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of the
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society/
american
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of
architects

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HAWAII ARCHITECT

January, 1983

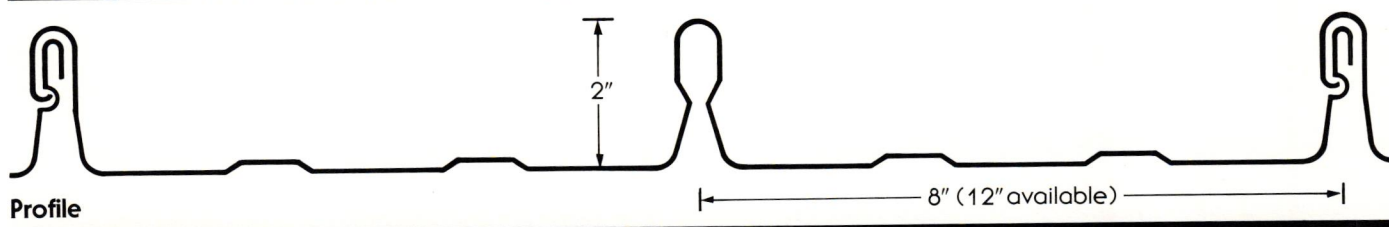
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HAWAII ARCHITECT

Volume 12, No. 1

January, 1983

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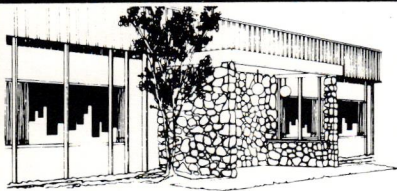
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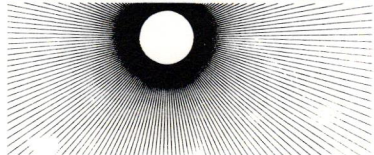
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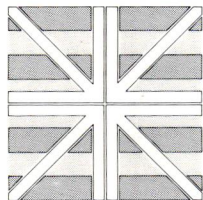
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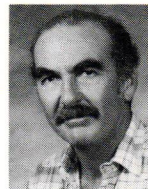


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Headlines

1983 Challenge



by **Lewis Ingleson**
President, Hawaii Society/AIA

The beginning of 1983 presents many challenges to architects. We are beset by the current recession with high interest rates, high unemployment, declining construction starts, and intense competition for fewer and fewer commissions. We have been unable to rally the required legislative support for key bills relating to our professional status. Moreover, we are confronted by more numerous and larger claims against us for alleged professional negligence by an increasingly litigious clientele.

We also share, with the rest of the society, the ills of a nation and state in transition. We are confronted by high crime rates, lack of affordable housing, environmental disasters, the threat of a nuclear holocaust, etc. ad nauseum. Each day's newspapers are filled with the symptoms of a seemingly sick society, and few of us are immune.

It would be folly to believe that we as individuals or the HS/AIA collectively can tackle all the challenges confronting us. However, I do believe that we can be a catalyst for change.

As architects, we are planners by nature. And as planners, we are also visionaries. Our society looks to its architects to give form to its aspirations, dreams, and hopes. On the other hand, as products of our society, we express through our buildings the weaknesses and foibles of our era.

Most of us are experiencing a distinct lack of activity in our offices. We have lots of time available and not much work. We can spend our spare time in despair and wishful thinking waiting for "things" to get better. Or we can

use our power to envision a better world, and our ability to implement that vision.

We can, and should, speak out on the issues that affect the world in which we live. We know what we want. We have the intelligence and ability to make it happen. We have but to speak, and society will listen.

I believe the same is true of the HS/AIA. Therefore, it is one of my prime goals as your president to speak out on the vital issues confronting our profession and our citizenry. I aim to increase the community's awareness of architects, their work and their worth. All of us in the HS/AIA have a valuable message for our state. We may not yet be fully aware of the value of our talent and ability.

However, I hope that with your help we may together discover our strength and our vision, and offer them to the people of Hawaii. To do less is to abandon the cause of architecture.

In closing, I would like to congratulate Francis Oda, his officers, and executive and working committees for a job well done in 1982. It was an eventful year with numerous activities demanding attention. The most obvious, of course, was the national convention for which our Society, as host, can be rightfully proud. However, there were numerous other programs undertaken with equal effectiveness, including continuing education courses, annual architectural awards, the journalism award, increasing attendance at our monthly dinner meetings, and many others. All in all, it was a busy year and to Francis and crew, "Mahalo."

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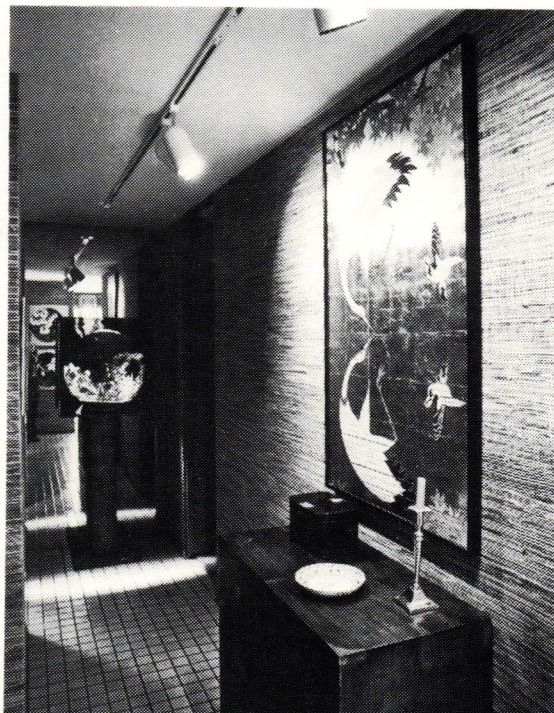
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Pegge Hopper Art, Ceiling Fan



