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. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property
   historic name National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
   other names/site number Punchbowl; Puowaina / TMK: (1) 2-2-005:001 and :002

2. Location
   street & number 2177 Puowaina Drive
   city or town Honolulu
   state Hawai‘i code HI county Honolulu code 03 zip code 96813

3. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
   I hereby certify that this [nomination] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
   In my opinion, the property meets [does not meet] the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
   _X_ national ___ statewide __local
   Signature of certifying official: __________________________ Title: __________________________ Date: __________
   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: __________________________ Title: __________________________ Date: __________
   State or Federal agency bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification
   I hereby certify that this property is:
   _X_ 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

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<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
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<td>(Check only one box.)</td>
<td>(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)</td>
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<td>□ noncontributing Total</td>
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| □ contributing buildings | □ noncontributing | 5 |
| □ contributing sites | □ noncontributing | 1 |
| □ contributing structures | □ noncontributing | 7 |
| □ contributing objects | □ noncontributing | 87 |
| □ contributing Total | □ noncontributing | 92 |

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter “N/A” if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:
1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Funerary: cemetery

 Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Funerary: cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Modern movement

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: concrete
walls: concrete brick, travertine, lava rock, marble
aluminum shake shingle, pressed sheet
roof: metal, copper
other: 

Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
County and State: Honolulu, Hawaii
Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Explanation of the Narrative Description Revisions

This nomination form replaces the original "Puowaina-Hill of Sacrifice" nomination, which was entered in the National Register of Historic Places on January 11, 1976, and is done as part of Section 106 compliance as a result of the addition of the two Vietnam Memorial pavilions. The name of the nomination was later changed to conform to then Keeper of the National Register, Carol Shull's recommendation of July 2, 1981, to more explicitly concentrate on the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific as the focus of the nomination. At the time of the original nomination, the cemetery had not yet achieved fifty years of age, so many of the features of the site were not clearly discussed. The description section has been updated to note the additional features.

The original Section 7 read as follows:

“The Punchbowl is a volcanic crater whose origins are lost to the early geological history of the Hawaiian Islands. Approximately oval in shape, the rim rises 461 feet above sea level affording a view of Diamond Head, Pearl Harbor and the city of Honolulu from a natural overlook. The floor of the crater, 330 feet above sea level, was developed in 1946 [sic] into the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

The use of careful landscaping and flat grave markers has been enhanced by the impressive memorial erected by the American Battle Monuments Commission. This monument is now as much a Honolulu landmark as the Punchbowl crater itself.”

Summary Paragraph

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific is being nominated as a historic district in accordance with the National Register of Historic Places, "National Register Eligibility of National Cemeteries – A Clarification of Policy." The clarification states, “Because they contain a combination of resource types and cover substantial acreage, national cemeteries are considered historic districts for the purposes of National Register listings.” In accordance with the white paper, the cemetery as a whole, including its roadways, landscape features, and grave markers, is considered to be a site, while other elements of the district include: Five (5) buildings (the administration building, two maintenance buildings, a restroom, and the memorial), seven (7) structures (two sets of entry gateways, a pumping station, a reservoir, a tunnel/battery complex, a memorial walk and overlook, and a columbarium complex), and eighty seven (87) objects (3 flagpoles, Gettysburg Address tablet, Bivouac of the Dead plaque, 65 memorials/monuments, and 17 granite tree dedication plaques).

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific is located within the crater of a volcano that was formed approximately 275,000 years ago. It is laid out on 30 of the 114.54 acres located on the floor and sides of the caldera of Puowaina, also known as Punchbowl. The verdant interior walls of the crater are integral to the design of the cemetery, forming an all-encompassing green backdrop for the cemetery and its features. An approximately 800 feet long central boulevard of two separate lanes provides the cemetery with an east-west axis with the circular flagpole plaza at the entry to the cemetery defining the boulevard’s eastern end and an imposing marble memorial serving as a focal point at its western terminus. Two circular drives branch off the flagpole plaza and wind around the floor and sides of the crater, the inner one looping in front of the memorial and the outer one behind it. Granite grave markers lie flush with the cemetery lawn, while Chinese banyan trees (Ficus benjamina) line the central drive and monkey pod (Samanea saman), shower trees (Cassia, spp.), and other various trees adorn the circular drives and are interspersed among the gravesites.
Narrative Description

