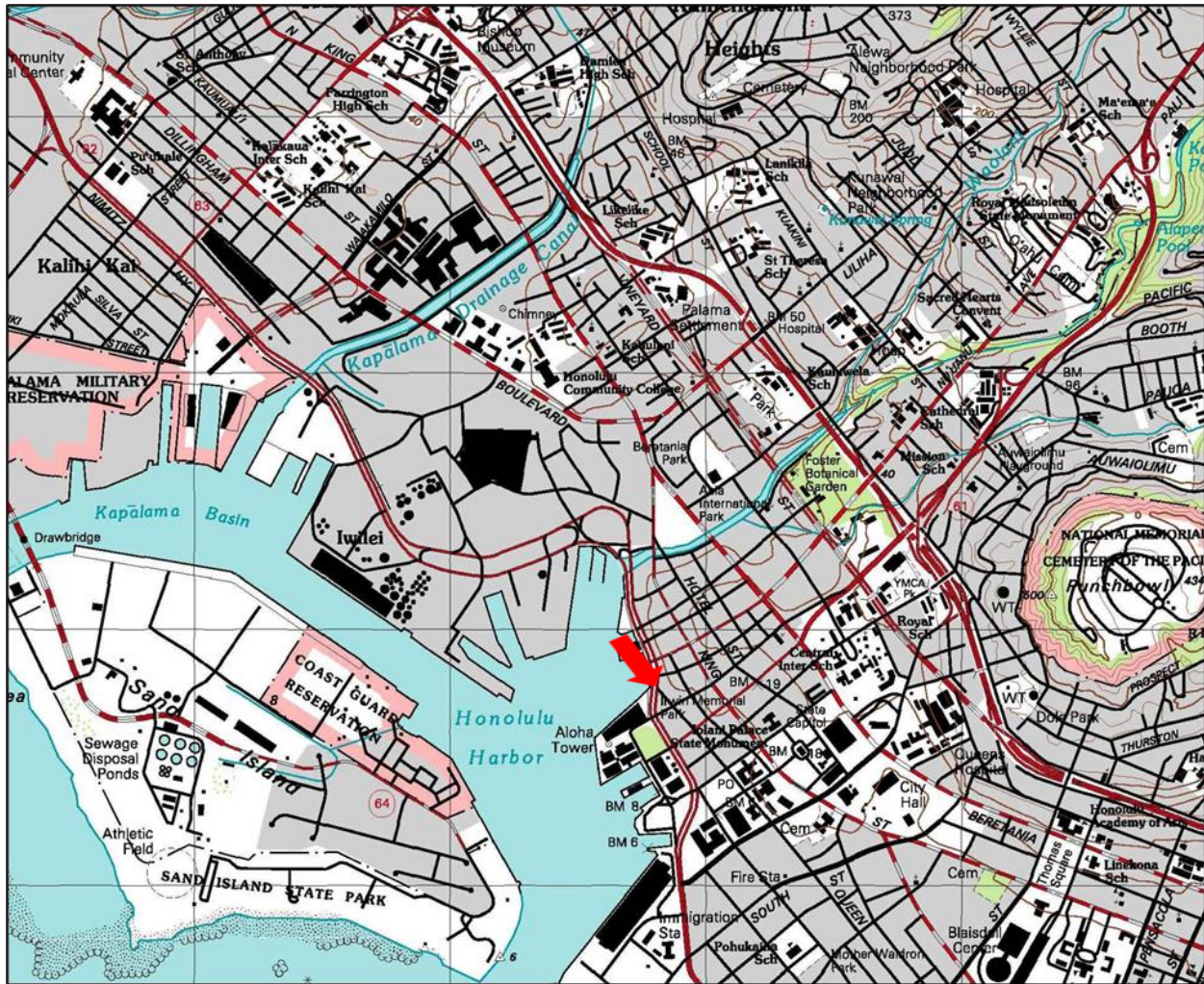
Figure 7: Walker Park Plan (Source: Walker Park Cultural Landscape Report, HHF Planners 2020)

Figure 8: Table: Walker Park Contributing and Non-Contributing Resources

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Figure 1. USGS Honolulu Quadrangle. Hawaii-Honolulu Co. 7.5-Minute Series 2013 (arrow added)



Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Figure 2: GIS Map showing boundary of Walker Park (Source: <https://qpublic.schneidercorp.com/Application.aspx?AppID=1045&LayerID=23342&PageTypeID=1&PageID=9743>) Boundary added



Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Figure 3: Aerial photo of Honolulu Harbor's Piers 8-11 with view of newly created Walker Park, ca. 1952. Walker Park shown in relation to the 1920s terminals at Piers 8-11, the historic H. Hackfeld & Co. Building and Old Courthouse, the original Fort Street thoroughfare, and Irwin Park.