James Raker Painting, Single Candlestick

Hawaii's tropical outdoors seemingly comes inside, saying aloha to visitors to this beautiful Victoria Street apartment of interior designers Lowell Barnhart and Brian Shuckburgh. Small white Ceramic Tile flooring throughout plus counter tops and mirrors achieve the outdoor feeling of this "lanai in the sky." One more tribute certainly to the versatility of beautiful, long lasting, easy care Ceramic Tile—fitting so well with Hawaii's easy, gracious life style. Note in the photos how two professional designers team in creating this gem.

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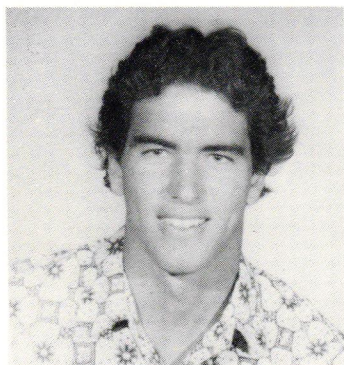
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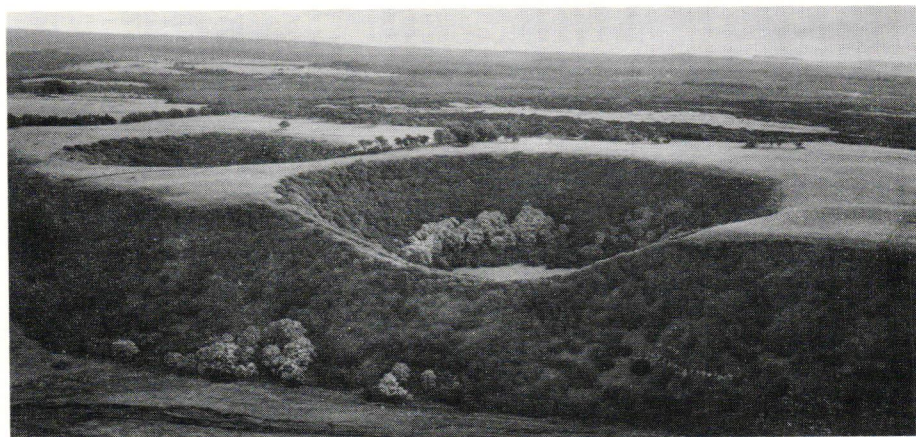
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Forces of Change: Creating New Landscapes

by Thomas S. Witten, ASLA
Associate
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A native of Honolulu, Thomas Witten received his landscape architecture degree from the College of Environmental Design, University of California, Berkeley. Since joining PBR in 1979, he has been involved in a diverse range of landscape architectural and regional planning projects ranging from residential landscape designs to comprehensive land analysis and management programs. Active in the American Society of Landscape Architects-Hawaii Chapter, he is currently serving as its President.



Volcanic landforms

Since the time of the Great Mahele in 1848, land has become one of the basic commodities of these Islands. Planning for its use and conservation has become a central political and social issue. In 1978, 130 years after the Great Mahele, the State of Hawaii adopted The Hawaii State Plan that sets forth the goals, objectives, and policies to guide it into the future. From the State Plan, present drafts of the Functional Plans, and right down to the county planning levels, the management of our limited land and related resources is of increasing concern.

The last 20 years show clearly the magnitude of change a landscape can go through. From the barren, wind-swept shoreline transformed into a resort destination, to new residential communities carved into the hillsides and ridges, our lands are continually being transformed into new landscapes. The continued creation of these new landscapes offers the design profession an ever-increasing challenge in the planning, design, and management of these lands.

Land becomes a landscape when it is perceived in terms of its physiographic and environmental characteristics. Landscapes vary according to these characteristics and according to the historical impacts of man upon them. Thus the varied landscapes experienced daily are reflections of the dynamic, natural, and social systems that have impacted them. The planning and design of lands and water for society's use must be performed within the basis of an understanding of these systems. The landscape of Hawaii, in all of its diverse and unique forms, has been put under increasing stress as the many forces of change act upon it, the most recent and extreme case being that of Hurricane Iwa.

Blessed with the opportunity to experience a diverse range of landscapes, from the most primitive of landscapes created by volcanic activity to tropical rain forests, the creation of new landscapes requires a comprehensive understanding of the natural systems. Accepting the proposition that nature is process, that it is interacting (that is, responds to laws representing values and opportunities for human use with certain limitations and even prohibitions to certain of these), our new landscapes must be patterned and formed based on our awareness and understanding of these processes.



Natural patterns and cultivated lands

"Our planning professions have a common goal in their aim to determine, to create, and then keep current, optimum relations between people and their environment." Norman Newtown



Need for more creative solutions

Stanley White, a noted educator and theorist of landscape architecture, makes note of the designer's opportunity in providing for a new landscape: "The occupied landscape may be richer by far in all the subtle amenities of the original land if only the designs we apply are . . . becoming to form as well as to the complexion of the meadows, woods, and slopes we presume to compliment . . . Landscape character should be intensified not obliterated; and the ultimate harmony should emerge as a blend in which the native quality of the region and the spot still prevails after the inextinguishable mutilation of the construction undertaken to produce needed roads, buildings, and other works of civility and comfort. These humanized landscapes are to us the most inviting and beloved, and we are pleased and inspired largely insofar as the whole structure and sentiment of the landscape can be preserved."

