

WARD B-3  
(Lono Ward)  
(Hale Manaleo)  
Territorial Hospital  
45-720 Kealahala Road  
Kaneohe  
Honolulu County  
Hawaii

HABS HI-538  
HI-538

HABS  
HI-538

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240-0001

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### WARD B-3 (LONO WARD) (HALE MANALEO)

HABS  
NO. HI-538

Location: 45-720 Keaahala Road  
Kaneohe  
Honolulu County, Hawaii  
Territorial Hospital Historic District  
Latitude: 21.409903  
Longitude: -157.809159

Significance: Lono Ward is significant as a contributing building within the Territorial Hospital historic district for its architecture and associations with the history of the treatment of the mentally ill in Hawaii and is an important architectural presence within the district. Along, with the other former hospital buildings, it serves as a reminder of the movement which emerged in the 1920s to provide more humane treatment and environments for the mentally ill. The building as an architectural statement contributes to the district in terms of its design, materials, workmanship, construction techniques, and period of construction.

Description: Lono Ward is one of ten buildings included in the Territorial Hospital historic district, and like the other buildings in the district, it is rendered in a Spanish Mission revival style, stands one story high, and is constructed of reinforced concrete. One of the original buildings built at the Territorial Hospital in 1929, it is one of seven buildings sited around the district's main quadrangle. Along with the similarly designed Mahi and Kanaloa wards, it defines the perimeter of the quadrangle on its Heeia<sup>1</sup> side.

The long rectangular, 24' x 232', single story building sits on a raised foundation, and has a hipped roof. It is distinguished by a central, rectangular tower set behind a centered, outset front lanai. The front lanai is nine bays wide. The

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<sup>1</sup>Name of the area located north of the building

lanai's three central bays featured round arched openings, with five concrete steps leading up to the centered opening. The lanai's three bays to either side of the round arched bays have segmental arches. The lanai has been enclosed with fixed plate and jalousie windows, with a centered, modern double doorway. A ramp providing access for the disabled is located in front of the lanai to the left of the centered entry steps. A second ramp located at the Kailua<sup>2</sup> end of the enclosed lanai provides direct access to a room on the lanai. The body of the building symmetrically extends six bays beyond the end of the outset lanai on either side. Simple Doric pilasters demarcate each bay and two flat arched windows are in each bay. The windows, which were originally 8 x 8 double hung sash, now are filled with wooden jalousies on the Kailua side of the building, and with jalousies and fixed plate glass windows on the Heeia side. The tower features three flat arched windows on its two sides, and four such openings on the front and rear. These also have lost their original double hung sash windows and now are enclosed with obscure glass windows and fixed ventilators. The building's original red tile roof has been replaced by an asphalt shingle roof. A modern, standing seam metal pent roof shelters the entry steps and access ramp.

The rear elevation of the building is similar to front, but rather than a lanai, a shallow wing, six bays wide, extends from the main body. The rear fenestration is similar to the façade. As in the front of the building all the original windows have been replaced. The existing window openings on the Kailua side of the building now have wooden jalousies, and those on the Heeia side have jalousies and fixed plate glass windows. Eight of the twenty four rear windows have been expanded to accommodate doors, which access classrooms and the learning center. On the Heeia side of the rear elevation an elevated walkway, accessed by four steps at one end, and a ramp at the other has been added to the building in order to gain use of the four doorways.

Originally the interior of the building featured an open ward running the length of the building, which was designed to hold sixty beds. The bathrooms were in the rear wing, as were four private rooms. When Windward Community College took over the building, it was remodeled for classroom and learning center use. The classrooms are accessible through the doors placed in the rear elevation. The lanai was also enclosed at that time.

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<sup>2</sup>Name of the area located east of the building

History: In Hawaii, prior to 1862, "the mentally afflicted were sent to jail to mingle with the felons and prisoners of all kinds; they were treated simply as dangerous characters to be kept away from the public; and it was not until this date [1862] that the question was raised of setting aside a place for their care." (*Report of the President of the Board of Health, 1901*). In 1862 the government appropriated money for the purchase of land and the construction of facilities; however, it was not until 1866 that the Oahu Insane Asylum was completed. Located on School Street, the "lunatic asylum" remained at that location until 1930, when more spacious quarters in Kaneohe were opened.