(Source:<http://aviation.hawaii.gov/wpcontent/uploads/photogallery/Aviation%20Photos/1950-1959/Misc%201950s%20Photos/thumb/Honolulu%20Harbor%201.jpg>, Accessed August 2018.)



Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Figure 4: View of Walker Park from Nimitz Highway facing Fort Street, 1952. (Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/kamaina56/albums/72157603803338160/page2>)



Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Figure 5: View of Walker Park facing north from the H. Hackfeld & Co. Building, 1952. Camera facing north-north east
(Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/kamaina56/albums/72157603803338160/page2>)



Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

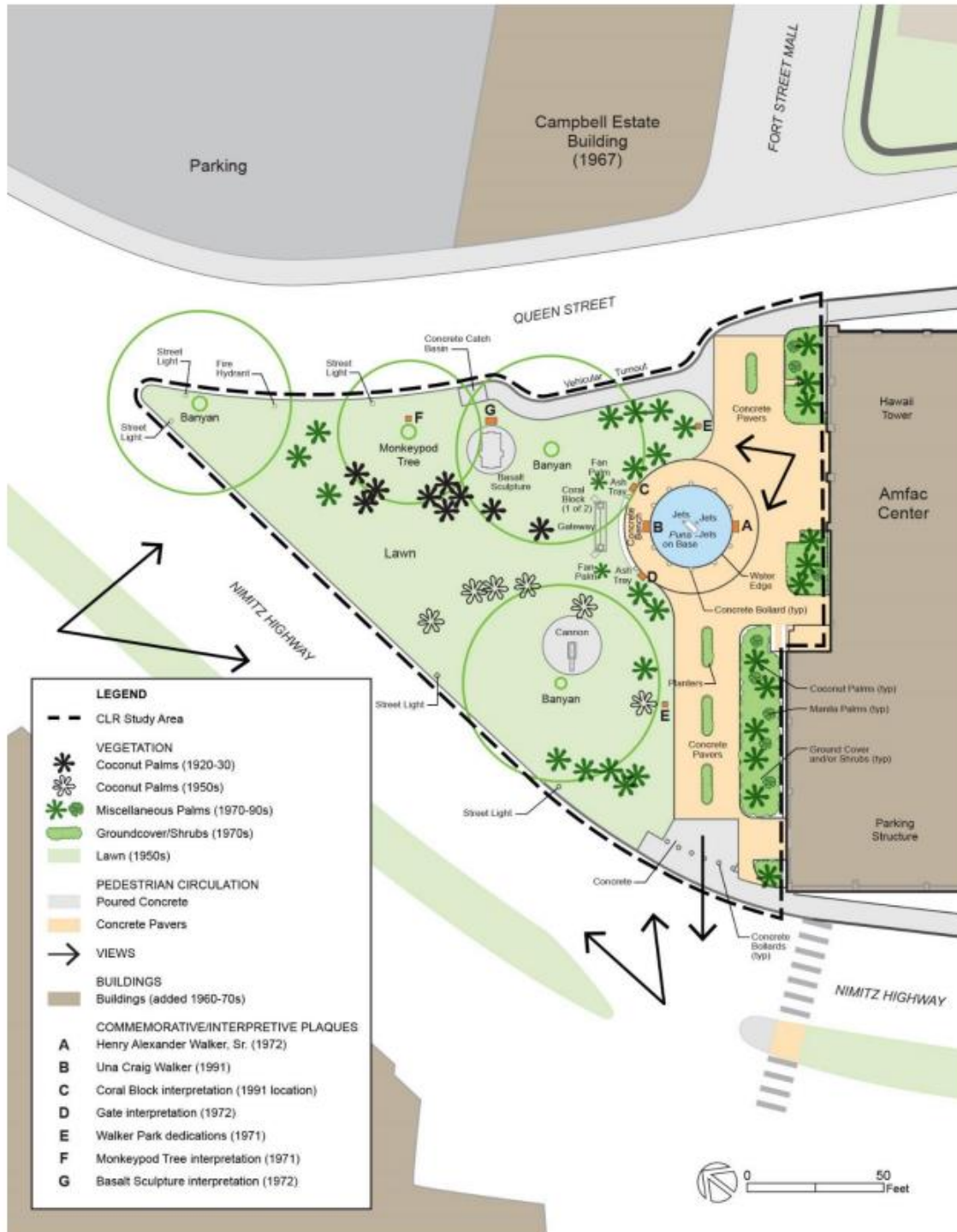
Figure 6: View of Walker Park from Aloha Tower in 1953. Camera facing east-north east
(Source: Draft National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for Walker Park, 2014)



