



KAUAI HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW COMMISSION

AUBREY SUMMERS, CHAIR
GERALD IDA, VICE CHAIR

CHUCKY BOY CHOCK, MEMBER
HI'ILEI HAMBERG, MEMBER, EX-OFFICIO
KATHLEEN KIKUCHI-SAMONTE, MEMBER
CAROLYN LARSON, MEMBER
SANDI QUINSAAT, MEMBER
SUSAN REMOALDO, MEMBER
JULIE SOUZA, MEMBER

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Pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes Section 92-3.7, which codified Act 220, SLH 2021, the meetings of the County of Kauai Historic Preservation Review Commission will be conducted as follows:

OFFICE OF
THE COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY OF KAUAI

- **The meeting location that will be open to the public is:**

**LHu'e Civic Center, Moikeha Building
Meeting Room 2A-2B
4444 Rice Street, LHu'e, Kauai, Hawaii**

- **Written testimony** indicating your 1) name or pseudonym, and if applicable, your position/title and organization you are representing, and 2) the agenda item that you are providing comment on, may be submitted on any agenda item in writing to planningdepartment@kauai.gov or mailed to the County of Kauai Planning Department, 4444 Rice Street, Suite A473, LHu'e, Hawaii 96766. Written testimony received by the Planning Department at least **24 hours prior** to the meeting will be posted as testimony to the Kauai Historic Preservation Review Commission's website prior to the meeting (<https://www.kauai.gov/Government/Boards-and-Commissions/Historic-Preservation-Commission>). Any testimony received after this time will be retained as part of the record, but we cannot assure the Commission will receive it with sufficient time for review prior to the meeting.
- **Oral testimony** will be taken on specific agenda items, at the **public meeting location** indicated on the meeting agenda.
- **IF YOU NEED AN AUXILIARY AID/SERVICE, OTHER ACCOMMODATION DUE TO A DISABILITY, OR AN INTERPRETER FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING PERSONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF BOARDS & COMMISSIONS AT (808) 241-4917 OR ADAVIS@KAUAI.GOV AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. REQUESTS MADE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE WILL ALLOW ADEQUATE TIME TO FULFILL YOUR REQUEST. UPON REQUEST, THIS NOTICE IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATE FORMATS SUCH AS LARGE PRINT, BRAILLE, OR ELECTRONIC COPY.**

KAUA'I HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW COMMISSION MEETING
NOTICE AND AGENDA

Thursday, March 19, 2026
1:00 p.m. or shortly thereafter
Līhu'e Civic Center, Moikeha Building
Meeting Room 2A-2B
4444 Rice Street, Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i

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OFFICE OF
THE COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY OF KAUAI

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. ROLL CALL
- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- D. MINUTES OF THE MEETING(S) OF THE KHPRC
 - 1. February 19, 2026 Meeting Minutes
- E. GENERAL BUSINESS
 - 1. **Certified Local Government 40th Anniversary- Overview of the history of the program on Kaua'i**
- F. COMMUNICATIONS
- G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- H. NEW BUSINESS
 - 1. **Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places**
United States Coast Guard Nawiliwili Harbor Light
TMK: (4) 3-5-001:004
Ninini Point, Kaua'i

Consideration of a historic property for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

a. Director's Report pertaining to this matter.
- I. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
Pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes Sections 92-4 and 92-5(a)(4), the purpose of this executive session is to consult with the County's legal counsel on questions, issues, status and procedural

matters. This consultation involves consideration of the powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and/or liabilities of the Commission and the County as they relate to the following matters:

1. **Certified Local Government 40th Anniversary- Overview of the history of the program on Kaua'i**

2. **Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places
United States Coast Guard Nawiliwili Harbor Light
TMK: (4) 3-5-001:004
Ninini Point, Kaua'i**

Consideration of a historic property for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

- a. Director's Report pertaining to this matter.

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

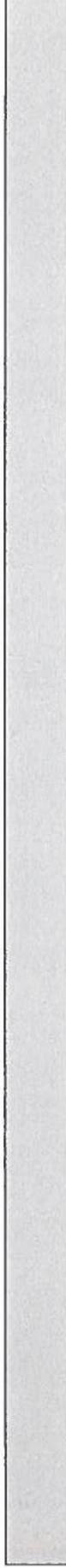
K. SELECTION OF NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA TOPICS (April 16, 2026)

L. ADJOURNMENT

Draft to be Approved

OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES

Board/Commission	Kaua'i Historic Preservation Review Commission		Meeting Date:	February 19, 2026
Location	Līhu'e Civic Center, Mo'ikeha Building, Meeting Room 2A/2B		Start of Meeting: 1:03 p.m.	End of Meeting: 2:32 p.m.
Present	Vice Chair Aubrey Summers. Commissioners: Chucky Boy Chock, Kathleen Kikuchi-Samonte, Gerald Ida, Sandi Quinsaas, Susan Remoaldo, Julie Souza, and Ex-Officio Hi'ilei Hamberg. Deputy County Attorney Charles Foster. Planning Department Staff: Deputy Director Jodi A. Higuchi Sayegusa, Planner Marisa Valenciano, and Secretary Duke Nakamatsu. Boards and Commissions Staff: Support Clerk Celine De Leon and Administrator Ellen Ching.			
Excused	Chair Carolyn Summers			
Absent				



SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
A. Call to Order	Vice Chair Summers called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.	
B. Roll Call	Deputy Planning Director Jodi A. Higuchi Sayegusa verified attendance by roll call: Commissioner Chock replied here. Commissioner Kikuchi-Samonte replied here. Ex-Officio Hamberg replied here. Commissioner Ida replied here. Commissioner Quinsaas replied here. Commissioner Remoaldo replied here. Commissioner Souza replied here. Vice Chair Summers replied here.	A quorum was established with



SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<p>C. Selection of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson</p>	<p>Ms. Higuchi Sayegusa opened the floor for Chair nominations.</p> <p>Vice Chair Summers nominated Mr. Gerald Ida. Mr. Chock nominated Ms. Aubrey Summers.</p> <p>Ms. Higuchi Sayegusa stated that the Commission could now consider the first nominee, Mr. Ida, for the position of Chair. She asked if there was any discussion and called for a motion and a second.</p> <p>Vice Chair Summers stated that because Mr. Ida was not fully willing to serve, she would be willing to do so. She added that she would support Mr. Ida being nominated for Vice Chair if he was willing.</p> <p><i>Vice Chair Summers immediately assumed Chair duties.</i></p> <p>Chair Summers was congratulated by the Commission and Planning Department Staff.</p> <p>Ms. Higuchi Sayegusa opened the floor for Vice Chair nominations.</p> <p>Ms. Remoaldo nominated Mr. Gerald Ida.</p>	<p>seven (7) Commissioners present.</p> <p>Ms. Remoaldo moved to close Chair nominations. Ms. Quinsaata seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.</p> <p>Ms. Remoaldo moved to elect Ms. Aubrey Summers to serve as Chair for calendar year 2026. Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.</p> <p>Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte moved to close Vice Chair nominations. Ms. Remoaldo seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.</p>

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p><i>Mr. Ida immediately assumed Vice Chair duties.</i></p> <p>Vice Chair Ida was congratulated by the Commission and Planning Department Staff.</p>	<p>Ms. Remoaldo moved to elect Mr. Gerald Ida to serve as Vice Chair for calendar year 2026. Ms. Quinsaas seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.</p>
<p>D. Approval of Agenda</p>		<p>Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte moved to approve the February 19, 2026, agenda. Ms. Remoaldo seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.</p>
<p>E. Minutes of the Minute(s) of the KHPRC</p>	<p>1. December 25, 2025, Meeting Minutes</p> <p>Ms. Remoaldo requested that on page 2, in that last paragraph, fourth sentence, the phrase "state holders" may be a spelling error and should likely read "stake holders." On page 9, in the first paragraph about halfway down on the right-hand side, the sentence reads "... historic properties with inadvertent findings were identified near the conducted..." and it appears the word "location" should replace "conducted." On page 12, in the second-to-last paragraph, the sentence beginning "Mr. Takeda explained that once the project is fully completed and the equipment is removed, the only visible evidence on the land portion..." appears to be incomplete. On page 21, in the last paragraph, the phrase "...shown are archaeological design..." likely should read "architectural design." Other than minor gender and spelling corrections, no additional amendments were noted.</p>	<p>Ms. Remoaldo moved to approve the December 25, 2025, Meeting Minutes with the stated amendments. Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.</p>
<p>F. General Business</p>	<p>1. State of Hawai'i Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Anahola Kuleana Homestead Settlement <u>TMK: (4) 4-7-002:004 (por.); (4) 4-8-002-001 (por.); (4) 4-8-003-006 (por.)</u></p>	

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p><u>Anahola, Kaua`i National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106: Consultation with Native Hawaiian Organizations and Potential Consulting Parties</u></p> <p><i>There was no one in the public to testify on this agenda item.</i></p> <p>Ms. Valenciano explained that the project before the Commission is a Section 106 review. The action required by the KHPRC is to provide comments in a Section 106 response regarding the project's potential effects on historic properties. The Commission may provide comments in a response letter, defer comments until more information becomes available, or acknowledge receipt of the consultation request under Section 106 and Chapter 6E. She noted that the project applicant is the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL), which operated under the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Section 106 review is triggered by federal funding, specifically NAGPRA funds. The proposed project involves the development of a residential subdivision consisting of approximately 115 homestead lots on former vacant agricultural lands in Anahola. Ms. Valenciano explained that the Section 106 review for this project is primarily limited to site preparation activities, including infrastructure work, rather than the construction of the homes themselves. She added that some of the funding will also support homeowner assistance programs, such as mortgage and rent stabilization assistance. Regarding cultural and historic resource identification, Ms. Valenciano summarized the work completed by the consultants. An archaeological reconnaissance survey previously identified approximately eight historic properties within the area. Additional reconnaissance-level work was conducted to evaluate the significance of architectural features. Of the eight identified sites, two were determined to be potentially eligible for listing on the historic register. Of these, one site is proposed to be preserved, while the other will be avoided. Ms. Valenciano concluded by stating</p>	

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	<p>that the Planning Department recommends the Commission to make a motion to provide comments in a response letter addressing the area of potential effect, the identification of historic properties, and the project's potential effects on those historic properties.</p> <p><i>The Commission heard from Jeff Seastrom, senior planner on behalf of DHHL.</i></p> <p>Mr. Seastrom explained that reducing the homestead waitlist is a statewide issue and that the DHHL has been exploring new initiatives to address it. One of these initiatives is the Kuleana Homestead Lot program. Under this approach, applicants may receive a lot more quickly than through the traditional homestead process, but the lots are provided "as-is." Unlike traditional homesteads, which typically include road access and utilities, Kuleana Homestead Lots requires recipients to develop the land themselves. The program is intended for individuals interested in subsistence agriculture or small-scale farming. He noted that former agricultural lands, such as those in Anahola, are well suited for this type of program. Historically, Anahola supported subsistence agriculture prior to Western contact, though many traditional practices were lost with the rise of plantation agriculture. DHHL currently manages over 4,000 acres of land in the area, the largest land inventory in Kaua'i. Much of this land had previously been leased to plantations, but after the closure of the Lihue Plantation in 1997, the lands were returned to DHHL. The department is now seeking ways to utilize these lands to address the homestead waitlist while supporting agricultural use. Mr. Seastrom described the project area as being located between Anahola and Kapa'a and surrounded by lands managed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), including conservation lands. Existing conditions consist of former agricultural lands that are now heavily overgrown with dense vegetation. He explained that the project will be implemented in two phases. The initial phase, which is currently being prepared for bid, focuses on road construction</p>	