Confronting the design profession are issues and problems that ultimately will impact our lands. Housing that is affordable, transportation planning, water resource management, agricultural crop alternatives and diversification, preservation of habitat and ecological systems, energy-efficient site planning, historic preservation, public recreation, commerce and industry are but a few of the issues that need first to be understood and then resolved. Advancements in any of these areas will require a comprehensive effort and cooperation by both the public and private sectors. Public policies will need to be constantly reassessed to understand the fundamental premises and assumptions that they were built upon. Within our rapidly changing environment, constant monitoring and re-evaluation is required to keep pace with the ever-changing system of forces that we must function within.

Considering all the forces of change—social, political, economic, and technical—landscape architects, along with the other design professionals, must provide the guidance to create solutions to the ever-expanding needs of our landscape in its modification to accommodate man. In recognizing the extreme forces available to man to impact the landscape, the design professionals need to continually expand their skills to orchestrate solutions to meet the problems of the future. We can point to our successes but should not overlook those landscapes where the balance of systems and forces were not met. With a resource as finite as our Islands' land, and with the ever-increasing demands of a growing community, the challenge of creating new landscapes that blend with the native qualities of our Islands must be a continual goal.

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Highlights of the 1982 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Landscape Architects



Edward A. Williams, FASLA
EDAW, inc.

The Hawaii Chapter of the ASLA hosted approximately 1,000 members and guests at the first annual meeting of the Society to be held here in its 82-year history. In spite of the conference's crashing end at the height of Hurricane Iwa we hope it will be just the first of many to come.

The opening session with a thrilling concert by the Honolulu Boy Choir, a tongue-in-cheek welcome by Hideto Kono representing the governor, and a farsighted perspective of Hawaii's past and future by Gavin Daws provided our guests with a sudden and exciting sense of what the real Hawaii is all about. The mood of the conference then turned seriously to its business of providing forums for the exchange of ideas and information. Two general sessions concentrated on the future of the profession and changing public perceptions and attitudes as they might affect the profession. Fifteen educational sessions conducted over a period of



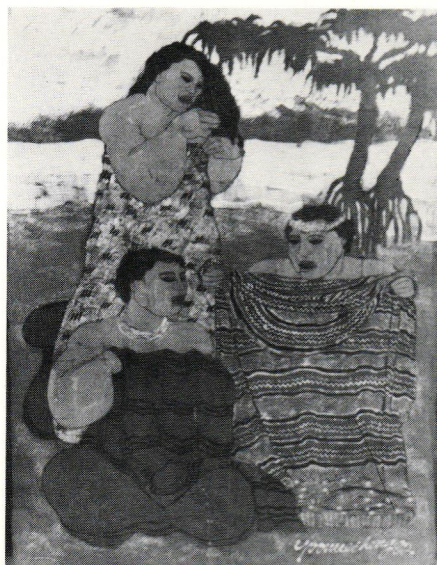
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three mornings offered up to six optional subjects at a time to provide for virtually everyone's special interests. Subjects included: computers for the small firm, energy conservation through planting design, visual analysis, surface water management, tourism planning, and the Hawaii State Land Use Law. Educational exhibits gave our local members a rare and easy opportunity to meet and talk to suppliers of commercial products and services from all over the Mainland.

By way of an aside, in talking to a number of Mainland guests we found that among the most memorable events for them were the pre-conference tours. These were conducted in intermittent warm, light rains that added to the tropical atmosphere as they toured city parks and urban spaces, the south-eastern Oahu shore and valleys, and the most beautiful of Honolulu's private gardens.

The most memorable event for Hawaii members was the Fellows Investiture Dinner. Catherine Jones Thompson and Richard C. Tongg, pioneer Hawaii landscape architects and Fellows of the society, were specially honored by slide shows of their works accompanied by narrations of the highlights of their distinguished professional careers. Our own Raymond F. Cain was also honored by election to the Council of Fellows following a presentation of his outstanding designs throughout the Pacific.



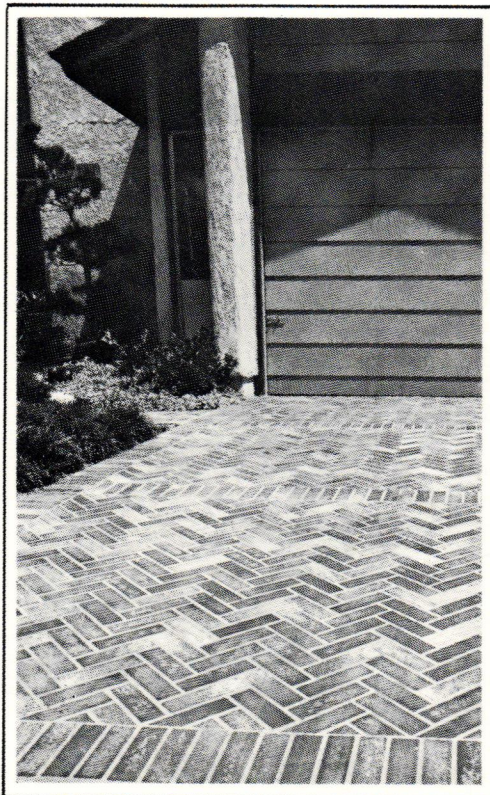
Lithograph designed by Yvonne Cheng for 1982 ASLA Annual Meeting