Walker Park
 Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
 County and State

Figure 7: Walker Park Plan - 2020 (Source: Walker Park Cultural Landscape Report, HHF Planners 2020)



Walker Park
 Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
 County and State

Figure 8: Walker Park Contributing and Non-Contributing Resources

Walker Park Contributing Resources

Number	Resource	Provenance
1.	Cannon	Fort Kekuanohu (ca. 1816)
2.	H. Hackfeld & Co. Gate	Hackfeld Building (ca. 1899)
3.	Coral Blocks	Old Courthouse (ca. 1852)
4.	Site	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old Growth Coconut Palms 	1920s -1950s
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Banyan Trees (3) 	1952
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lawn Area 	1952-1972
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pathways and Pavers 	1971-1972 park design
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Younger Coconut Palms 	1971-1972 park design
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monkeypod Tree 	Transplanted from Old Courthouse site
5.	Fountain	1971-1972 park design
6.	Curved Fountain Seating	1971-1972 park design
7.	Nimitz Concrete Bollards	1971-1972 park design
8.	Basalt Sculpture	1971-1972 park design
	Commemorative Plaques (7)	1971-1972 park design
9-10.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walker Park (2) 	1971-1972 park design
11.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.A. Walker Sr. 	1971-1972 park design
12.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> H. Hackfeld Gate 	1971-1972 park design
13.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coral Blocks 	1971-1972 park design
14.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basalt Sculpture 	1971-1972 park design
15.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monkeypod Tree 	1971-1972 park design

Non-contributing Resources

Number	Resource	Provenance
1-10.	Planters around Fountain (10)	Replaced original concrete bollards
11.	“Puna” Sculpture in Fountain	1991 addition
12.	Una Walker Plaque	Ca. 1991
13.	H.A. Walker Jr. Plaque	Ca. 2000
	Miscellaneous Site Objects	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chain Barrier at Nimitz entry 	Later addition (date unknown)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wood Benches 	Later addition (date unknown)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concrete Ashtrays 	Later addition (date unknown)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streetlights (5) 	Not Historic
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire Hydrants (2) 	Not Historic
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiberglass Planters 	Modern
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Round Planters at Queen Street 	Modern

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
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: Walker Park

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: City and County of Honolulu

State: Hawaii

Photographer: Lindsey Walsworth

Date Photographed: September 28, 2018

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

Photo 1 of 7. Walker Park from Topa Tower. Camera facing northwest.

Photo 2 of 7. Walker Park showing old and newer growth tree cover, historic cannon, H. Hackfeld & Co. gate, and coral blocks from the Old Courthouse. Camera facing north-northeast.

Photo 3 of 7. Hackfeld & Co. gate. Note coral block and plaque. Basalt Sculpture in background. Camera facing north.

Photo 4 of 7. View of the DOT Harbors Division building from Walker Park. Camera facing west.

Photo 5 of 7. Pedestrian walkway and fountain with ca. 1991 sculpture added to Walker Park by AMFAC. View of Aloha Tower and the Pier 10 and 11 terminal building in the distance. Camera facing west-southwest.

Photo 6 of 7. Pedestrian walkway with the historic Fort Street corridor in the distance. Camera facing east-northeast.

Photo 7 of 7. View of Walker Park from the DOT Harbors Division building. Camera facing east.

Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Photo 1 of 7. Walker Park from Topa Tower. Camera facing northwest.



Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Photo 2 of 7. Walker Park showing old and newer growth tree cover, historic cannon, H. Hackfeld & Co. gate, and coral blocks from the Old Courthouse. Camera facing north-northeast.



Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Photo 3 of 7. H. Hackfeld & Co. gate. Note coral block and plaque. Basalt Sculpture in background. Camera facing north.



Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Photo 4 of 7. View of the DOT Harbors Division building from Walker Park. Camera facing west.



Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Photo 5 of 7. Pedestrian walkway and fountain with ca. 1992 sculpture added to Walker Park by AMFAC. View of Aloha Tower and the Pier 10 and 11 terminal building in the distance. Camera facing west-southwest.



Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Photo 6 of 7. Pedestrian walkway with the historic Fort Street corridor in the distance. Camera facing east-northeast.



Walker Park
Name of Property

Honolulu Hawaii
County and State

Photo 7 of 7. View of Walker Park from the DOT Harbors Division building. Camera facing east.



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.