During the early 1920s the need for a new asylum was recognized and in 1924 President Calvin Coolidge issued an executive order to set aside 147 acres in Kaneohe, which had been under the administration the War Department, to the Territory of Hawaii. The Legislature appropriated \$300,000 for the asylum and the Department of Public Works expended \$25,000 to have Arthur Reynolds draw up the plans. Subsequent legislatures appropriated additional funds, and by 1929 \$844,913 was expended on the construction of the new institution. Reynolds died in 1925 from a stroke and Edwin Pettit of the Department of Public Works completed the initial plans. Lono Ward, originally named Ward B-3, was designed by Pettit, with final drawings completed in June 1926. It was one of four wards constructed for male patients that followed the Ward B plan. The three other buildings to employ this plan, Mahi (now called Hale Mana`opono), Kanaloa (now called Hale La`akea), and Judd (now called Hale No`eau), remain standing and are included within the Territorial Hospital historic district. All the buildings on the Heeia side of the hospital grounds were used for male patients, with women's wards placed on the Kailua side of the property.

The new hospital, with its spacious grounds and Spanish Mission revival style architecture, reflected the period's more enlightened view on the treatment of the mentally ill, and was considered a model of its kind. The December 13, 1931 *Honolulu Advertiser* reported that mainland experts who visited the institution found it equal to some mainland hospitals and "far superior to most of those to be found anywhere." With magnificent views of both the Koolau Mountains and Kaneohe Bay, the design of the new hospital strove to avoid a "frigid institutional atmosphere," (*Honolulu Advertiser, November 24, 1929*) and provided ample room for recreation and farming. The physicians felt such beautiful surroundings would have a beneficial effect upon the patients. Equipped with its own sewage plant, power house, water system, bakery,

kitchen, laundry facility, and ice plant, the new hospital was likened to a city unto itself, a "haven of refuge for the insane" (*Ibid.*). The patients worked in the laundry, bakery, kitchens, shops, sewing room, and the farm, which included a dairy.

Not only did the physical plant indicate the changed attitude towards the mentally ill, but also the terms employed in the administration of the hospital disclosed the shifting philosophy of treatment. Terms such as "mental illness," "order of hospitalization," and "conditional discharge," supplanted such words as "lunacy," "insanity," "order of commitment," and "parole." The complex itself was called a "hospital" rather than a "lunatic asylum" or "insane asylum." Although accommodating great advances in the treatment of the mentally ill, the new hospital primarily served as an institution of custody rather than one of treatment.

Following World War II advances in the field of psychiatry and the declining condition of the physical plant encouraged the construction of more modern structures on lands *mauka* of the historic district. In 1950 a new treatment facility with beds for 215 patients was opened. The pre-war buildings were gradually abandoned, and beginning in 1972, the original hospital facilities, including Lono Ward, were transferred from the Department of Health to the University of Hawaii and the historic district and its surrounding area were converted into Windward Community College. Under Windward Community College Lono Ward was remodeled for classroom and learning center use, and was renamed Hale Manaleo.

The use of the Spanish Mission Revival style of architecture at the Territorial Hospital, including Lono Ward, reflected the architectural trends of the period. By the 1920s Spanish forms were considered by Hawaii architects to be highly appropriate for Hawaii, and during this period Mediterranean designs emerged as the style of choice for major public buildings. The popularity of the style is well-reflected in such nationally registered buildings as the Honolulu Post Office, Honolulu Hale, McKinley High School, the Police Station and District Courthouse at Merchant and Bethel streets, Hawaiian Electric Building, Richards Street YMCA, Armed Forces YMCA, and various fire stations throughout the city. The Territorial Hospital, which is eligible for the National Registers of Historic places, continued this tradition of utilizing a building form that was deemed climatically appropriate and aesthetically pleasing.

## Project Statement

This HABS documentation was prepared for the University of Hawaii, Capital Improvements Office as mitigation for the demolition of the Lono Ward building. As a project funded by the State of Hawaii government and located on state property, the documentation was part of the agreed upon mitigation measures through consultation with the Hawaii State Historic Preservation Office, Windward Community College and University of Hawaii. Windward Community College will be constructing a new Learning Resource Center at the location of Lono Ward.

Sources:

Original blueprints at the Department of Accounting and General Services, found in files C-8-1 (1960s repairs and reproofing projects), C-11-2 (original drawings for Ward B, original grading and road plans for the hospital), and C-12-2 (1950s and 1960s plans of the hospital grounds).

*Report of the President of the Board of Health*, (Honolulu: Territory of Hawaii, 1901).

Department of Institutions Report, *The First Ten Years 1939-1949*, (Honolulu: Department of Institutions, 1949).

"New Hospital for Insane to Be at Kaneohe," *Honolulu Advertiser*, November 24, 1924, p. 17.

"New City to Be Haven of Refuge for Insane: Moving Day Scheduled Next Month," *Honolulu Advertiser*, November 24, 1929, p. 4.

"Noble Work Being Done [for] Hawaii's Unfortunates at Wonderful Kaneohe Hospital," *Honolulu Advertiser*, December 13, 1931, p. 2.

"Territorial Hospital at Kaneohe Attracts Widespread Attention," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, February 25, 1930, p. 12.

Historian: Don J. Hibbard