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>and infrastructure development by the DHHL Land Division. The development of the individual homestead lots will occur in a later phase. Due to the structure of NEPA and NAHA funding, the project is undergoing a tiered review process. The current review represents the first tier, focusing primarily on the infrastructure work. However, the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) considers the infrastructure and future lot development to be part of the same overall undertaking, so the Section 106 review addresses the broader project area. He noted that additional archaeological work will occur as the lots are further defined. While a conceptual plan for the subdivision was included in the presentation packet, it remains preliminary. Because the area is heavily vegetated and was previously used for agriculture, it is possible that additional historic features may be identified during later studies. DHHL and SHPD acknowledge this possibility and anticipate that further Archaeological Inventory Surveys (AIS) may be conducted on a lot-by-lot or phased basis. He summarized the previous archaeological work conducted for the environmental assessment. A reconnaissance survey completed in 2018 identified eight historic sites, primarily associated with plantation-era agriculture. These included reservoirs, railroad features, retaining structures, and other agricultural infrastructure, along with a historic artifact. More recently, SHPD requested that these sites also be evaluated from a historic architectural perspective. Architectural historians revisited the sites originally identified in the earlier survey and generally corroborated the earlier findings, although the sites have become more overgrown since the original 2017-2018 studies. Through this architectural evaluation and for purposes of the Section 106 review, two sites were determined to retain sufficient integrity to be considered eligible for historic listing: Site 1, a portion of the plantation ditch system, and Site 5, Reservoir 3. Mr. Seastrom explained that the ditch system extends for many miles across the former plantation landscape and that only certain portions remain visible or intact. The most intact features of the ditch system will be preserved in place, while less intact or fragmentary portions that are difficult to identify will not be preserved. Because the ditch system runs throughout the</p>	

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	<p>conceptual development area and is no longer active, preserving isolated fragments was determined to provide limited benefit. For mitigation, Site 5, the reservoir, will be avoided entirely. Another reservoir identified during earlier studies lies outside the project area. The primary mitigation for Site 1 will involve preserving the intact ditch system features in place. Other architectural recordation, which includes detailed photography, architectural documentation, and preparation of a Historic American Engineering Record-style report. He stated that the report outlining these findings and recommendations has been submitted to SHPD for review. The next anticipated step is the preparation of a preservation plan, which consultants Nohopapa and Fung are prepared to develop. He concluded by outlining the project timeline. The current meeting forms part of the Section 106 consultation process. DHHL has reached out to Native Hawaiian organizations, stakeholders, and the County to gather comments. Feedback from this meeting will be included in the Section 106 record and incorporated into the environmental review required for NAHA funding. DHHL aims to complete the consultation process by the end of the month, submit the funding application in March, and begin initial infrastructure work by late March or April. Development of the homestead lots is anticipated to occur from 2026 through 2030, depending on funding the project availability.</p> <p>Vice Chair Ida asked whether an archaeologist had conducted any surveys on the property, noting that the report states a historic architect completed the reconnaissance-level survey.</p> <p>Mr. Seastrom clarified that an archaeological reconnaissance survey was conducted in 2018 as part of the environmental assessment. He explained that after the report was submitted, SHPD agreed with the findings but requested that a historic architect also evaluate the sites. As a result, both Nohopapa Archaeology and Fung, a historic architecture firm, conducted reviews of the property.</p>	

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	<p>Vice Chair Ida asked whether the sites were identified during the archaeological reconnaissance survey.</p> <p>Mr. Seastrom confirmed that the sites were initially identified during the archaeological reconnaissance survey. He explained that the findings differ from the reconnaissance-level architectural lens for Section 106 and Chapter 6E review, which affects how integrity and significance are determined. He noted that Site 1 was in the best condition and suitable for preservation. Mr. Seastrom added that the current infrastructure work will occur along existing earth roads where no sites were identified; however, any location where the work crosses the ditch system will be documented. He also explained that due to dense vegetation, only accessible areas have been surveyed so far. As vegetation is cleared during infrastructure work or future lot development, additional sites may be identified and evaluated by archaeologists, historic architects, or both, and could be preserved if warranted.</p> <p>Ms. Higuchi Sayegusa noted that, as summarized in Marisa's report, the Commission has several options: to provide comments on the project, defer comments until more information becomes available, or simply receive the request for consultation.</p> <p>Chair Summers asked whether the Commission could accept the consultation now and provide comments later if additional input arises.</p> <p>Ms. Higuchi Sayegusa confirmed that the Commission could place the item on the agenda to decide</p> <p>Ms. Higuchi Sayegusa confirmed that the Commission could place the item on the</p>	

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	<p>agenda to decide on comments, but doing so would not prevent members from submitting additional comments later during the comment period.</p> <p>Ms. Valenciano clarified that if the Commission chooses to delay providing comments, there is a risk of missing the strict 30-day Section 106 timeline. While comments can sometimes be submitted past the 30 days, she noted it would be preferable to provide any comments now so they can be included in the record within the required timeline.</p> <p>Ms. Remoaldo stated that she felt uncomfortable responding to the project when the documentation includes terms such as “presumably” and references to additional studies in the future, noting that it is difficult to provide comments without having all the information available.</p> <p>Ms. Souza asked why the property is not cleared before being made available to beneficiaries and questioned why they would need to clear the heavy vegetation themselves to use the land.</p> <p>Mr. Seastrom responded that, as a consultant for DHHL, he does not determine which lands are selected for projects. He noted that many lands in DHHL’s inventory statewide are not ideal for development, as they were turned over from previous uses. He explained that DHHL is pursuing multiple housing initiatives and that this project represents one option among several being considered on Kaua’i. He stated that DHHL leadership is seeking ways to move as many homestead opportunities forward as possible to reduce the waitlist. Through island plans and beneficiary surveys, DHHL has identified a group of applicants interested in subsistence agriculture rather than traditional turnkey homes. The Kuleana Homestead Lot approach is intended to provide that option and allow some applicants to receive land sooner rather than waiting for a fully developed homestead. Mr. Seastrom acknowledged the concern</p>	<p>Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte moved to accept/receive the request. Ms. Quinsaast seconded the motion. Motion carried 7:0.</p>

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>that beneficiaries may face additional challenges with undeveloped lands but explained that the program is meant to offer flexibility for those willing to take on that responsibility. He added that the consultants are working to minimize obstacles where possible and that the program may also provide opportunities for agricultural and economic activity that are not typically available with standard homestead lots.</p> <p>Ms. Souza questioned why nearby solar developments appear to occupy the more suitable portions of the property while homestead beneficiaries would need to clear heavily overgrown land before being able to build, noting that many applicants have already waited a long time for homestead opportunities.</p> <p>With no further discussion, the Commission thanked Mr. Seastrom and moved on to further business.</p>	
G. Communications	There were no Communications.	
H. Unfinished Business	There was no Unfinished Business.	
I. New Business	<p>1. <u>Talk Story Bookstore – Kaumakani Village</u> <u>Proposed storefront to an existing commercial building</u> <u>Property Address: 1-2500 Kaumuali'i Highway, Kaumakani</u> <u>TMK: (4) 1-7-006:001</u> <u>Kaumakani Village Plantation Camp</u> <u>Kaumakani, Kaua'i</u></p> <p><i>There was no one in the public to testify on this agenda item</i></p>	

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>Ms. Valenciano began by correcting her director's report, clarifying that the railing mentioned is not existing but a proposed new wooden railing. She noted that the department distributed two handouts: a blue excerpt from the Plantation Camp Form-Based Code provided by the applicant and a photo handout showing the existing building and current shop signs as visual references only. She explained that the project is a Class I Zoning Permit for Talk Story Bookstore, which proposes constructing a western-style storefront facade in front of the existing commercial building in Kaumakani Plantation Camp. The facade would be a freestanding steel structure about 16 feet tall, with a wood veneer and corrugated metal roof overhang. It would sit approximately five feet in front of the building, attached to a new railing but not touching the historic structure, and would span about 26 feet wide. Ms. Valenciano provided background that the building previously served as the camp social hall and later housed the credit union and other businesses. While not currently listed on the historic register, the camp buildings are over 50 years old and on the county inventory list. A 2021 Fung Assessment determined that Kaumakani Camp may be eligible for historic district listing under Criteria A and C and retains high historic integrity. The bookstore building was identified as a contributing structure in good condition. In its evaluation, the department noted the property currently has two business signs, one attached to the building and one freestanding. These signs are considered compatible in size and character and do not obscure the historic building. The proposed storefront may require removal of the existing signs. The department also noted that the western-style false front contrasts with the plantation camp architectural style and questioned whether its size, scale, and massing may detract from the historic character. However, because the structure is freestanding, it would not damage the historic building and could be removed in the future. Ms. Valenciano added that the project generally meets the Plantation Camp Form-Based Code, though the applicant may need to review materials to comply with Wildfire Urban Interface (WUI)</p>	

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>regulations requiring non-combustible materials. She concluded that the department recommends the applicant consider alternatives, such as a highway sign that does not obscure the building, or if proceeding with the facade, reduce its size and massing and ensure it is installed in a reversible manner.</p> <p><i>The Commission heard from Mr. Ed Justus, owner of Talk Story Bookstore.</i></p> <p>Mr. Justus explained that Talk Story Bookstore began in Hanapēpē in 2004 and operated there for nearly 20 years before relocating to Kaumakani in May of last year after their insurance company would no longer cover their previous building, which must now be demolished and rebuilt. He says they are grateful for the opportunity to move into the historic building in Kaumakani, formerly the Gay and Robinson pool hall, which has also served as a church, credit union, and community display space. He stated that the bookstore wanted to honor the building's history and consulted Gay and Robinson before proposing the western-style facade. The facade is designed as a freestanding steel with fencing connecting it to the building so it can be removed in the future without damaging the historic structure. Mr. Justus also noted that he discussed the concept with the Planning Director Ka'aina Hull, who indicated that a western-style facade is consistent with the area's Form-Based Code. The proposal was then developed with Island Architects and submitted with the property owner's permission. He referenced materials in his packet, including photos of the building, architectural drawings, Form-Based Code excerpts, examples of similar facades in Hanapēpē and Waimea, and a letter of support from Gay and Robinson.</p> <p>Ms. Remoaldo asked how high the roof or ridgeline of the existing building is.</p> <p>Ms. Valenciano responded that the plans included in the agenda packet show the building wall at 8 feet on sheet A2, but the roof or ridgeline height isn't indicated, so</p>	

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>it's difficult to determine the exact height.</p> <p>Chair Summers asked if the plans are drawn to scale, noting that if they are, measuring against other elements on the same sheet suggests the roof or ridgeline is approximately 14 feet high.</p> <p>Mr. Justus responded that they estimate the roof or ridgeline height to be between 14 and 16 feet, roughly in line with Chair Summers' suggestion.</p> <p>Ms. Remoaldo asked about the height of the proposed structure.</p> <p>Mr. Justus responded that the proposed facade is 18 feet tall from the ground to the top.</p> <p>Chair Summers asked whether Wall Section 1 on sheet A02, which shows the side portion, is 16 feet tall.</p> <p>Ms. Remoaldo offered comments, noting that while Talk Story wants to stand out, it's also important to fit within the community and honor the transition from their previous location. She stated that the proposed facade feels overwhelming, like a "time tunnel" or portal, rather than a subtle threshold into the new space. She observed that the false front is purely visual and does not address weather concerns, since it's separate from the original building. She suggested a smaller sign, roughly the width of the doors, about 8 feet, which would maintain the intended visual character without overpowering the building.</p> <p>Chair Summers asked if there were any drawings that show the proposed facade positioned in front of the existing building.</p>	

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>Mr. Justus asked for clarification, wondering if Chair Summers is referring to something other than the architectural drawings.</p> <p>Chair Summers clarified that in the current materials, the facade and the existing building are shown separately, so the existing building isn't visible behind the proposed facade and suggested that showing them together would help the commissioners better understand the proposal.</p> <p>Mr. Justus responded that he does have a combined drawing, but noted it is a rough, cut-and-paste version that isn't to scale. He explained that the version shown is about 26-30 feet wide, which is wider than the actual proposed facade. The permit request is for a 24-26 foot wide facade, so the drawing provides only a rough idea of how it would appear in front of the building.</p> <p>Chair Summers noted that in the submitted drawing, the facade appears much shorter than shown in the architectural plans, likely because the actual height of the existing building's ridge isn't indicated.</p> <p>Mr. Justus apologized and explained that the drawing is a rough, not-to-scale concept. He noted that the interior ceiling in the middle of the store is about 12 feet high, so accounting for the roof layers, he estimated the top of the existing building approximately 14 feet high.</p> <p>Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte said she appreciated the idea of using the Hanapēpē store facade to show continuity, but emphasized that when adding to a historic building, the new element should blend in without detracting from the original, while still being</p>	