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1982 Professional Awards Program

Hawaii Chapter

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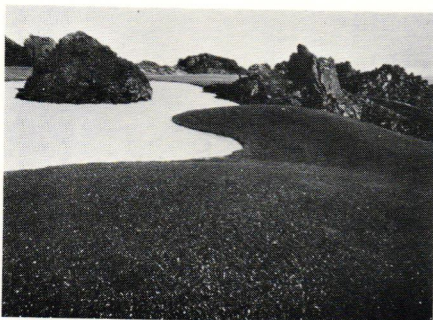
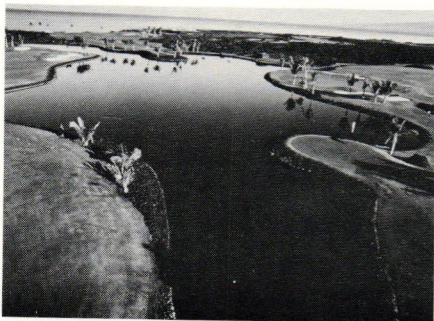
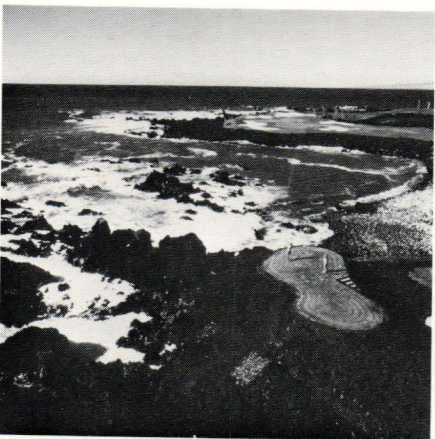
Belt, Collins & Associates
Award of Excellence,
Parks and Recreation
Mauna Lani Resort, South Kohala,
Island of Hawaii

Owner: Mauna Lani Resort, Inc.
Contractor: Homer Flint
Cost: \$8 million

This golf course was designed to be an expression of "landscape art." The mounded forms were constructed to assure proper drainage and allow for easy movement of mowing equipment. The use of trees and shrubs was minimal so that the juxtaposition of the green grass and black lava could be the dominant visual element. The significance of this project is that it serves as an example of what can be done to preserve the natural beauty of lava.



Jurors for the awards competition were Bruce Hopper; Alfred Preis, FAIA; Richard Gushman; Hideo Murakami; and Bud Smyser. In the first competition held since 1975 by the Hawaii Chapter, awards were given in six categories: communications, multi-family housing, commercial and industrial, master planning, parks and recreation, and landscape analysis.



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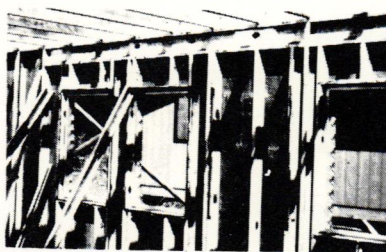
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ASLA Awards

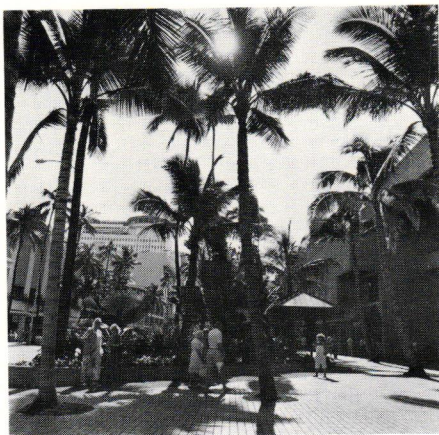
Belt, Collins & Associates, Inc.
Award of Excellence,
Commercial and Industrial
Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center,
Waikiki

Architects: Wong & Wong
Associates, Inc.; and Palmer &
Turner

Owner: Royal Hawaiian Shopping
Center, Inc.

Contractor: Hawaiian Dredging &
Construction Co. (General Con-
tractor); Green Thumb, Inc. (Land-
scaping)

A significant feature of this project is its use of a landscaped buffer between the street and the sidewalk. Pedestrians are diverted away from the street through the use of planter walls, bold pavement patterns, and select plantings. The realigned sidewalk and landscaped buffer improves the appearance of the streetscape, protects pedestrians from vehicles and street noise, and allows the sidewalk to be elevated above the flooding to which the street is occasionally subjected. The project includes a natural waterfall, and sensitive interfacing between the modern shopping center and the historic Royal Hawaiian Hotel. A preservation plan was developed for all existing trees including specimen banyans, monkeypods, and a 100-year-old grove of coconuts.



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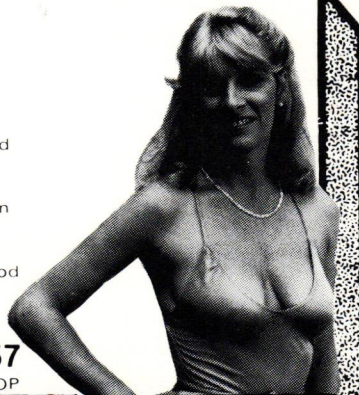
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ASLA Awards

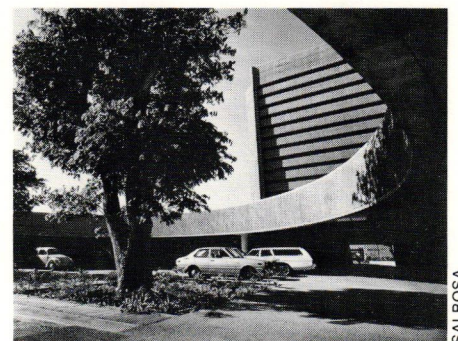
**Walters, Kimura & Associates
Award of Excellence,
Parks and Recreation
Civic Center Parking Structure,
Honolulu**

Architects: Anbe, Aruga & Ishizu
Architects, Inc.