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific is entered from Puowaina Drive (see attached site plan). A new gateway, erected in 2001 and comprised of concrete pylons with metal gates, announces the entry to the property. Upon traversing the gateway, Puowaina Drive winds around the Diamond Head face of Punchbowl crater, passing a cylindrical, 10,000-gallon, concrete reservoir and reinforced concrete pump house with a flat roof with overhanging eaves. The two structures sit on terraces on the inside of the road, supported on the downhill side by concrete brick retaining walls. Concrete brick steps, located between the two structures, lead to a steel gateway adorned with a chevron pattern, and provide access to the structures. On the outer edge of the road are memorial monkey pod trees marked with seventeen stone dedication blocks for the fiftieth anniversary of the cemetery.

At the edge of the crater proper, pillars of unequal heights demarcate the entry to the cemetery. Each of the squared, scored concrete pillars are capped by a domed, stainless-steel, Art Deco inspired, fluted finial. The shorter pillar, sited to the right of the roadway, has affixed to it a bronze seal of the United States and bronze letters reading, “Puowaina,” “Punchbowl” and “Crater” on separate lines. The taller, left side pillar has the name, “National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific”, affixed to it, and below that a cast-aluminum plaque with eight lines from Theodore O’Hara’s poem, “The Bivouac of the Dead.”

Immediately in front of the left side pillar is a paved terrace, enclosed on three sides by a 4-foot-high wall of concrete bricks. The terrace’s concrete floor is scored with an octagon circumscribed by a square pattern.

Beyond the entrance, immediately to the right is an administration building and visitor information center. Constructed in 1949, these single-story buildings feature hipped roofs with overhanging eaves and white-painted concrete brick walls. The buildings are slated for demolition, and have been recorded in accordance with Historic American Building Survey (HABS) standards. A columbarium is planned for this area, and a new building to house administrative functions is to be located on land along Puowania Drive. To the left of the entry road, opposite the administration building is a grove of plumeria trees (Plumeria, spp.).

The entry road leads to the circular flagpole plaza, which marks the eastern end of the east-west axis about which the cemetery is organized. The 70-foot flagpole is centered on a round concrete platform with a high wall at the back and a lower wall at the front. The front wall features bronze seals of the five military branches. Two steps on the sides of the platform, between the walls provide access to the base of the flagpole. A raised concrete octagonal base at the center of the platform supports the decorative metal base of the flagpole. The flagpole is topped by a bronze ball finial.

Beyond the flagpole plaza are two, separated, asphalt-paved lanes of the central boulevard, and the similarly paved inner and outer drives. Thirteen Chinese banyan trees and a scored concrete sidewalk line the outer edge of the central boulevard. The cemetery area on the south side of the boulevard, nearest its head, contains the graves of war correspondent Ernie Pyle, astronaut Ellison Onizuka, and members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. In the parallel area on the north side of the boulevard is the grave of Sergeant Henry Oliver Hansen, one of the original flag raisers at Iwo Jima.

Chinese banyan trees also serve to transition from the central boulevard to the inner circular drive at their nexuses on the traffic circles. The inner traffic circle is primarily lined with monkey pod trees; however, hybrid rainbow shower trees (Cassia javanica X C. fistula), pink shower trees (Cassia grandis) and pink-and-white shower trees (Cassia javanica) are also present. Monkey pods also are planted among the cemetery plots situated between the boulevard and the inner circle drives. A white trumpet tree (Tabebuia roseoalba) stands near the center of both of these spaces. In addition, the area south of the boulevard includes a red flowered Royal Poinciana (Delonix regia), and a Gold Tree (Tabebuia donnell-smithii), planted in 1987 in honor of the members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The two inner circle drives converge in an oval-shaped area at the head of the central boulevard. A tri-partite ellipse is in the center of the traffic circle, and features a Chinese banyan tree in each of its end sections. Along the southern inner drive, immediately off the traffic circle, stands a Gold Tree planted in honor of the Vietnam veterans in 1979, and also a similar tree planted in 1976 in remembrance of the Medal of Honor recipients.