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>recognizable as separate and new. She noted that the proposed facade feels very much like Hanapēpē and not entirely like Kaumakani, which has its own character. She liked the red color as it complements the area across the street but feels the facade as proposed is overwhelming. She suggested a design that flows more naturally with the building and surroundings, standing out, but in a subtler, more fitting way.</p> <p>Ms. Valenciano echoed Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte's comments, noting that the guidance from Preservation Brief 14 on exterior additions is subjective and can be tricky. She explained that additions should be distinguishable yet familiar, like telling an older sister from a younger sister, they look different but share characteristics. The challenge is achieving that balance architecturally: blending too much can feel inauthentic, while standing out too much can be overwhelming. She emphasized that this is the core discussion today, how to add new elements to an old building in a way that is respectful but clearly different, with details like materials and design to be further refined.</p> <p>Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte expressed concern about the proposed facade being approximately 2 feet higher than the existing roof, noting that with recent winds and weather, that height could be potentially hazardous.</p> <p>Mr. Justus responded that wind concerns were discussed with the architect, Mr. John Underwood. He explained that the facade framing is steel, with steel posts and beams designed to withstand up to 180 mph winds. He noted that while the structure is engineered for safety, they are flexible on the proportions and are willing to adjust the design to find a comfortable middle ground that works for everyone.</p> <p>Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte said her main concern is that while she appreciates the idea of bringing the Hanapēpē facade over, it shouldn't stand out so much. She emphasized</p>	

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>that the design needs to blend in with the community, since the bookstore is there to be part of the community.</p> <p>Ms. Higuchi Sayegusa noted that while many opinions and suggestions have been shared, the Commission will eventually need a motion and a second. She reminded the Commission that, as outlined in Ms. Valenciano's director's report, the Commission has several possible actions for providing recommendations.</p> <p><i>Commissioner Souza left the meeting at 2:20 p.m.</i></p> <p>Vice Chair Ida asked whether the primary purpose of the proposed facade is to attract attention from the highway.</p> <p>Mr. Justus confirmed that attracting attention from the highway is one of several purposes. He explained that the facade is meant to provide continuity from their Hanapēpē location to Kaumakani, add character to the building, which sits next to a similar structure, and help draw attention to Kaumakani as a whole. He emphasized that the design follows the western-style face guidance in the Form-Based Code, aiming to catch the eye subtly without being flashy, enhancing the overall area rather than focusing solely on the bookstore.</p> <p>Vice Chair Ida shared that when approaching from the highway, he expects to see the existing smooth, historic-looking building. He suggested that the bookstore might be better served with a highway sign rather than a tall facade, since the building is set back from the road. He clarified that this is just his opinion, noting that a sign on the highway could be more attention-grabbing without altering the character of the building.</p>	

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>Mr. Justus explained that they had originally planned to install a ground sign on the highway, but Gay and Robinson requested that it be placed closer to the building instead, which is why the facade is positioned where it is now. He also clarified that if the project proceeds, the small marquee sign above the door would be removed, and the existing ground sign would be relocated to the highway, pending permit approval.</p> <p>Mr. Chock asked about the neighbors' perspective, inquiring whether they agree with the proposed facade and how they feel about the new look.</p> <p>Mr. Justus responded that he has not spoken to neighbors directly about the facade. He noted that they have seen posters on the doors asking for support to help offset permitting and construction costs, so they are aware of the project, but he hasn't discussed the design or appearance with them in detail.</p> <p>Mr. Chock said the facade feels like introducing a new look to Kaumakani's charm. He isn't voting yet but understands the earlier points and likes the signage, recognizing the bookstore's intent.</p> <p>Ms. Quinsaast expressed agreement with Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte, stating that while it's positive that the bookstore is developing the area, the design should transition as smoothly as possible to avoid feeling standoffish.</p>	<p>Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte moved that the applicant consider alternatives to the storefront that does not detract from surrounding buildings. Mr. Chock seconded the motion. Motion carried 6:0.</p>
<p>J. Executive Session</p>	<p>There was no Executive Session held.</p>	

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
K. Announcements	<p>Ms. Valenciano shared that she circulated an email regarding Historic Hawai'i's recent webinars, including a series on parks and a training last month on Section 106 and Chapter 6E. She noted this is especially useful for newer commissioners as a refresher, with sessions lasting about an hour to an hour and a half. She also mentioned that it is legislative season, and the department is monitoring several bills related to historic properties among other topics. The department is in the process of reviewing these bills and tracking which will advance. Lastly, she noted that Ms. Quinsaast provided a stack of reference materials covering Section 106, Chapter 6E, and NAGPRA, in response to questions raised at the previous meeting.</p>	
L. Selection of Next Meeting Date and Agenda Topics	<p>Ms. Higuchi Sayegusa stated that March 19, 2026, is the next date for a scheduled meeting.</p>	
M. Adjournment		<p>Ms. Quinsaast moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Kikuchi-Samonte seconded the motion. Motion carried 6:0.</p> <p>Chair Summers adjourned the meeting at 2:32 p.m.</p>

Celine De Leon

Submitted by: _____
 Celine De Leon, Staff Support Clerk

Reviewed and Approved by: _____
 Aubrey Summers, Chair

Kaua'i Historic Preservation Review Commission
Open Session
February 19, 2026

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- Approved as circulated on
- Approved as amended. See minutes of _____ meeting.

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: Nawiliwili Harbor Light

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing: Light Stations of the United States

2. Location

Street & number: South end of Ninini Point Street

City or town: Lihue State: HI County: Kauai

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 X 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 X 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 Xlocal

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___B ___C ___D

<u>Andrew S. Haley, U.S. Coast Guard Federal Preservation Officer</u> 01/21/2026	
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>United States Coast Guard</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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



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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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
<u>1</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions

Transportation
Water-related

Current Functions

Lighthouse
Navigational Aid

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

No style

Materials:

Principal exterior materials of the property: Concrete

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Nawiliwili Harbor Light is an operating federal lighthouse in Lihue, Kauai County, Hawaii, and is identified as number 29745 in the regional light list. It is a cylindrical concrete tower 72 feet tall painted buff in color that tapers slightly from bottom to top. The tower stands atop an octagonal concrete foundation approximately 24 feet in diameter. The Nawiliwili Harbor Light was constructed and established as an aid to navigation in 1932. It marks Ninini Point at the entrance to Nawiliwili Bay. The lighthouse's optic is a modern automated light emitting diode (LED) marine beacon mounted in the open air atop the tower's flat roof. This beacon has a focal plane 110 feet above sea level and signals a white flash every 15 seconds visible to nine nautical miles offshore. The lighthouse is situated on a rectangular parcel less than 0.1 acre in area and is owned by the U.S. Coast Guard. The Nawiliwili Harbor Light retains substantial historic integrity. It is accessible on foot. The light tower's interior is not open to public visitation.

Narrative Description

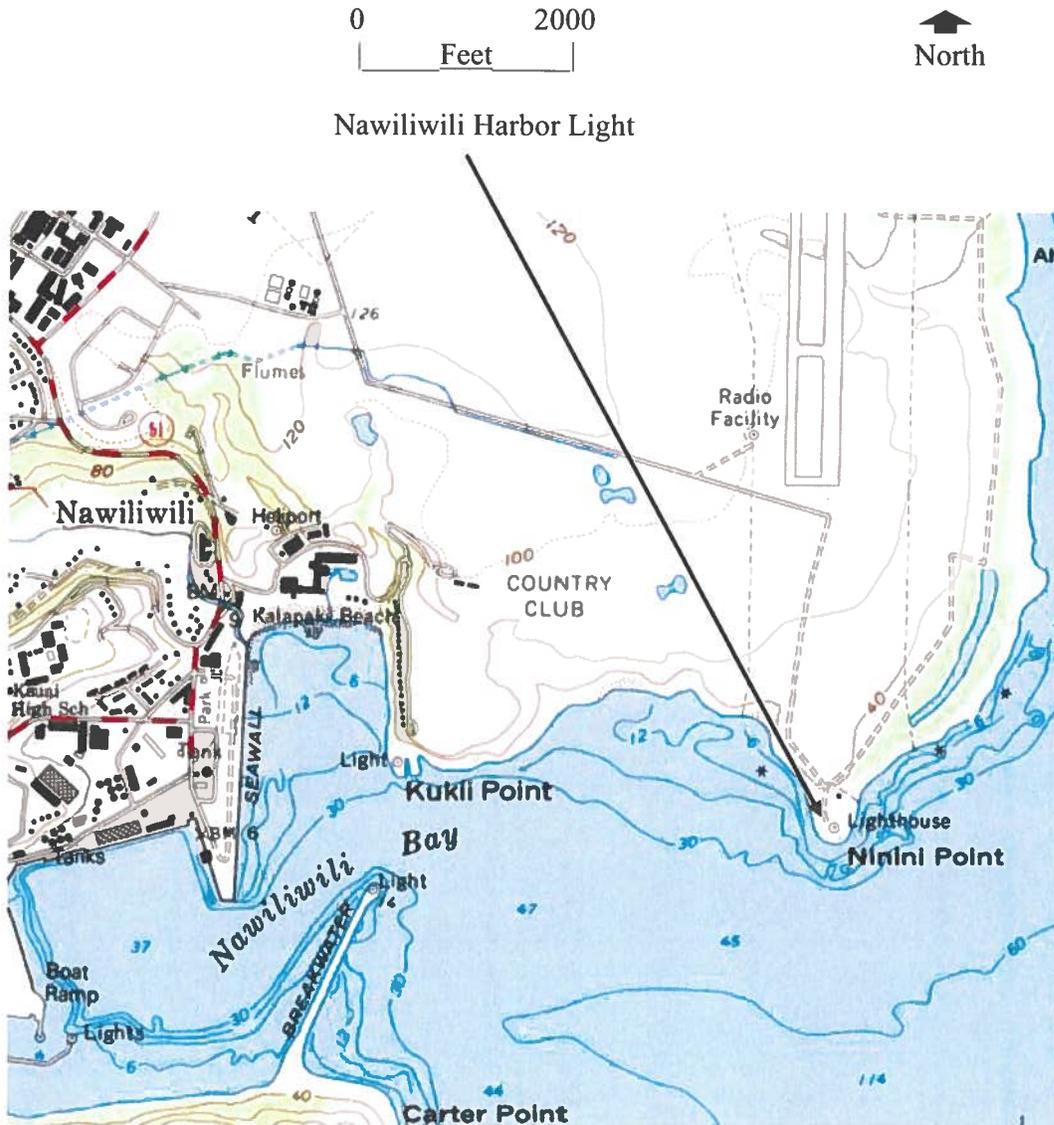
The Nawiliwili Harbor Light is a federal aid to navigation lighthouse that marks Ninini Point at the entrance to Nawiliwili Bay in Lihue, Kauai County, Hawaii (Figure 1). It is located at the south end of Ninini Point Street, approximately one-half mile south of Kauai Airport. Waters of the Pacific Ocean are east and south of the lighthouse. Nawiliwili Bay is towards the west.

This property is owned by the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and is less than 0.1 acre in area. The lighthouse stands within a parcel 70 feet long east-west by 65 feet wide north-south (Figure 2). The property contains one contributing resource, the lighthouse. It retains substantial historical integrity and is accessible on foot. The lighthouse's interior is not open to public visitation. The Nawiliwili Harbor Light is administered by the Asset Management Division, Office of Civil Engineering (COMDT (CG-SHORE-E)), USCG Headquarters, Washington DC 20593.