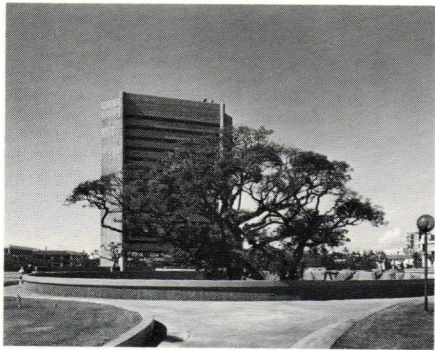
Owner: City and County of Honolulu

Contractor: P.G. Kuniyoshi Landscaping

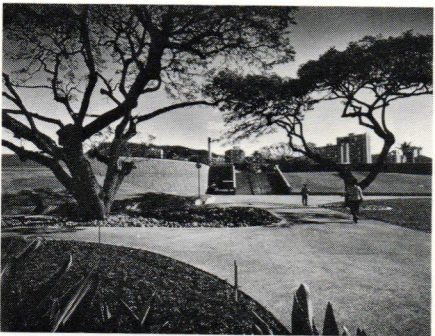
The landscape architects designed the roof of this two-level, partially depressed parking structure as a landscaped park with spacious lawns, large canopy trees, winding paths and curving seat walls. A continuous landscaped berm from street level to the roof of the structure was designed to eliminate the presence of the structure and to create the effect of uninterrupted, landscaped open space. An extremely large monkeypod tree, which was too large to move, existed in the center of the site. The designers responded by creating a one-story tree well around this tree, allowing it to become a feature of the structure as well as a means of naturally venting the parking level. Two more large tree wells were added as an extension of this feature. The project provides parking for nearly 1,000 cars, while maintaining the concept of the Civic Center as a park-like environment of generous lawns and large canopy trees.



SALBOSA



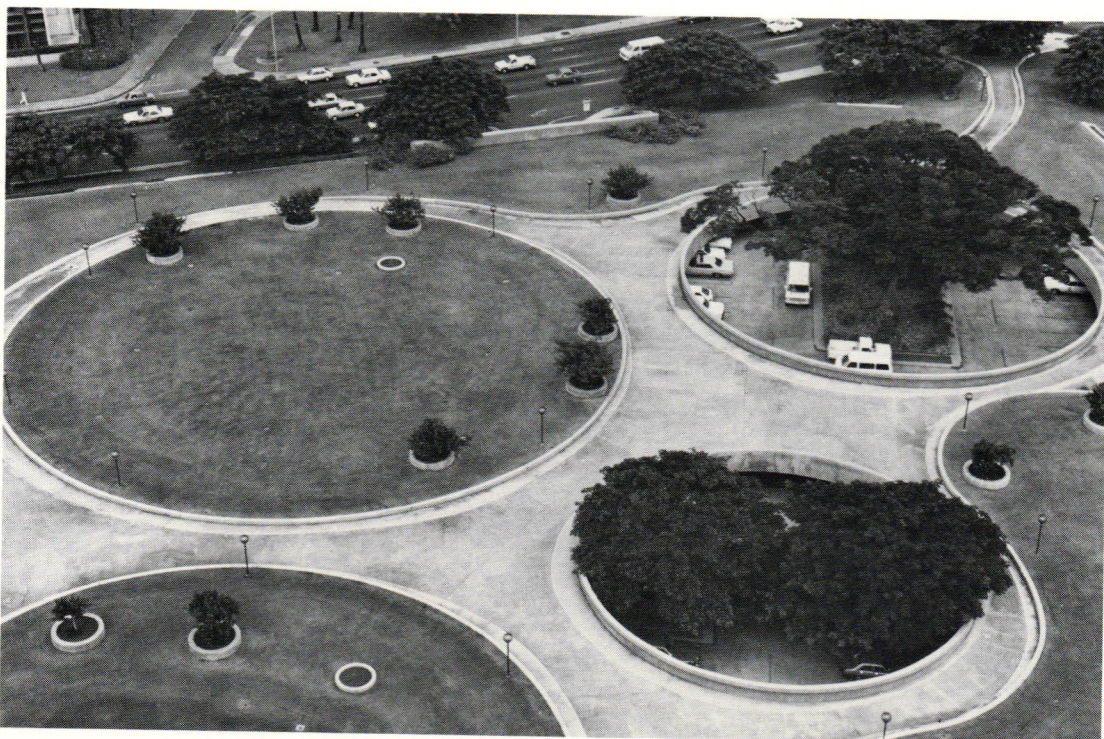
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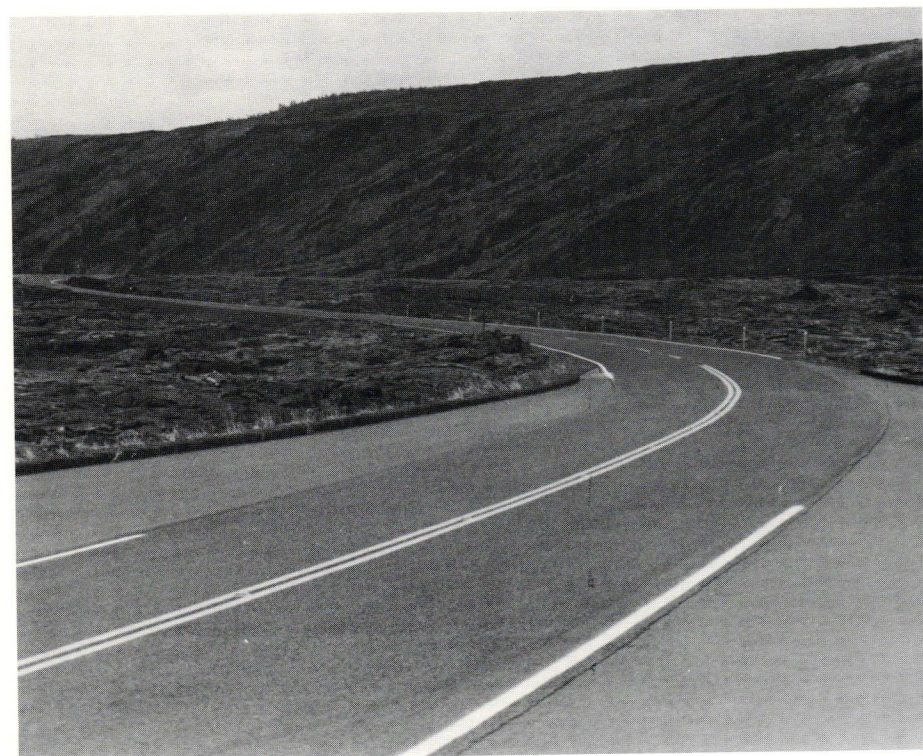