Along the outer drives and also in the adjacent burial sections are monkey pods and shower trees. Other trees include golden shower trees (Cassia fistula) and kamani trees (Calophyllum inophyllum).
The maintenance area is situated on the southeast slope of the outer drive. Built in 1949, this complex of two buildings is enclosed by a 4-feet-high concrete brick wall, which is screened on the exterior by a plumbago (Plumbago capensis) hedge. Both single-story buildings are constructed of concrete brick and have double-pitched hipped gable roofs. The main building is L-shaped and contains an office and five garage bays. The second building, a repair shop, contains a single work bay with an adjoining office; at the back, is an attached storage room.

Upslope of the maintenance yard is the foundation of a Panama gun mount. This includes a concrete circle approximately 10 feet in diameter with twenty rectangular slabs, each measuring approximately 2 feet 6 inches x 6 feet, radiating out from a central circle. A metal band encircles the foundation; the approximate diameter is 30 feet. Modern concrete bollards have been erected on the north side of the area.

Up the road from the maintenance yard is a tunnel entrance, constructed during World War II as Battery Construction Number 304 (BCN 304), which was to be equipped with two, 6-inch guns mounted on M4 barbette carriages. The battery consists of two tunnels each approximately 300 feet long, which are connected by a transverse tunnel. The two tunnels are 320 feet apart and emerge in 10 feet wide slots on the outside of the crater wall. The tunnels were almost completed when Japan surrendered in 1945, and are presently used for storage. One tunnel opening has a metal gate to secure it, and gunite approaches, while the other is secured by a wire screen. Beyond the tunnels, the outer circular drive is lined by four Chinese banyan trees.

A path that until 1986 was open to vehicular traffic, leads up to the rim of the crater and a terraced lookout whose masonry balustrades feature a chevron pattern, similar to those of the lower outlook. Construction on the walkway, now designated as the “Memorial Walk,” and lookout was completed in 1990. The walkway is lined on both sides by fifty-nine memorials, donated by veteran service organizations and other affiliated groups. The memorials are generally low, granite faced walls and a flat roof, and was constructed in conjunction with the Memorial Walk in 1990.

The focal point of the cemetery is the travertine-clad Honolulu Memorial, which was completed in 1964 and dedicated May 1, 1966. Constructed under the administration of the American Battle Monuments Commission, the Honolulu Memorial presides over the western end of the cemetery. The memorial includes a crescent-shaped building that is approached by a broad set of steps. The steps are flanked by the Courts of the Missing. The hillside around the memorial is landscaped with a mock orange hedge (Murraya paniculata), a row of rainbow shower trees, and a row of Chinese banyan trees. At the end of each shower tree row, a fukugi or happiness tree (Garcinia subelliptica) is located. One fukugi tree on the left side was planted on June 16, 1985, by Prince Hitachi and Princess Hanako of Japan to honor the 100th anniversary of Japanese immigration to Hawaii and was the first to be planted as part of the “One Million Trees of Aloha” effort. Beds of cup of gold (Solandra hartwegii) and star jasmine (Jasminum multiflorum) adorn the slope behind the memorial.

On the north slope of the cemetery, above the outer circular drive is located a columbarium complex and committal shelter. It is comprised of a dozen open air courts with 7-foot-high walls. Begun in 1981, Courts 1-5 were designed by Hawaii Architects and Engineers Inc., and are characterized by concrete walls with lava rock accent sections and bronze-faced urn receptacles. Shade is provided by rainbow shower trees and kou trees (Cordia subcordata). The committal shelter, located at the southern end of these courts, is an open-air metal frame structure topped by a pyramidal, tinted-glass roof; the roof is edged by copper gutters with rain chains extending from the corners, rather than downspouts. The shelter is at the center of concrete plaza and surrounded by high and low curtain walls of dark lava rock. The more recent Courts 6-12 are located at the northern end of Courts 1-5; they were begun in 2003 and have marble-faced receptacles. These were designed by Honolulu architects CJS Group and adhere to national cemetery standard plans and specifications. A second committal shelter consisting of a concrete base and retaining walls built in the sides of the crater is located at the end of the additional courts.