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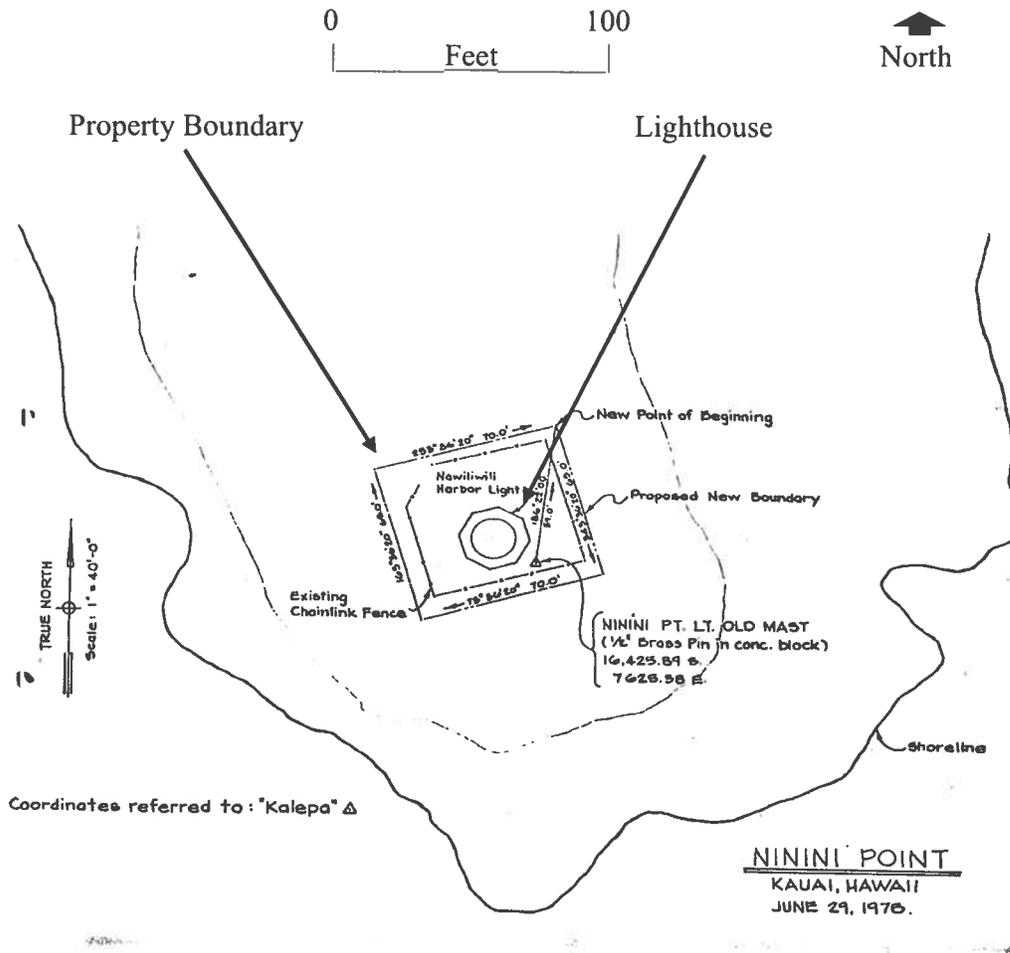
Figure 1. Nawiliwili Harbor Light location (portion of “Lihue, HI” 7.5’ topographic quadrangle, Scale 1:24,000, U.S. Geological Survey, 1983).



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Figure 2. Property boundary and lighthouse position (U.S. Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit Honolulu, 1978).



Contributing Resource: Lighthouse

The Nawiliwili Harbor Light was constructed and began operating as a federal aid to navigation in 1932. It is identified in the Coast Guard's regional light list as number 29745.

Exterior

This lighthouse is a cylindrical steel-reinforced concrete tower that tapers slightly from bottom to top (Photo # 1). It is 72 feet tall and painted buff in color. The tower stands atop an octagonal steel-reinforced concrete foundation platform painted the same color as the tower. This platform is one foot tall and approximately 24 feet in diameter.

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Photo # 1. Nawiliwili Harbor Light northwest elevation; camera facing southeast.



The light tower is 16 feet in diameter at the base. Its entry faces west, projects outward from the tower, and exhibits elements of classical design. This entrance is 11 feet, 10 inches tall by 6 feet, 3 inches wide and extends 2 feet, 4 inches from the tower. It has a pitched roof with a triangular pediment above the doorway (Photo # 2). The pediment includes a triangular tympanum surrounding a recessed triangle. A bronze plaque with “Erected 1932” is affixed to the entablature below the pediment (Photo # 3). The doorway is fitted with a non-original steel security door that is 7 feet, 2 inches tall by 4 feet, 4 inches wide and painted gray.

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Photo # 2. Tower entrance and foundation platform; camera facing southeast.



Photo # 3. Plaque above doorway; camera facing east.



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The tower was built with three first story windows, one each on the north, east, and south sides. These have been filled and covered with cement. Their exterior faces form three large niches 58 inches tall by 28 inches wide. The tower retains windows on its second through fifth story levels. They are 58 inches tall by 28 inches wide. The second and fourth stories have three windows each on the north, east, and south sides. The third and fifth stories have four windows each on the north, east, south, and west sides. Two windows on the second story level are fitted with metal louvers. The other second story window and the third to fifth story windows are fitted with non-original sash that includes one-piece acrylic glazing with superimposed window-bars that divide each glazing panel into eight lights (2-over-2-over-2-over-2). The sixth story has three smaller window openings that are 33 inches tall by 28 inches wide. The north and south sixth story windows are fitted with metal louvers. The eastern window has sash that includes one-piece acrylic glazing with superimposed window-bars dividing it into four lights (2-over-2). An outward-curving cornice surrounds the light tower above the sixth story. The tower roof above the cornice is circular and flat on top. The rooftop's perimeter is bounded by a three-foot tall two-tier steel pipe guardrail supported by steel pipe stanchions. It is painted gray.

Interior

The lighthouse's interior wall is painted white except that on each story level there is a band painted gray nine inches tall extending upward from floor level. The floor on each level is also painted gray. The ceilings are painted white. A cast iron spiral stairway 5 feet, 2 inches in diameter rises from the first story floor to the sixth story (Photo # 4). It is painted gray. This stairway has a steel pipe outer handrail three feet tall supported by vertical steel pipe stanchions. The handrail is painted gray.

The tower's first story interior is circular and 13 feet in diameter. The ceiling is 12 feet above the floor. The spiral stairway is centered in the room and there are 18 steps to the second story. The first nine steps have solid risers while the steps above this are open underneath. The first story's concrete ceiling is 8 inches thick. Its upper side is the floor of the second story. The second story is circular and 12 feet, 3 inches in diameter. The floor is painted gray. The concrete ceiling is 12 feet above the floor. The stairwell opening is bounded by a three-foot tall railing with two tiers of steel pipe painted gray. The second story's three window openings face north, east, and south. The stairway continues upward 18 steps to the third story landing. The third story is circular and 11 feet, 10 inches in diameter. The stairwell opening is bounded by a three-foot tall railing with two tiers of steel pipe painted gray. The concrete ceiling is 12 feet above the floor. There are window openings facing north, east, south, and west that are fitted with an acrylic panel and 8-light window-bars. The spiral stairway to the fourth story landing has 18 steps. The fourth story is circular and 10 feet, 9 inches in diameter. The stairwell opening for the spiral stairway is bounded by a railing that is three feet tall made with two tiers of steel pipe. It is painted gray. The concrete ceiling is 12 feet above the floor. There are window openings on the north, east, and south sides (Photo # 5). These have been fitted with a clear acrylic panel and 8-light window bars as on the second and third stories. The stairway continues upward 18 steps to the fifth story (Photo # 6).

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Photo # 4. First story interior spiral stairway; camera facing east.



Photo # 5. Fourth story window and stairway; camera facing east.



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Photo # 6. Spiral stairway from fourth story to fifth story; camera facing up towards west.



The fifth story is circular and 10 feet, 5 inches in diameter. The stairwell opening for the spiral stairway is bounded by a railing made with two tiers of steel pipe. It is three feet tall and painted gray. The concrete ceiling is 12 feet above the floor. There are four window openings, one each on the north, east, south, and west. All hold the same type of sash as on the levels below. The spiral stairway continues upward 18 steps to the sixth story.

The sixth story is the lighthouse's watch room. It is circular and 9 feet, 4 inches in diameter. The concrete ceiling is eight feet above the floor and eight inches thick. There are three windows. The two on the north and south are fitted with steel louvers. The one on the east has sash made with a clear acrylic panel and superimposed window bars that divide it into four lights. The spiral stairway terminates in the watch room. Its opening is bounded by a three-foot tall two-tier steel pipe railing painted gray. A curving cast iron ship's ladder stairway with 12 treads and steel single pipe handrails on left and right rises from the floor to the ceiling (Photo # 7). It is painted gray and leads to a trapdoor providing access to the tower's roof. The trapdoor has a stainless steel hatch cover and a latch on its underside.

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Photo # 7. Sixth story watch room with ladder stairway to roof; camera facing south.



The lighthouse's optic is mounted in the open air on the roof's flat top. It is a modern automated light-emitting diode (LED) marine beacon powered with a battery charged by a solar panel (Photo # 8). The LED optic's focal plane is 110 feet above sea level. It signals a white flash every 15 seconds visible to nine nautical miles offshore. A curved steel plate on the roof's northwestern side supported by two steel pipe stanchions serves as a shield blocking illumination towards the north and west. This curved plate is 3 feet, 6 inches tall by 8 feet, 8 inches wide.

Changes through time

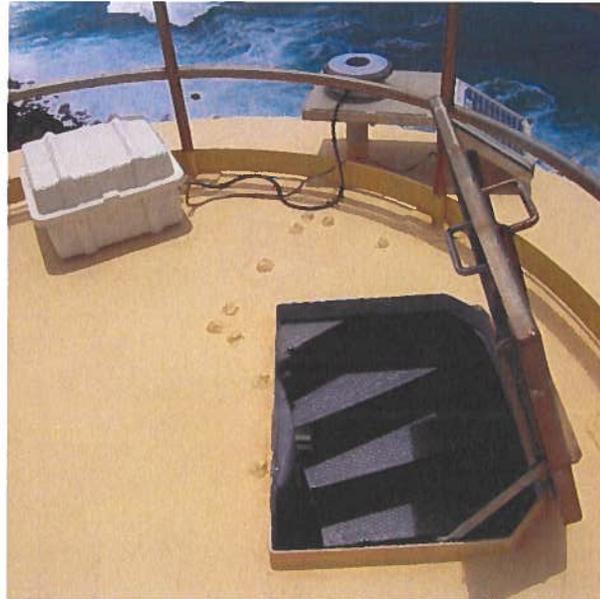
The Nawiliwili Harbor Light remains much the same as when constructed in 1932. The tower structure has not been altered. There have been changes to its beacon light and the tower's fenestration.

When initially established, the lighthouse's primary optic was a rotating DCB-36 directional code beacon with 36-inch diameter lens. A second DCB-36 was positioned to serve as a reserve if the primary light malfunctioned. The primary DCB-36 was mounted in the open air atop the tower's flat roof. An elevated steel superstructure supported a steel platform on which the reserve DCB-36 was positioned above the primary (Photo # 2). The lighthouse's optic was powered by electrical generators on the tower's ground floor. It was switched on at dusk and off after sunrise by the resident keeper from 1932 to 1953 when the lighthouse was converted to automatic operation.

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Photo # 8. Tower rooftop with trapdoor hatch and optic system consisting of battery (in box), LED light, and solar panel; camera facing east.



The two DCB-36 beacons and steel superstructure were removed in 1984 and replaced with a single rotating DCB-24 directional code beacon with 24-inch diameter lens. The replacement DCB-24 was mounted in the open air on the tower's roof deck and set up for automatic operation. The DCB-24 remained in use until circa 2015 when it was replaced with the existing LED optic system.

The light tower's original windows were 4-over-4 double hung sash except for the watch room which had smaller 2-over-2 sash. These windows were removed in 1974. Several were fitted with replacement fenestration or steel louvers and others were closed off. The first story window openings were filled and ventilation louvers installed in two of the second story window openings and two on the sixth story. The remaining windows received single-panel acrylic glazing. Window-bars divided into eight lights were placed where the original windows had eight separate lights. A 4-light window-bar was installed in one sixth story window that originally had 2-over-2 double hung sash.

The lighthouse entry was originally fitted with a two-leaf wooden door. It has been replaced with the existing metal security door.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- 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

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Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Maritime History

Transportation

Period of Significance

1932 to 1976

Significant Date

1932

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

U.S. Lighthouse Service (USLHS) 19th District

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Nawiliwili Harbor Light is significant in the local history of Kauai County, Hawaii. It qualifies for National Register inclusion under Criterion A. in the areas of maritime history and transportation. This property exemplifies how lighthouses established and maintained by the federal government have promoted maritime safety in Hawaii's waters. The Nawiliwili Harbor Light's period of historical significance begins with its establishment in 1932 and ends in 1976, fifty years before the present. This property possesses substantial original integrity and retains qualities of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. It occupies its original location in a seacoast setting that remains much the same as during the period of historical significance. The Nawiliwili Harbor Light continues to serve its original intended function as a lighted beacon and navigational daymark on Kauai Island's southeastern coast. It has been an important element of Kauai County's coastal landscape for more than ninety years and is widely recognized locally as a historical landmark.

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Narrative Statement of Significance

The Nawiliwili Harbor Light is historically significant on the local level in Kauai County, Hawaii. Located in the southeastern part of Kauai Island, it has been a federal aid to navigation marking the entry to Nawiliwili Harbor since 1932. This property is a significant landmark associated with Kauai's maritime and transportation history. Its period of historical significance begins with the lighthouse's establishment as a navigational aid in 1932 and ends in 1976, fifty years before the present.