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LEE

ASLA Awards

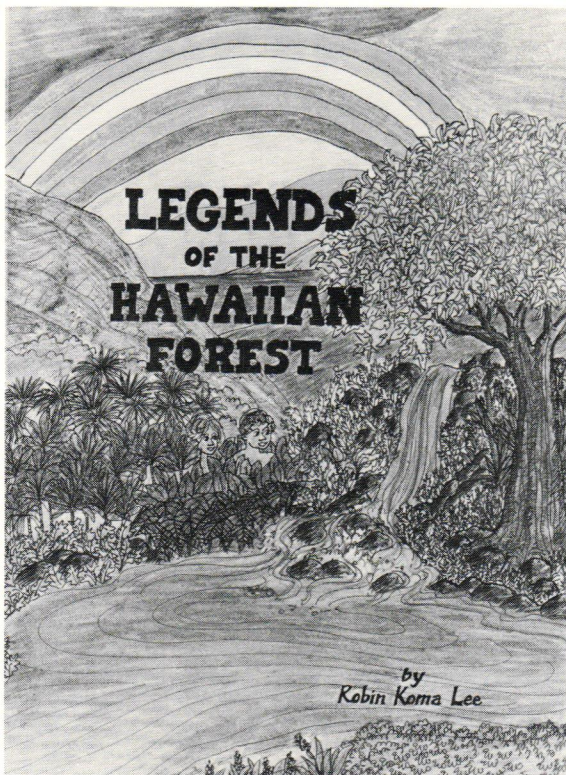


**Thomas Fake, ASLA
Award of Merit,
Parks and Recreation
Chain of Craters Road,
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park**

Owner: USDI National Park Service
Contractor: Sonomura Contracting
Co., Inc.

Special provisions for this contract required mitigation of destructive impacts on the new lava through which the road travels. Construction trucks were not allowed to turn around on the site, but had to travel a one-way route through the park. The road was planned to try to minimize its destruction by new lava flows, and so that it would blend in with, rather than dominate, the terrain.

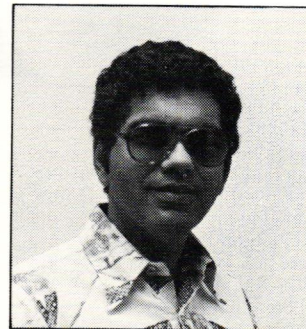
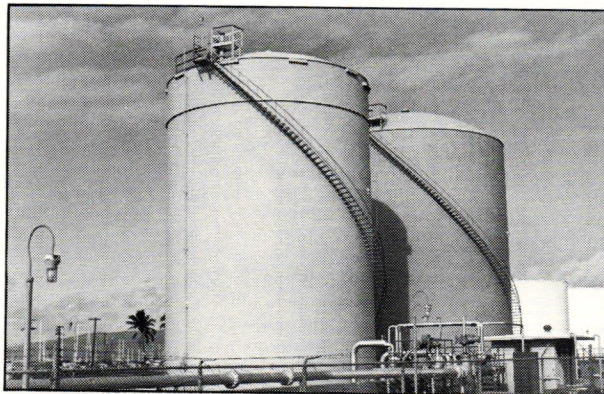
Robin Koma Lee
Award of Excellence, Communications
Book entitled Legends of the Hawaiian Forest



Jury Comments: "A charming and unpretentious work. It projects a view of Pacific island land and plants through the eyes of Hawaiians whose regard for land and plants was central to their culture. A very imaginative work." Books may be ordered through Makapu'u Press, P.O. Box 26404, Honolulu 96825.