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific retains a high degree of integrity despite having undergone a number of alterations over the years. Much of the original planting scheme remains intact, as does the original layout of the roads and burial sections. The additions of the columbaria and committal shelter first constructed in 1981 and the transformation of the overlook area to a memorial walk, have acquired historic significance in their own right for their contribution to the overall design and significance of the cemetery.
Contributing Resources


Site (1): 111.5-acre cemetery and associated grave and memorial markers.


Objects (87): three (3) flagpoles, Gettysburg Address tablet (2009), Bivouac of the Dead plaque (2003), 65 memorials/monuments (various years and designs), 17 tree dedication blocks (1999; granite inscription plaques set into concrete blocks).

Buildings

Superintendent’s Lodge/Current Administration Building (1949)

The superintendent’s lodge is generally rectangular in plan—approximately 81 feet in overall length—with projections at the short ends (49 feet at its’ widest), and one story in height. It contains a reception area (enclosed lanai), open administrative office (living room and dining room), director’s office (bedroom), vacant office (bedroom), copy room (bedroom), file room and family room (enclosed rear porch), kitchen, bathroom, toilet room and entry vestibule. There is also attic space, and a number of closets typically found in a residential structure. Completing the former residential building is an attached garage (17 x 24 feet) and electrical room (4 x 14 feet) at the northwest end of the lodge. A partially enclosed hallway separates the lodge from the garage and a roofed breezeway connects the lodge to the former Administration building.

The foundations of the lodge and appendices are concrete slab on grade. The walls are constructed of 16 x 4 x 8 inch concrete masonry bricks. The bricks are unevenly faced in the original portions of the building, and smoother at the newer additions. They are laid horizontally, with pointing recessed between the lengths of brick, creating a horizontal striped appearance.

The lodge has a complex hipped roof with small vented gables at the ridgelines, which feature an angled overhang. It is covered in aluminum shake and has overhanging eaves, angled wood fascia boards and dropped wood soffits. The eaves are lined with rounded copper gutters, which connect to square copper downspouts. The garage also has a hipped roof that is an extension of the lodge roof. At the electrical room next to the garage, there is a sloped shed roof, whose eaves align with the rest of the roof’s soffits, and a fascia that matches the rest of the roof’s fascia. The enclosed rear porch has a flat roof with overhanging open eaves.

Most of the windows are aluminum frame, casement-type, varying between three lights and four lights in height; the casement windows often flank fixed-light windows. Three windows wrap rear corners of the building and are supported by steel pipe columns. There are also awning-type windows and glass jalousie windows in the attached garage and enclosed rear porch. Openings covered with louvered panels are also found in the garage and electrical room.

There are three entrances to the building. The official visitor’s entrance is located on the south end of the building and is accessed by a sidewalk from Puowaina Drive. A semi-circular concrete block wall, approximately 6 feet high and 60 feet in length, stretches from the entry pylon on the east side of Puowaina Drive to the south corner of the lodge. The wall is topped with sections of decorative pierced concrete block. These same decorative blocks flank the lodge entrance; the blocks to the left of the entrance support a decorative metal gate and those of the right support the corner of the hipped roof. This entry accesses a rectangular reception area, formerly a covered lanai.

The informal employee’s entryway is accessed through the hallway between the garage and lodge, and leads into an entry vestibule north of the kitchen. The hallway leading to the employee entry is rectangular in plan and screened by a concrete brick wall with cutout sections. This wall is in line with the wall of the breezeway, and creates continuity between the lodge and the Administration building.
A third entry leads from the walkway at the rear of the building into the enclosed rear porch.

**Administration Building/Current Public Information Center (1949)**

The administration building is rectangular in plan, with smaller rectangular projections, arranged linearly at the south end of the building. The projections are made by the large storage room, and the beginning of the breezeway that connects this building with the Superintendent’s lodge. There is a covered lanai at the north end of the building. This building has a visitor information room, a grave locator room, a conference room, a private toilet room, a small storage room, a large storage room, a men’s public restroom, a women’s public restroom and a janitor’s closet. The visitor information room was a covered lanai or an entry porch that was likely enclosed around the time the superintendent’s lodge was converted to office use, circa 1985-1986. The large storage room at the south end of the building was created by enclosing a section of the breezeway between this building and the superintendent’s lodge prior to 1977.