This National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination is submitted as an individual listing under the overarching *Light Stations of the United States* NRHP Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) (Clifford 2002). The specific historic contexts that apply are *Establishment of the U.S. Lighthouse Board (1852-1910)*, *Bureau of Lighthouses or the U.S. Lighthouse Service (1910-1939)*, and *Lighthouses under the U.S. Coast Guard (1939-present)*. The property type sections relating to this registration are *Lighthouse Construction Type – Concrete Tower*, *Light Station Components – Light Tower*, and *Duplication of lighthouse designs*. Information and historic contexts available in the overarching MPDF are not repeated here. This submission emphasizes the Nawiliwili Harbor Light's historical significance as an individual property.

The Nawiliwili Harbor Light is historically significant under NRHP Criterion A. in the areas of transportation and maritime history. It is associated with the federal government's long-term program for promoting maritime safety through establishing and maintaining an integrated nationwide system of navigational aids. This well-preserved property is a good example of a second-quarter twentieth century coastal lighthouse. It conveys feelings that recall the dedication to duty that has characterized United States lighthouse keepers and lighthouse builders who worked to advance the cause of maritime safety through the course of the nation's history.

Historic Context

The Nawiliwili Harbor Light's historic context is an aspect of the long-term development and operation of nautical transportation in the Hawaiian Islands. While this property is directly associated with the federal government's twentieth century system of navigational aids, it also reflects a relationship to the period of Hawaii's maritime landscape predating its construction.

The historic context of aids to navigation at the Ninini Point entry to Nawiliwili Bay may be considered as including two principal eras. The first relates to the period extending from Hawaii's initial settlement approximately 1,000 years ago to the mid-nineteenth century through 1903 period when the Government of Hawaii established and operated lighthouses in the islands. The second era began in 1904 when the United States Government assumed responsibility for constructing and operating aids to navigation in Hawaii.

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The Hawaiian Islands were initially settled by Polynesian people who navigated from Pacific islands south of the Equator approximately CE 1000 to CE 1200. These people and other insular Pacific indigenous inhabitants practiced a sophisticated system of oceanic travel that included seaworthy sailing craft and navigation using stars as celestial markers along with attention to winds, clouds, oceanic currents and swells, birds, and drifting vegetation.

Prehistoric architectural structures built to serve as maritime navigational markers have not been reported among Hawaii's indigenous cultural remains. Even so, structures built for other purposes as well as natural features appear likely to have been landmark points of reference. For example, such reference points could have aided early Hawaiian mariners and fisherfolk to identify channels through reefs where canoes could pass safely. The light of fires visible from seaward at night may have served to mark locations such as coastal settlements and provide a guide for returning safely to shore.

Hawaiian cultural change following initial settlement included the development of independent polities on individual islands. The late eighteenth century ruler of Oahu Island, Kamehameha I, undertook to establish dominion over other islands and by 1795 had succeeded in uniting most of them under this authority as the Kingdom of Hawaii. Kauai remained independent from the Kingdom of Hawaii until 1810 when its ruler, Kaumuali'i, agreed to submit to King Kamehameha I.

The Pacific exploration voyages of the British Navy's Captain James Cook brought him to the Hawaiian Islands in January 1778. His expedition was the first documented arrival of Europeans in Hawaii. Their initial landing occurred at Waimea on Kauai where a statue of Cook, sesquicentennial plaque, landmark plaque, and park commemorate the event. The Cook Landing Site at Waimea Beach has been designated a National Historic Landmark and is included in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (Registration # 66000298). Cook's subsequent visit to Hawaii in 1779 resulted in his death on the Island of Hawaii, after which the British expedition vessels returned to England.

As knowledge of Hawaii's location and characteristics spread, it attracted the attention of European and American mariners. Hawaii's strategic position between North America and Asia made it an important stopping place for cargo ships and whale-hunting vessels navigating the Pacific. The number of vessels visiting the Hawaiian Islands increased substantially during the late eighteenth century and into the nineteenth century.

The two most popular destinations for these ships were the port of Lahaina, the Hawaiian royal capital, on the Island of Maui and Honolulu on Oahu. The growth of maritime transportation led to development of a local system of navigational aids. Hawaii's first lighted aid to navigation was established in 1840 at Lahaina. It was a box-like structure nine feet tall equipped with two lights mounted one above the other to provide a guide for vessels entering the port at night. The Lahaina aid to navigation tower was the first lighthouse established in what is now the Pacific area of the United States.

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The usefulness to shipping of lighted aids to navigation in Hawaiian waters led to additional ones being established. During the middle nineteenth century, Honolulu came to surpass Lahaina in maritime activity following the Hawaiian royal capital's transfer there in 1850. This led to the first Honolulu Harbor Lighthouse being established in 1869 to mark the port's entry channel. The 1869 lighthouse operated until 1910 when it was replaced by the second Honolulu Harbor Light built nearby on land created from dredged materials.

The arrival of Euro-American missionaries and other settlers on Kauai Island led to the 1835 establishment of the Ladd and Company sugarcane plantation at Koloa. It became the first commercially successful enterprise of that type in Hawaii. One of the plantation's facilities, the Old Sugar Mill of Koloa, has been included in the NRHP (Registration # 66000296). Subsequent nineteenth century large scale agricultural development on Kauai included cattle ranches and additional sugarcane plantations such as the Lihue Plantation, founded in 1849. It became one of the largest on the island. A portion of its lands east of the town of Lihue included Ninini Point.

The Kingdom of Hawaii experienced a series of political events and reforms during the 1880s to 1890s. These led to its monarchy being overthrown in 1893 by the Committee of Safety, a group composed mostly of Hawaiian subjects of American descent and American citizens. They established the Republic of Hawaii which governed the island archipelago from 1893 to 1898.

The Republic of Hawaii government assumed responsibility for lighthouses in the islands. This included leasing land in 1897 at Ninini Point from the Lihue Plantation to establish a lighthouse. A 40-ft wooden frame tower surmounted by a lamp room with light and reflector was erected in 1898 (Historic Photo # 1). The Ninini Point Light's focal plane was 70 feet above sea level. A lightkeeper's dwelling was also built nearby (Historic Photo # 2).

The Ninini Point Light's first resident keeper was Manuel Souza who occupied the property's dwelling with his wife beginning in 1898. Life at Ninini Point was difficult. Lightkeeper Souza's salary was limited and payments were irregular. There was no reliable source of fresh water at Ninini Point. It had to be brought from miles away and purchased by Souza at substantial cost.

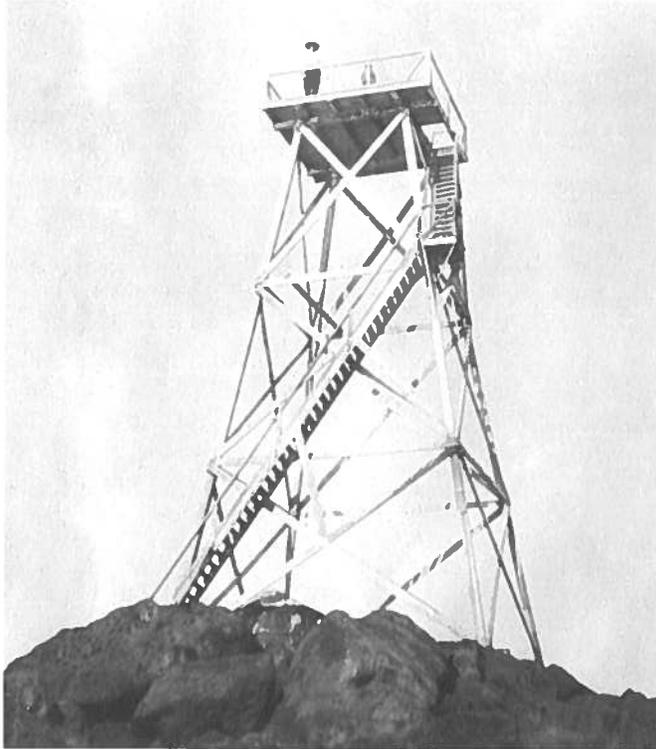
The United States annexed Hawaii in 1898. It became a U.S. territory administered by a territorial government which took over responsibility for lighthouses in the islands.

The harsh living conditions at Ninini Point and Souza's meager salary resulted in him resigning from his post in 1903. He was then succeeded by Carl Blum who served as lightkeeper until 1904. Blum was replaced by Richard E. Hagemann who remained lightkeeper for a limited time in 1904.

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Historic Photo # 1. 1898 Ninini Point Light wooden tower, circa 1904; camera facing north (U.S. Coast Guard photo).



Historic Photo # 2. 1898 Ninini Point Light keeper's dwelling, circa 1904; camera facing northwest (U.S. Coast Guard photo).



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An Executive Order signed by President Theodore Roosevelt on 28 December 1903 directed the Hawaii territorial government to transfer responsibility for Hawaii's aids to navigation to the U.S. federal government. They were placed under the administration of the U.S. Lighthouse Board beginning in January 1904.

The Lighthouse Board organized the 19th District of the U.S. Lighthouse Service (USLHS) to take over operation and maintenance of Hawaii's lighthouses. The district headquarters were established in Honolulu. The USLHS 19th District appointed James McLaughlin as keeper of the Ninini Point Light in 1904. He served in that position until 1909.

The Ninini Point Light's 1898 wooden tower deteriorated over time and developed structural problems. The tower's lamp room was removed in 1904 and replaced with a small box locker surmounted by a lens lantern. The USLHS 19th District determined that the structure's poor condition required that a replacement be built.

A lighted aid to navigation designed by Lieutenant John R. Slattery, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, was constructed at Ninini Point in 1906 and the 1898 tower was demolished. The new structure was officially named the Nawiliwili Harbor Light and began operating on 22 December 1906. It was constructed of wood and consisted of a rectangular platform on piers that supported a vertical mast 34 feet tall with a 160-candlepower lens lantern displaying a fixed white light at its top (Figure 3). A one-room service building stood alongside. The lens lantern was raised to the top of the mast using pulley and rope in the evening and lowered for servicing after daybreak. The new Nawiliwili Harbor Light had a focal plane 65 feet above sea level and was visible to nine nautical miles offshore. A one-story wood-frame dwelling for the resident keeper was also built nearby (Historic Photo # 3).

The U.S. Lighthouse Board was dissolved in a 1910 government reorganization. It was replaced with the U.S. Bureau of Lighthouses which administered the USLHS as a component.