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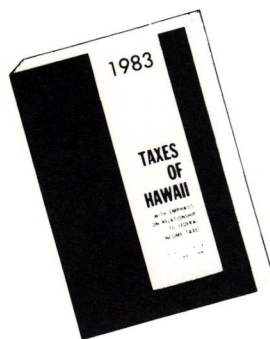
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ASLA Awards



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Walters, Kimura & Associates, Inc.
Award of Excellence,
Multi-Family Housing
Wailea Elua, Wailea, Maui



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Architects: Ossipoff, Snyder,
 Rowland & Goetz
 Owner: Wailea Development Co.
 Contractor: Wailea

The landscape architect was responsible for the design of walkways, outdoor lighting, planting, and irrigation. The landscape design concept focused on an attempt to minimize the building masses by densely planting the mauka and side elevations, then emphasizing a feeling of spaciousness by allowing large, sweeping expanses of lawn to flow continuously between the buildings and down to the beach. Tropical planting was used throughout with an emphasis on flowering plant material which would bloom throughout the year.

ASLA Awards



**Phillips, Brandt, Reddick & Associates (Hawaii), Inc.
Award of Merit,
Commercial and Industrial
Hasegawa-Komuten Building,
Honolulu**

Architects: CJS Group Architects
Owner: Hasegawa-Komuten USA
Contractor: Takona Nakamura
Landscaping
General Contractor: Pacific Construction

Jury Comments: "Excellent relationship between landscape architecture and architecture. Intimacy and human scale is created. Technical problems are handled deftly. Very well executed and maintained."



FRANZEN

**Belt, Collins & Associates.
Award of Excellence,
Landscape Analysis
The Anchorage at Tweed Heads,
Australia**

Owner: Lend Lease Development Pty., Ltd.

The landscaping of this proposed development was considered by the owner as one of the most effective ways to give the project a special identity. The master landscape plan proposed a blend of major land and water forms. Planting is intended to give scale and order to this structure. Creation of a tree canopy along major vehicular and pedestrian routes is a major element in the plan. Preserving and creating views



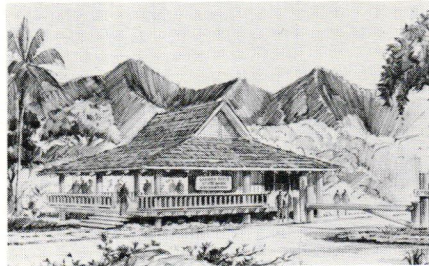
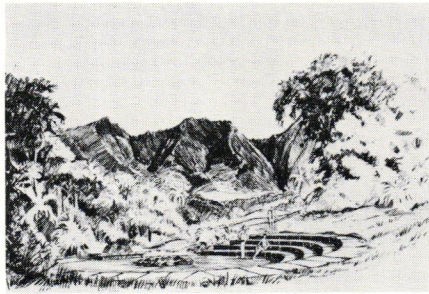
and open spaces were also important. Recommendations are made for every component of the plan from the marina shoreline through public and semi-public spaces, to private residential courtyards.

**Phillips, Brandt, Reddick & Associates (Hawaii), Inc.
Award of Excellence,
Master Planning
Sacred Falls State Park,
Ko'olau Loa, Oahu**

Owner: State of Hawaii, DLNR; State Parks, Outdoor Recreation and Historic Sites

Engineers: Gray, Rhee & Associates

Jury Comments: "Comprehensive document with a strong, well-organized data base. The well-presented alternatives incorporate principles of environmental planning, design, and ecology that lead to the logical selection of the recommended plan. Nicely done."



**Phillips, Brandt, Reddick & Associates (Hawaii), Inc.
Award of Merit, Communications
Oahu Urban Design Study
Phase A)**

In this report, carried out for the Department of Land Utilization, each district on Oahu is evaluated and guidelines for zoning and development are clearly drawn out.

**Donald Wolbrink, FASLA
Claire Avis, ASLA
Award of Merit, Master Planning
Honouliuli Regional Plan,
Campbell Estate Land, Oahu**

This plan, designating land uses for 36,000 acres of Campbell Estate land, illustrates the early role of the landscape architect in the planning process in Hawaii.



**EDAW, inc.
Award of Merit,
Multi-Family Housing
Puu Alii, Phases I and II,
Kaneohe, Hawaii**

Architects: Kajioka/Okada & Partners, Inc.; and Norman Lacayo, AIA
Graphic Elements: Clarence Lee Design
Owner: Squire-McCormack, Ltd.
Contractors: Phase I—Green Thumb, Inc.; Spragues, Inc.; Landscape Industries, Inc. Phase II—Landscape Industries, Inc.

Jury Comments: "The landscape creates an ambience that reflects the mountain environment through its use of 'conifers,' Norfolk Island pine, and palms in major groups. A tough, exposed site made hospitable by sensitive planting. Excellent plan graphics." HA

**Tongg
Continued from page 22**

clients, however, enjoy playing in the garden and we are happy to oblige them.

HA: In over 50 years, you have seen many changes in the profession of landscape architecture. Where is it all going?

RT: The profession is expanding in ways I never imagined. We recently had almost 1,000 people attend the annual meeting of the American Society of Landscape Architects here in Honolulu. They are involved in everything from designing backyard gardens to very large-scale planning work utilizing satellites and the most sophisticated computers. They were interested in everything from our gardens to important legislation such as Hawaii's State Land Use Law, the first in the nation. Landscape architects were involved in writing, administering, and reviewing the law.