Like the superintendent’s lodge, the foundation of the Administration building is concrete slab on grade. The walls are built of 16 x 4 x 8 inch concrete brick. The bricks are unevenly faced in the original portions of the building; they are smoother at the newer additions, which include the enclosed lanai area at the front of the building, and the large storage room at the south end of the building. The concrete bricks are laid horizontally, with pointing recessed between the lengths of concrete brick, creating a horizontal striped appearance.

The administration building has a simple hip roof, with small vented gables at the ridgeline, which feature an angled overhang. There is a narrow extension of the main roof that covers the breezeway connecting the building to the lodge. The roof is covered with aluminum shake and has angled wood fascia boards and dropped wood soffits.

The assorted windows include casement, hopper, fixed, and jalousie that retain original aluminum frames. The southwest corner of the building features a corner window supported by a pipe column. Two additional openings have been made in the exterior walls to accommodate air conditioning units.

There are four entrances to the building. The main entrance is accessed by a sidewalk from the street that leads to the metal glazed storefront-type door. A second entrance is a flush wood door primarily for employees, which leads from the covered breezeway into the storage area at the south end of the building. Three additional entries, to the men’s and women’s restrooms and to a janitor’s closet between the two restrooms, are located at the north end of the building, along a covered lanai. Both doors leading to the restrooms are painted wood two-panel doors with fixed louver vent panels located on their lower panels.

The lanai at the north end is inset under the hipped roof, which is supported at the north end by four evenly spaced wood columns. The two corner columns are octagonal, while the central two are square. The lanai floor is terra cotta-colored ceramic tile with dark grout. Three concrete walkways lead from the lanai: one to a parking area north of the building, another leads around the back of the building to the enclosed rear porch of the lodge, and a third to the main entrance on the west side of the building.

**Maintenance Buildings (1949)**

The maintenance building (Building 3001) has a modified L-shaped plan. It contains an electrical room, five maintenance bays (the northernmost used as overflow break room space) and a break room along the long leg of the L, and an office, locker room and bathroom along the short leg of the L. The long leg of the L runs approximately north to south, while the short leg runs approximately east to west at the northern end of the long leg. A bump out was added in 1990, at the rear of the northernmost maintenance bay, and a freestanding office structure was added in the southernmost portion of the three open maintenance bays, creating two small offices. Originally there were six open maintenance bays without doors. Sometime after 1975, doors were installed, and the enclosed break room was created from a former maintenance bay. Two additional walls have been constructed as well, creating an open central section of three bays, flanked by two single bays at either end. A porch is located at the intersection of the two legs of the L shape, and is inset with cast concrete columns supporting the roof.

The foundation is concrete slab on grade and the walls are made up of cast concrete and concrete masonry bricks measuring 16 x 4 x 8 inches. These bricks are unevenly faced in the original portions of the building, and smoother at the newer additions.
The building has a simple hip roof, with vented gables that have angled overhangs. It has wide overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails enclosed at the end with an angled fascia board. There are no soffits. A shed roof covers the bump-out at the back of the maintenance bays and a small, flat roof section at the south end of the building. The original building roof is aluminum shingles; the addition has asphalt shingles.

The building’s original windows are mostly intact. The varying types include aluminum-frame sliding and awning, and wood-frame, fixed-angle, glass jalousie. There are additional non-original windows at the break room, and at the western bump-out portion of the building. These are four columns of aluminum frame tinted jalousie windows at the break room and three sets of paired aluminum frame awning-type windows at the west side of the addition. The original windows are located at the office, the locker room, the bathroom, the break room, and the outermost maintenance bays. The windows at two walls of the office are four-light with a fixed single light above and below a double-light awning section; these windows are ganged in pairs. On the office’s third exterior wall, there are two single-hung service windows facing the porch and work yard. These windows have a round edged shelf at their sill. The original windows at the locker room and at the bathroom are wood-framed, fixed-angle, glass jalousie and are located high on the wall, just below the eaves. At the break room’s west side, the original window frames remain, but the glass lights have been replaced with clear plastic panels. The original four-light high paired awning with fixed panel windows at the outermost maintenance bays are somewhat intact, with one fan vent installed in place of the top light at the northernmost bay, and several fixed louver vents installed at various lights at the southernmost bay. The window opening at the electrical room has been in-filled with plywood panels and a window air conditioner. Additionally, at the bathroom, a large circular, domed vent has been installed, covering one panel of fixed angle jalousies at the exterior.