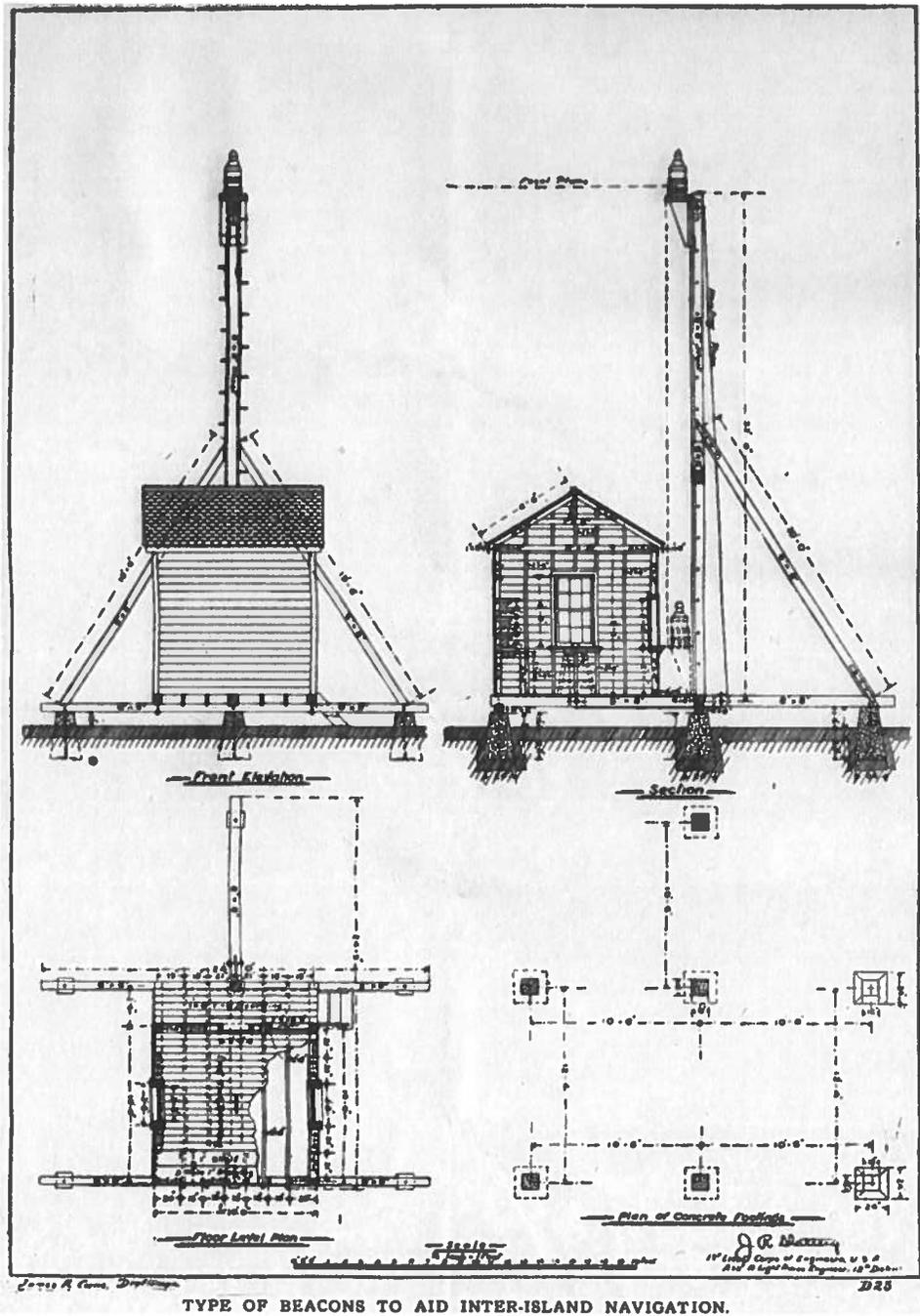
John H. Kanekoa replaced John McLaughlin as the Nawiliwili Harbor Light's keeper in 1909; he served until 1912. The subsequent resident keeper was Edward L. Miller who served from 1912 to 1915 when Alexander D. Toomey was assigned to that position. Toomey was replaced in 1917 by Oliver Kua who remained as keeper of the Nawiliwili Harbor Light until he retired in 1939.

The 1906 Nawilwili Harbor Light's mast was demolished in 1931. There is a small rectangular concrete marker at its former location, approximately six feet southeast of the existing light tower's foundation slab. This marker is approximately one foot tall and one foot square with a bronze pin embedded in the top center (Photo # 9). It bears the inscription "Ninini Pt. Lt. Old Mast."

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Figure 3. 1906 Nawiliwili Harbor Light design drawing (Hawaiian Gazette 1906).



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Historic Photo # 3. Nawiliwili Harbor Light in 1915, keeper's dwelling and 1906 mast light with service building in background; camera facing south (U.S. Coast Guard photo).



Photo # 9. 1906 Nawilwili Harbor Light mast location marker; camera facing north.



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The USLHS established other lighted navigational aids on Kauai Island during the early 1900s. These include the Kilauea Point Light Station at the island's northern tip. It was officially established in May 1913 and has been included in the NRHP (Registration # 79000759). This historic lighthouse is located within the Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge and is no longer an active navigational aid. The currently operating Kilauea Point Light is a modern automated beacon mounted on a white concrete post. It is designated number 29737 in the regional light list and signals a flash of white light every 15 seconds visible to nine nautical miles offshore. Another early twentieth century aid to navigation is located on the north side of Nawiliwili Bay at Kuki'i Point. The Kukii Point Light is a pyramidal concrete tower built circa 1920. It is identified in the regional light list as Number 29755 and signals a white flash every 2.5 seconds visible to six nautical miles.

Economic development in the Hawaiian Islands during the early twentieth century spurred growth in maritime transportation and port facility improvements. By the late 1920s, the USLHS 19th District determined that three existing coastal lighthouses were inadequate for the mission of promoting maritime safety. Plans were made to construct three steel-reinforced concrete tower lighthouses to serve as landfall lights visible to substantial distances offshore. The designated locations for these proposed lighthouses were Ninini Point on Kauai, Barbers Point at the southwestern tip of Oahu, and Kauhola Point at the Island of Hawaii's northern end.

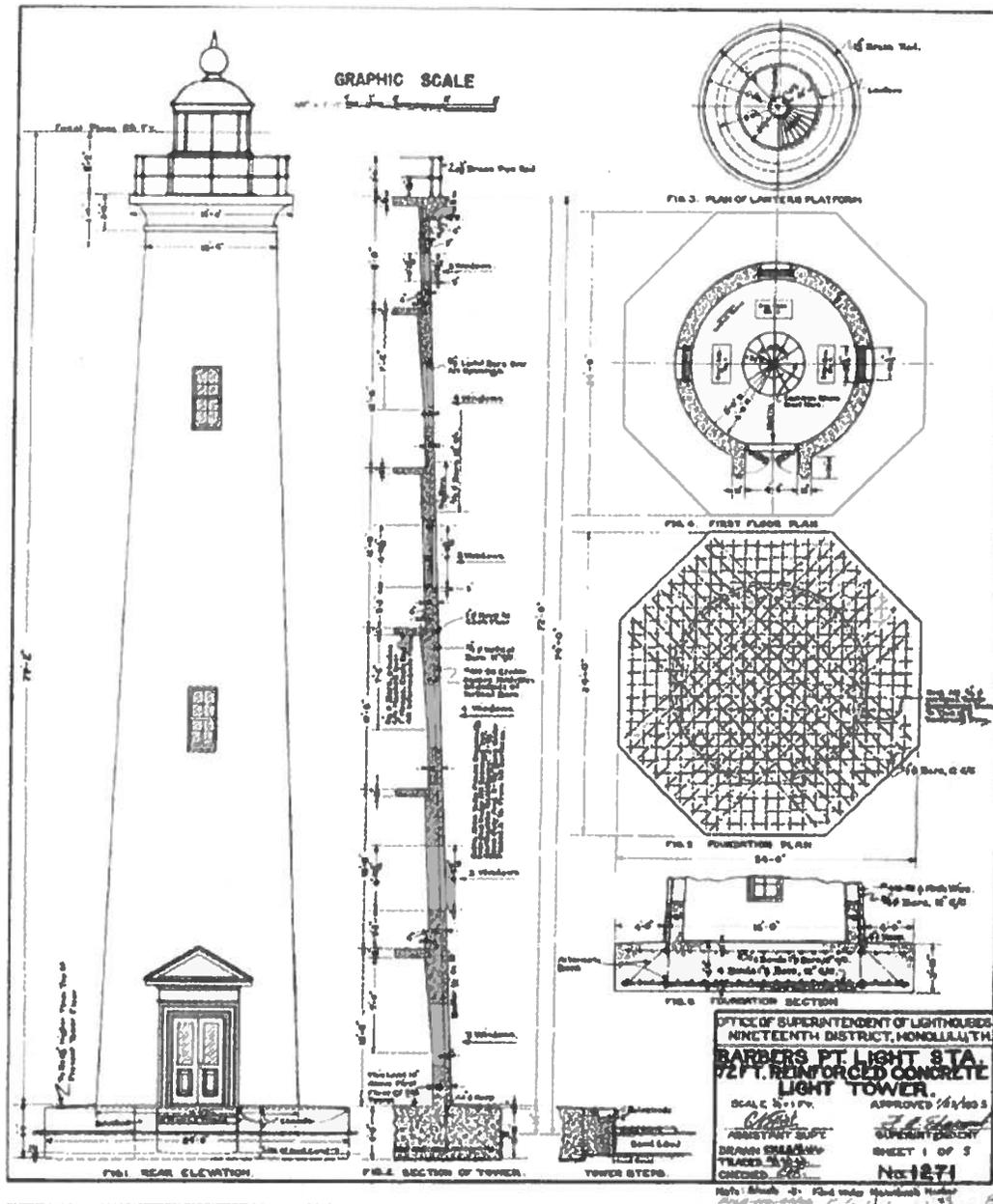
In 1929, the USLHS requested funding from Congress to replace the 1906 Nawiliwili Harbor Light. It explained this proposal as follows: "At present there is no landfall light on the island of Kauai for westbound vessels. There is a considerable volume of shipping bound direct to Kauai ports from the Pacific coast, in addition to interisland traffic. Nawiliwili Harbor Light is on the easternmost point of this island, situated at the entrance to Nawiliwili Harbor which, when improvements now nearing completion are finished, will be the principal port on Kauai. There is urgent need for a high-powered long-range light on this point to replace the minor light now in service, which is wholly inadequate, and this improvement has been urged by all maritime interests operating in these waters. It is proposed to construct a 72-foot reinforced concrete tower supporting a fourth-order lantern and to install a fourth-order flashing lens with adequate illumination. It is essential that work on this improvement, at a total estimated cost of \$22,000, be commenced as soon as practicable." Congress soon responded with an appropriation of the requested amount.

Plans for the new Nawiliwili Harbor lighthouse were prepared in 1931 (Figures 4 and 5). Preliminary work at Ninini Point prior to the reinforced concrete tower's construction included erecting a wooden tower 40 feet tall topped with a 36-inch diameter DCB-36 rotating beacon. It was built to serve as a temporary navigational aid to replace the 1906 mast light which had to be removed before construction of the concrete tower could begin. The temporary light began operating on 21 July 1931 (Historic Photo # 4). It signaled a white light with a focal plane 77 feet above sea level that flashed once every 15 seconds and was visible to 14 nautical miles offshore.

Nawiliwili Harbor Light
 Name of Property

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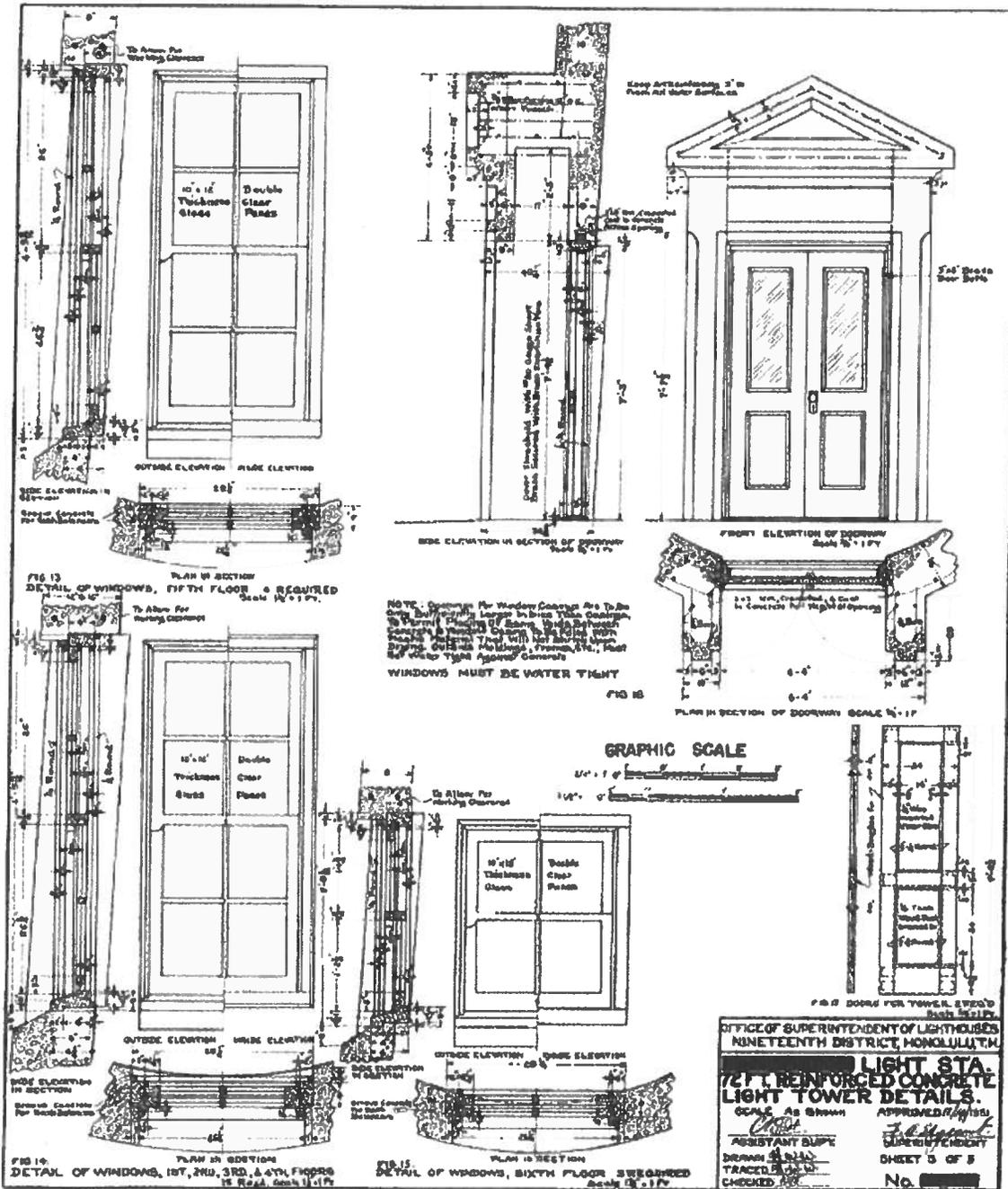
Figure 4. Design drawing for the Barbers Point Light built in 1933 replicated from design for the Nawiliwili Harbor Light built in 1932, with lighthouse lantern added (on file at U.S. Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit Honolulu).