Tongg, Clarke & Mechler, Inc., will continue to work on landscape design-oriented projects involving landscape construction and the solving of technical and unusual problems. This is where our experience is and it is what we like to do best.

HA: At the ASLA meeting, I understand you were honored as one of the "Precursors of Landscape Architecture." Since only three other people had been recognized before, this is quite an honor. Do you plan to retire now?

RT: I retire every night. HA

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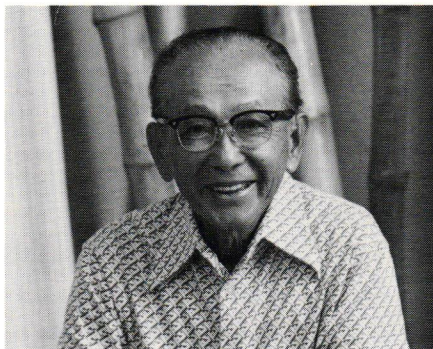
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Profile

Richard C. Tongg, FASLA
Tongg, Clarke & Mechler

By Alan Clarke



At 83 years of age, Richard C. Tongg, FASLA, is the oldest practicing landscape architect in Hawaii, and one of the oldest in the nation. A noted authority on the landscape use of tropical plant materials, he has designed countless projects ranging from small residences to some of the largest hotels in the state and the Honolulu International Airport.

As chairman of the board of Tongg, Clarke & Mechler, Tongg continues to be active in the landscape architectural profession in Hawaii and throughout the Pacific.

HA: How does the son of a sugar planter from Honokaa become the senior landscape architect in Hawaii?

RT: It takes time. My family recognized the value of an education and hard work. After attending high school in Hilo, I studied botany and agriculture at the University of Hawaii, graduating in 1923. While attending the university, I worked at many jobs to pay my way through school, including several that were related to botany, forestry horticulture, and nursery operations. I discovered I had an aptitude for plant materials and decided to pursue a career in landscaping. I moved to Southern California and worked for several nurseries, eventually starting and heading the nursery operations at the Hope Ranch Estates in Santa Barbara. During this time, I met Ralph Stevens, the noted California landscape architect, and became his protege. He was the landscape architect who planned the Royal Hawaiian Hotel grounds. Another landscape architect, Ralph D. Cornell, who first master-planned the University of Hawaii campus, also influenced me tremendously.

HA: There weren't many landscape architects in Hawaii at that time.

RT: Only a few of us. Catherine Jones Richards, a local girl, married Robert Thompson from Boston

and formed Thompson & Thompson. For many years, my company and theirs were the only landscape architects in the state. To implement my work, I had my own nursery and contracting operations. I was very fortunate to meet and work for some of the most influential people in the state at that time including the Vanderbilts, the Dohenys, and Doris Duke. Doris even had me go to Summerville, New Jersey, to work on her garden there. Most of the work came from referrals by satisfied clients. I was very fortunate as the first landscape architect of Chinese descent to be accepted by the important people in society at that time.

HA: But a little publicity always helped too.

RT: Yes, I first made major headlines in 1930 when we transplanted large, full-grown coconut trees at the Alexander & Baldwin building downtown. The work was done over the weekend and the local press was amazed that full-grown trees could appear overnight. It was something of a miracle, especially considering the equipment we had to use and our lack of experience. After the success of these trees, many major projects wanted large coconuts included in their landscape design.

Today we know that many of the tropical trees can be easily relocated if properly handled and maintained. Quite often, the limiting factor is the size of tree which can be moved over the highways.

The largest tree ever moved in

the state was the 35-ton Bengal banyan now in the atrium at the Hyatt Regency Maui. This tree was over 70 feet tall when we brought it to the site from the edge of a cane-field nine miles away. The contractor moved the tree in the middle of the night using police escort and cane haul roads. The utility companies lowered several power and telephone lines which could not be avoided. Today, the tree is well-established and flourishing, providing a key feature in the landscape design at the hotel.

HA: Having written four books and countless articles on landscape design and plant materials, you are the acknowledged authority on the landscape use of tropical plants. Haven't you introduced some of the common plant materials we use in landscape design today?

RT: Yes, we were constantly looking for plants suitable for the cultivated landscape environment. Some of the introductions were more successful than others. Many are still in use today including Laua'e fern, Molokai osmanthus and Waipahu fig. One of my employees introduced wedelia, which is everywhere now. I think we should thank him for that.

HA: Are you still finding new plants?

RT: More like we are rediscovering old ones. With the tight economy and energy considerations, it is becoming more and more important to utilize successful plant materials which require the minimum amount of maintenance effort. Everyone wants a maintenance-free garden; but it still *must* be attractive and functional. My staff and I are constantly working to develop designs which are attractive, yet only require only minimal care and maintenance. Other

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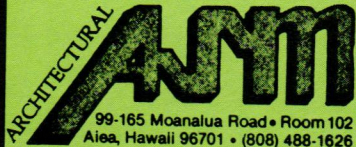
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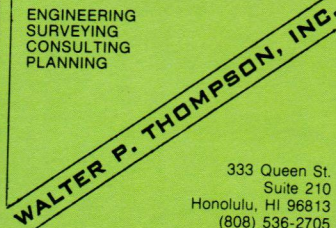


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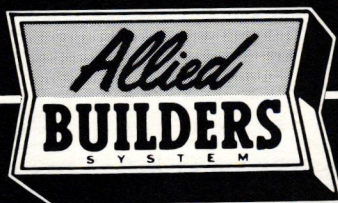


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