The building has twelve exterior doors. Five of these are metal roll-up vehicle/equipment doors at the front of the maintenance bays. At both sides of each vehicular door is a concrete bumper that extends out from both sides and the front of the column. Two additional metal personnel doors are inserted into the sides of the northernmost and southernmost vehicular doors. At the entry to the office, under the porch roof, is a flush wood door with large glass panel at its top half. Flush wood doors lead into the locker room, the break room, and the electrical room. A large historic wood sliding door is located on the south side of the electrical room, but is not in use and is blocked with shelving.

The maintenance garage (Building 3002) is a rectangular plan, with the north and south elevations only slightly longer than the east and west ones. The interior consists of a work bay, a storage room and an office. The foundation is concrete slab on grade and the walls are made up of 8 x 16 x 4 inch concrete bricks. These bricks have a rough-textured appearance, and are laid horizontally, with pointing more recessed between the courses of brick, creating a horizontal striped appearance.

The building has a hip roof with vented gables that have angled overhangs. The building also has overhanging exposed eaves with a small angled fascia board protecting the rafter tails. At the walls below the eaves are sets of circular screened vent panels. The roof is pressed sheet metal giving the appearance of shingles.

There are windows on the east, west and south sides of the building. The set of three windows on the east side of the building are fixed angle glass jalousies in a wood frame centered in the length of the wall. At the south side of the building, is a set of three ganged aluminum frame windows; the windows are four-light, set vertically. The two center lights open outward, while the lights above and below are fixed. On the west side are two single windows evenly spaced along the wall. These windows are identical to those at the south wall. In addition to doors and windows, there are four fixed-louver vent panels at this building.

This building has two entries: a large roll-up vehicular door and a flush metal personnel door. Both are located at the north side of the building, with the vehicular door to the northeast, and the personnel door just to the right of the vehicular door. There are rounded concrete bumper curbs that project from the cast concrete columns that frame the vehicle entry door. An additional bumper of this type is installed at the northeast corner of the building, adjacent to the drive leading to the rear of the maintenance area.

There is an exterior closet at the south side of the building. It is built of the same concrete brick as the rest of the building, has a shed roof clad with composite shingle, and is accessed by a flush wood double door.

Restroom (1990)
The public restroom is a rectangular building, built partially into the crater wall and featuring dark lava stone walls. Two white-painted metal gates on the front open onto restroom and a storage room. Skylights in the roof provide light and ventilation.

Honolulu Memorial (1964/1983/2012)

The substantial Honolulu Memorial cascades along the northwestern wall of Puowaina Crater, overlooking the graves of the cemetery and a sweeping view of Honolulu and Diamond Head. The symmetric composition includes a centered non-sectarian chapel flanked on either side by map galleries. On the front of the tower that houses the chapel is a thirty-foot female figure, “Columbia,” which serves as a focal point for the Memorial. A monumental staircase, decreasing in width as it gets closer to the large statue, leads from the crater floor to the Court of Honor, immediately in front of the chapel and map galleries. Ten Courts of the Missing flank the staircase, five on each side, and a Dedicatory Stone is centered at the base of the stairway.

The upper level of the Honolulu Memorial is dominated by a crescent shaped building with a centered, 28 feet wide, 80 feet tall tower, which carries a 33-foot-high sculpted female figure—Columbia—who signifies the United States. In her left hand she holds a laurel branch, the symbol of valor or victory, and stands on a stylized prow of a Navy carrier. The statue is comprised of seventeen pieces and weighs approximately thirty tons. Below the figure are inscribed the words, "The solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom," which President Abraham Lincoln penned in a November 21, 1864, letter to Mrs. Lydia Bixby, a widow who was thought to have lost five sons in the Civil War.

The statue of Columbia and the sculpted eagles above the entries to the wings of the memorial were designed by sculptor Bruce Moore of Washington, D.C., and carved by Filippo Cacchetti of Trivoli, Italy, and Ugo Quaglieri of Rome, Italy under the direction of Mr. Moore.