Nawiliwili Harbor Light
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Figure 5. Designs for windows and entrance prepared for the 1932 Nawiliwili Harbor Light and also used for the 1933 Barbers Point Light (U.S. Bureau of Lighthouses 1931).



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Historic Photo # 4. 1931 temporary Nawilwili Harbor Light with 1906 service building; camera facing south (U.S. Coast Guard photo).



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The reinforced concrete tower lighthouse at Ninini Point was constructed in 1932 (Historic Photos # 5 and 6). The signal light installed at the top of the light tower was a DCB-36 rotating beacon mounted on the tower's roof deck. A welded steel superstructure was built above this DCB-36 with a platform that supported a second DCB-36 put there to serve as a reserve light for use if needed. A three-bedroom keeper's dwelling was built nearby (Historic Photo # 7). Two generator units installed in the tower's ground floor provided electricity for the beacon light and keeper's dwelling. The new Nawiliwili Harbor Light was officially established on 15 November 1932. The serving resident keeper, Oliver Kua, continued in his position until 1939. He retired when a government reorganization merged the USLHS with the U.S. Coast Guard.

Construction of the proposed concrete tower lighthouses at Barbers Point and Kauhola Point was completed in 1933. Both were placed into service that year. They were built using design plans that were essentially the same as those for the Nawiliwili Harbor Light with limited modifications. The concrete tower lighthouses at Nawiliwili Harbor, Kauhola Point, and Barbers Point were each 72 feet tall. The Kauhola Point Light and Nawilwili Harbor Light were both equipped with two DCB-36s mounted one above the other. The 1933 Barbers Point Light was topped with the lantern and fourth order Fresnel lens from the previous Barbers Point Lighthouse built in 1888 which it replaced.

The Nawiliwili Harbor Light was darkened during World War II, along with all others in the Hawaiian Islands. A Japanese submarine surfaced near the entry to Nawiliwili Harbor on 31 December 1941 and used its deck gun to fire on harbor facilities. Several of the shells failed to explode, including one that made a direct hit on a large gasoline storage tank. The total monetary damage from the attack was limited to only about \$500. Following this incident, additional Coast Guard personnel were stationed at both the Nawiliwili Harbor and Kilauea Point lighthouses to protect them from further threatening activity.

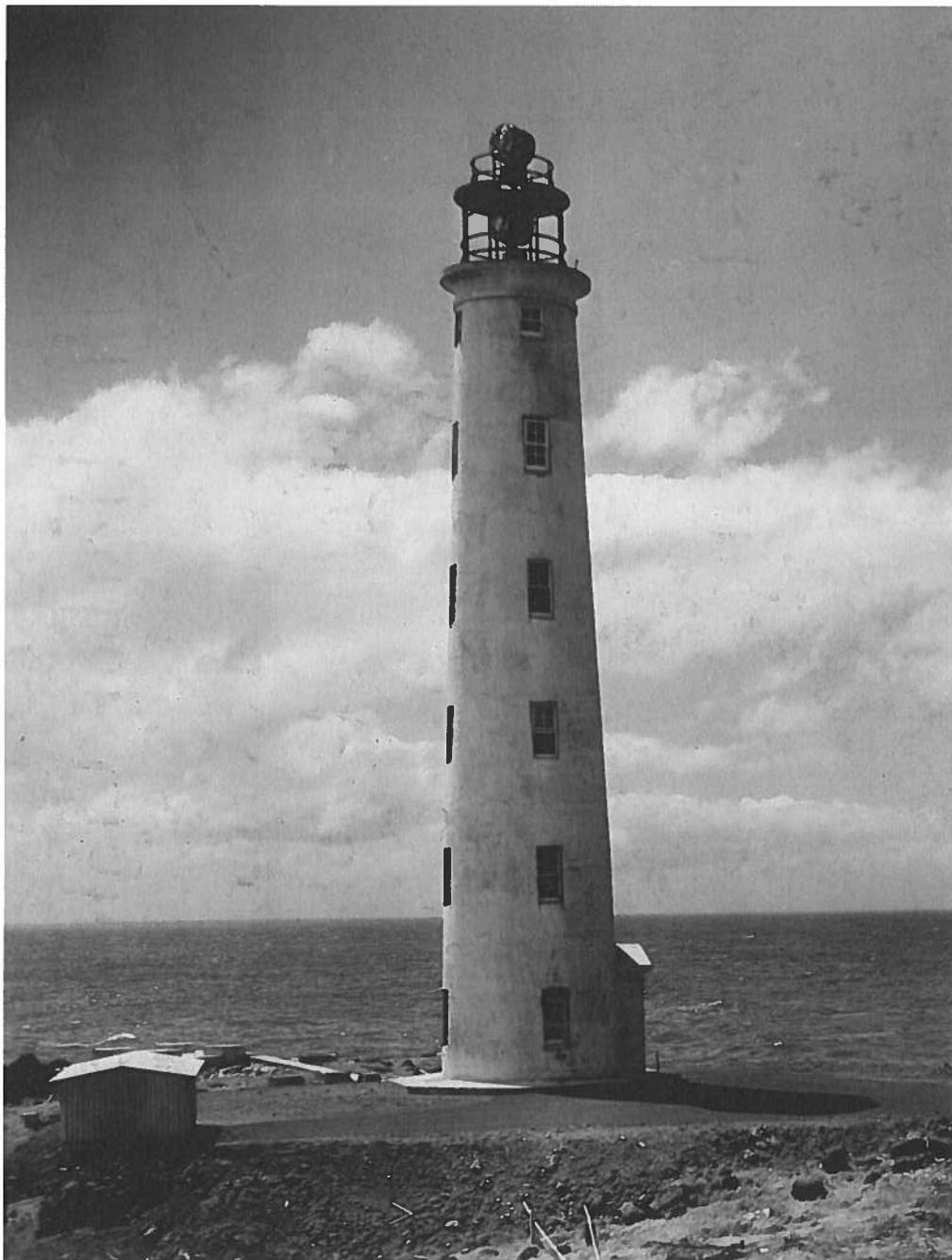
The Nawiliwili Harbor Light resumed normal operation in 1945 following the end of World War II. Its beacon light was automated in 1953. The property continued to have a resident keeper until the early 1970s. His duties included routine maintenance at this lighthouse and seven minor lights elsewhere on Kauai Island. Improvements to beacon light technology through time led to a need for only intermittent maintenance. The Nawiliwili Harbor Light's resident keeper position was discontinued and maintenance responsibility assigned to the USCG Aids to Navigation (ANT) Team based in Honolulu. The Coast Guard subsequently demolished the keeper's dwelling and transferred its real property at Ninini Point to the State of Hawaii except for the small rectangular parcel surrounding the lighthouse.

The Nawiliwili Harbor Light's two DCB-36 beacons and steel superstructure supporting the upper beacon were removed in 1984 and a single 24-inch diameter DCB-24 directional code beacon was mounted on the tower's roof. That optic was removed circa 2015 and replaced with the existing light-emitting diode (LED) marine beacon system.

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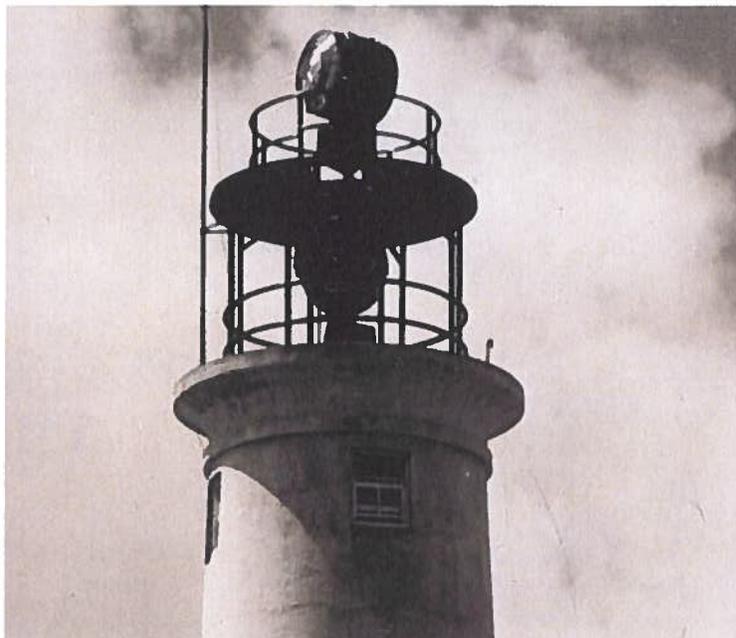
Historic Photo # 5. Nawiliwili Harbor Light in 1936, camera facing south (USCG photo).



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Historic Photo # 6. 1932 Nawiliwili Harbor Light superstructure with two DCB-36 beacons, circa 1936; camera facing north (U.S. Coast Guard photo).



Historic Photo # 7. 1932 Nawiliwili Harbor Light keeper's dwelling and lighthouse, circa 1936; camera facing south (U.S. Coast Guard photo).



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The Nawiliwili Harbor Light today continues to occupy its original location in a coastal setting that remains much the same as during the property's 1932 to 1976 period of historical significance. The property's single contributing resource, the lighthouse, retains substantial integrity in terms of design, materials, and workmanship. Their quality and appropriateness for the structure's purpose and location are reflected in its good state of preservation. As a property that remains in Coast Guard ownership as an operating aid to navigation, the Nawiliwili Harbor Light continues its historical and cultural association with the federal government's long-term program for promoting maritime safety. Its appearance and setting evoke feelings that recall the dedication to duty of United States lighthouse personnel through the course of history. This property also exemplifies the spirit of integrity, pride in high quality workmanship, and focus on lasting results that have characterized generations of builders who constructed the nation's lighthouses and light stations. The Nawiliwili Harbor Light serves as a lasting reminder of the importance of maritime transportation in Hawaii's history and is widely recognized in Kauai County as a historical landmark.

Keepers of the Nawiliwili Harbor Light:

Manuel Souza (1898 to 1903), Carl Blum (1903 to 1904), Richard E. Hagemann (1904), John McLaughlin (1904 to 1909), John H. Kanekoa (1909 to 1912), Edward L. Miller (1912 to 1915), Alexander D. Toomey (1915 to 1917), Oliver Kua (1917 to 1939), William C. Dooley (1939 to 1942), Samuel Anderson (1942 to 1945), Clifford H. Hardy (1945 to 1947), Jack W. McDonald (1957 to at least 1950), Ronald E. Cook (at least 1959 to 1961), Anastasio Mendez (1961 to 1964), James L. Brantley (1964), Gary F. Zych (1964 to at least 1965), Charles E. Jones (1967 to 1970), Walter E. Glassco (1970), Dennis V. Wilson (1970 to at least 1971).

Nawiliwili Harbor Light
Name of Property

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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_____. 1932, *Superstructure for 2nd Beacon on 72' Con. Towers*, approved 4 May 1932, 1 sheet, No. 1249 (drawing). Honolulu: Office of Superintendent of Lighthouses, Nineteenth District. On file at USCG Civil Engineering Unit (CEU) Honolulu.

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_____. 1933, *Barbers Pt. Light Sta. 72 Ft. Reinforced Concrete Light Tower*, approved 23 January 1933, 5 sheets, No. 1271 (drawings). Honolulu: Office of Superintendent of Lighthouses, Nineteenth District. On file at USCG Civil Engineering Unit (CEU) Honolulu.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Nawiliwili Harbor Light
Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than 0.1 acre.

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: N/A

Latitude: 21° 57' 17.936" North Longitude: 159° 20' 08.993" West

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the property is the perimeter of the rectangular parcel measuring 70 feet north-south by 65 feet east-west owned by the U.S. Coast Guard that surrounds the Nawiliwili Harbor Light tower at Ninini Point in Lihue, Kauai County, HI.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the property's contributing resource, the Nawiliwili Harbor Light.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Daniel Koski-Karell, Ph.D.
organization: Office of Environmental Management (CG-SHORE-V)
street & number: 2703 Martin Luher King Jr. Avenue SE -Stop 7800
city or town: Washington state: DC zip code: 20593-7800
e-mail Daniel.A.Koski-Karell@uscg.mil
telephone: 571-607-3784
date: 20 January 2026

Nawiliwili Harbor Light
Name of Property

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Additional Documentation:

Figures:

1. Nawiliwili Harbor Light location (USGS topographic quadrangle)
2. Property boundary and lighthouse position.
3. 1906 Nawiliwili Harbor Light design drawing.
4. Design drawing for the Barbers Point Light built in 1933 replicated from design for the Nawiliwili Harbor Light built in 1932, with lighthouse lantern added.
5. Designs for windows and entrance prepared for the 1932 Nawiliwili Harbor Light and also used for the 1933 Barbers Point Light.

Contemporary Photographs:

Name of Property: Nawiliwili Harbor Light
City or Vicinity: Lihue County: Kauai State: HI
Photographer: Daniel Koski-Karell
Date Photographed: June 2022

1. Nawiliwili Harbor Light northwest elevation; camera facing southeast (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0001).
2. Tower entrance and foundation; camera facing southeast (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0002).
3. Erected 1932 plaque; camera facing east (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0003).
4. First story interior spiral stairway; camera facing east (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0004).
5. Fourth story window and stairway; camera facing east (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0005).
6. Spiral stairway from fourth story to fifth story; camera facing up towards west (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0006).
7. Sixth story watch room with ladder stairway to roof; camera facing south (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0007).
8. Tower rooftop with trapdoor hatch and optic system consisting of battery (in box), LED light, and solar panel; camera facing east (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0008).
9. 1906 Nawilwili Harbor Light mast location marker; camera facing north (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0009).

Historic Photographs: USCG photographs, photographer unknown, various dates.

Historic Photo # 1. 1898 Ninini Point Light wooden tower, circa 1904; camera facing north (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0010).

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Historic Photo # 2. 1898 Ninini Point Light keeper's dwelling, circa 1904; camera facing northwest (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0011).

Historic Photo # 3. Nawiliwili Harbor Light in 1915, keeper's dwelling and 1906 mast light with service building in background; camera facing south (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0012).

Historic Photo # 4. 1931 temporary Nawiliwili Harbor Light with 1906 service building; camera facing south (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0013).

Historic Photo # 5. 1932 Nawiliwili Harbor Light, circa 1936; camera facing south (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0014).

Historic Photo # 6. 1932 Nawiliwili Harbor Light superstructure with two DCB-36 beacons, circa 1936; camera facing north (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0015).

Historic Photo # 7. 1932 Nawiliwili Harbor Light keeper's dwelling and lighthouse, circa 1936; camera facing south (HI_Kauai County_Nawiliwili Harbor Light_0016).

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.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
KAKUHIHEWA BUILDING
601 KAMOKILA BLVD, STE 555
KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

February 17, 2026

Derek S. K. Kawakami
Mayor of Kaua'i
County of Kaua'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 235
Lihu'e, HI 96766

IN REPLY REFER TO:
Project No.: 2026PR00147
Doc. No. 2602MK03
Architecture

**SUBJECT: Notification of National Register of Historic Places Nomination
Nawiliwili Harbor Light
Ninini Point, Kaua'i County, HI
Kalapakī Ahupua'a, Puna District, Island of Kaua'i
TMK: (4) 3-5-001:004**

Aloha Mayor Kawakami,

In accordance with 36 CFR §60.9, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) provides notice that a federal agency has nominated the following property to the National Register of Historic Places:

Property Name:	Nawiliwili Harbor Light
Location:	Ninini Point, Kaua'i County, HI
Nominating Agency:	United States Coast Guard

As the chief elected official of the jurisdiction in which the property is located, you are entitled to comment on this nomination. Pursuant to 36 CFR §60.9(c), you have 45 days from the receipt of this letter to submit written comments to our office. Any comments received will be forwarded to the Keeper of the National Register together with the nomination materials and the SHPO's recommendations. We understand that you may have received a copy of this nomination directly from the U.S. Coast Guard requesting your comments; however, we request that any comments be submitted to our office for inclusion in the official transmittal. Please note that if you do not wish to comment, no response is necessary.

Derek S. K. Kawakami
February 17, 2026
Page 2

A copy of the nomination is enclosed for your review. Please note that this nomination is not scheduled for presentation to the Hawaii Historic Places review board and is currently under consideration only for listing to the National Register of Historic Places.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and your continued support for historic preservation in your community. If you have questions, please contact Mary Kodama, Architecture Branch Chief, at mary.kodama@hawaii.gov.

Mahalo,



Jessica L. Puff, PhD
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Administrator, State Historic Preservation Division

attach: Nawiliwili Harbor Light NRHP Nomination Form

cc:

Kauai Historic Preservation Review
Commission
c/o Marisa Valenciano
County of Kauai Planning Department
Lihue, Kauai 96766

Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director
Historic Hawaii Foundation
680 Iwilei Rd. Suite 690
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Kali Watson, Chairman
Department of Hawaiian Homelands
P.O. Box 1879
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Summer Lee Haunani Sylva
Interim Ka Pouhana
Office of Hawaiian Affairs
560 N Nimitz Highway, Suite 200
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817



**Kaua'i County Historic Preservation Review Commission
 (KHPRC)**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I. SUMMARY

Action Required by KHPRC:

A recommendation concerning the consideration of an existing lighthouse for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

KHPRC action may include the following:

- Support for the nomination;
- Opposition to the nomination;
- Deferred action on the nomination; or
- Receival for the record and with no comment

II. PROJECT INFORMATION

Permit Numbers	N/A		
Parcel Location:	Līhu'e, Kaua'i		
Tax Map Key(s):	(4) 3-5-001:004	Area:	4,356 sq. ft./ 0.1000 acres
LAND USE DESIGNATIONS & VALUES			
Zoning:	Conservation		
State Land Use District:	Conservation		
General Plan Designation:	Transportation		
Owner(s)/ Applicant:	United States Coast Guard (Federal Agency)		

III. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Applicant is the United States Coast Guard who is the federal agency that is self-nominating the Nawiliwili Harbor Light for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.



The Nawiliwili Harbor Light, which was constructed in 1932, is an operational, cylindrical concrete tower that stands approximately 72 feet tall with a diameter of 16 feet at its base. As an aid to navigation, the light station is located on Ninini Point and visible at the entrance of Nawiliwili Bay. Built in 1932, the existing light structure has exterior windows, an exterior door, a modern automated beacon light, and an interior spiral staircase to access the interior watch room and to access the roof top.

It should be noted that the Agency is only nominating the subject property to the National Register of Historic Places and not the State Register of Historic Places. Pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations Title 36, Chapter 1, Part 60.9 (d)(4), a federal agency is allowed to nominate its subject property to the National Register of Historic Places through a specific process. The commission may provide comments on this nomination that will be collected by the State Historic Preservation Division and forwarded to the Federal Preservation Officer and the Keeper to make the final determination on whether a property meets the criteria for listing to the Register. Since the Applicant is not seeking listing on the State Register of Historic Places, this nomination will not be reviewed by the Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board.

IV. TRIGGER FOR KHPRC REVIEW

KHPRC review is triggered because of the nomination process that allows certified local governments to provide comments on the eligibility of a subject property to be listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places.

- a. **The existing lighthouse IS over 50 years of age.** As represented, the existing light station, which was constructed in 1932, is approximately 94 years of age.
- b. **The subject property IS included on the KHPRC Inventory List.** The Ninini Light Station is listed on the KHPRC inventory list as a structure that was identified in the 1998 survey as a "B-Good" condition.

V. CRITERIA FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations Title 36, Chapter 1, Part 60.4, the following criteria should be applied to evaluate properties for the National Register.

- (1) The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and

objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and

(A) That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

The Agency asserts that the subject property is eligible under Criteria A under a local context for its contributions in the areas of maritime history and transportation.

(B) That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

Based on the Department's review, the light station is unlikely to be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

(C) That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

Based on the Department's review, the light station may meet the requirements under Criteria C as being representative of other light stations designed during the same period. However, more research would be needed to determine if it would qualify specifically under this criteria.

(D) That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Based on the Department's review, the light station is unlikely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

VI. PROJECT HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

Prior to the construction of the existing 1932 tower, there were other light towers that were built in 1898 and 1906 and later demolished. A summary of the history, as represented in the nomination form, is provided in the table below:

Year	Description of the Light Station
1898	Republic of Hawaii leases land from the Lihue Plantation to establish a 40 ft wooden frame tower with a lamp room with light and reflector. A lightkeeper dwelling was also built nearby.

	<p>By 1904, responsibility gets conveyed from the territorial government to the U.S. Federal government.</p> <p>Eventually, the 1898 wooden tower was demolished due to deterioration and structural problems.</p>
1906	<p>By 1906, a new structure was built to replace the 1898 tower and was officially called the "Nawiliwili Harbor Light."</p> <p>The 1906 structure consisted of a wooden rectangular platform on piers that supported a vertical mast approximately 34 feet tall with a lens lantern on the top. There was also a one room service building next to the mast and a lighthouse keeper house building that was located nearby.</p> <p>In 1931, the mast was demolished as a new light structure was needed to accommodate increased maritime interests. Today, there is a small rectangular concrete marker to show the former location of the 1906 tower which is approximately six feet away from the existing 1932 tower.</p>

It should be noted that this nomination is limited to the 1932 existing light tower which is the contributing historic resource identified by the Agency.

VII. EVALUATION OF HISTORIC INTEGRITY

a. Aspects of Historic Integrity

Integrity is defined as the ability of a property to convey its significance. As represented, there have been very few modifications done to the structure since 1932 except for the tower's beacon lights, the windows, and the exterior door. Despite the minor modifications, the structure continues to retain substantial historic integrity in terms of its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

VIII. ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

- a. In addition to the Nawiliwili Harbor Light, there are two other light stations located on Kaua'i including the Kilauea Point Light Station and the Kuki'i Point Light located on the north side of Nawiliwili Bay at Kuki'i point.

Light Station Name	Date of Construction	Location/ TMK	Operation Status	Historic Status
Kilauea Point Light Station	1913	Kilauea 5-2-004:017	Nonoperational	Listed on the National and State Register
Kuki'i Point Light	1920	Lihue	Operational	Not Listed on the National or State Register

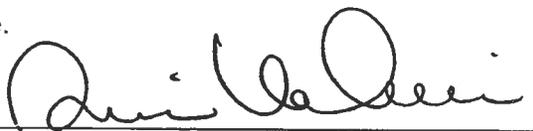
- b. The listing of the Nawiliwili Harbor Light to the National Register would be in keeping with other light stations such as Kilauea and the Barber's Point Light Station in West Oahu that were constructed as similar models around the same time.
- c. The Department does not have any objection to this nomination and supports the initiative by the Applicant to list this historic resource on the National Register of Historic Places. By obtaining listing to the National Register, the Applicant should be able to access additional sources of funding to help with the ongoing maintenance and preservation of the light station.

IX. RECOMMENDATION

Based on the foregoing evaluation, the Planning Department recommends that the Kaua'i Historic Preservation Review Commission **SUPPORT** the proposed nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Commission is further advised that this report does not represent the Planning Department's final recommendation in view of the forthcoming public hearing process whereby the entire record should be considered prior to decision making. The entire record includes but is not limited to:

- a. Government agency comments;
- b. Testimony from the general public and interested others; and
- c. The land owner's response.

By 
MARISA VALENCIANO
Planner

Kaua'i Historic Preservation Review Commission (KHPRC)
March 19, 2026 Meeting
United States Coast Guard
Nawiliwili Harbor Light
Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places
Lihu'e, Kaua'i
TMK: (4) 3-5-001:004
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Approved & Recommended to Commission:

By 

JODI A. HIGUCHI SAYAGUSA
Deputy Director of Planning

Date: 3-11-26