At the top of the memorial's central tower is an electronic carillon. Originally a twenty-six-bell carillon, similar to that at Arlington National Cemetery was installed for Veterans' Day, 1955, by the American Battle Monuments Commission. The carillon was manufactured by Schulmerich Carillons in Sellersville, Pennsylvania. The original carillon wore out and was replaced by the present carillon donated by the Am Vets, and dedicated on January 27, 1986 to "Am Vets who served their country honorably for the cause of freedom." It plays every day at noon and at the cemetery’s close of day.

A semi-circular water feature approached by three marble steps, sits below the statue of Columbia and transitions the feature and the porphyry paved terrace it overlooks. Planter boxes containing red ti (Cordyline sp.) and yellow hibiscus (Malvaceae sp.) flank the pool on either side and serve as a buffer between the pool and the four steps that lead up to the entries to each of the two wings.

Two curved, arcaded wings of Roman travertine marble extend from either side of the center of the memorial building. They are 20 feet tall, 108 feet long and 16 feet wide. The wings each contain eight bays, with an entry bay at each end and a flat arched opening in each of the middle six bays. Flat arched entries flank the central tower; end bays also provide access to the wings. All four entries are simply framed and have eagles as keystones, with a carved star on either side of the eagle. The flat arched arcades have inscribed in their frieze the names of the major World War II campaigns in the Pacific, and a travertine bench is in each arcade opening. The galleries behind the arcades have barrel vaulted ceilings, polished travertine floors, and their rear walls are adorned with mosaics that depict the significant battles of World War II in the Pacific and of the Korean conflict. A wrought-iron fence maintains a distance between viewers and the mosaics. Originally these colorful panels were executed in glazed, painted scagliola, but these deteriorated so badly that they were replaced between 1968 and 1972 by the fifteen current exposed glass-aggregate mosaic concrete compositions with inset plastic letters and ceramic symbols, which were designed by Mary Morse Hamilton Jacobs, and fabricated by Earley Studios of Manassas, Virginia. The fifteen panels depict the following episodes:

General Strategy of the Pacific Theater 1942-1945
Battle of the Coral Sea, 4-8 May 1942
Battle of Midway, 3-7 June 1942
New Guinea and the Solomons, 4 May 1942 - 30 September 1944
Attu, 11-30 May 1943
Battle for Tarawa Atoll, 20-23 November 1943
Roi-Namur, 1-2 February 1944
The Marianas, 15 June – 10 August 1944
Victory in the Pacific
Liberation of the Philippines, October 1944 – 15 October 1945
Iwo Jima, 16 February – 16 March 1945
Okinawa, 26 March – 22 June 1945
Operations Against the North Koreans, 25 June – 23 November 1950
Operations Against the Chinese Invaders, 24 November 1950 – 27 July 1953

In the spaces between the World War II and Korean War mosaics there are two maps on each end, each executed in enameled metal, one set depicting “The War Against Germany” and the other “The War Against Japan.” The maps measure approximately 30 x 36 inches, and are colored with blue, various shades of orange and various shades of gray. Restrooms are situated behind the galleries: men’s room in the south (makai) wing and women’s room in the north (mauka) wing. The concrete walls feature exposed-aggregate exterior walls and interior walls clad in white tile.

Two new pavilions were added at each end of the map gallery. These were completed in November 2012. The new pavilions were designed to replicate the ends of the map gallery utilizing travertine blocks and cladding in the same material and method as the original map gallery, including carved eagles at the openings facing Diamond Head. The design of the pavilions was conceived by ABMC and completed by local architects Fung Associates, Inc. The east side pavilion, immediately following the Korean War maps, houses new battle maps of the Vietnam War and the west pavilion is a visitor orientation gallery featuring wayfinding maps of Punchbowl Crater and information on ABMC. The Vietnam battlemaps were designed by Mary Morse Jacobs the original artist for the maps in the existing map gallery. Mary Jacobs worked with Armbruster Studio from Illinois to complete maps in the same technique used by Earley Studio.

Behind the tower is a small chapel. It has a copper-clad gabled roof and is entered from the adjoining galleries. The groined vaulted vestibule’s rear marble wall is inscribed, “In proud remembrance of the achievements of her sons and in humble tribute to their sacrifices this memorial has been erected by the United States of America. 1941-1944 1950-1953 1961-1973”. The chapel can seat thirty-two persons with four wooden pews to either side of a center aisle. A pair of, 8 feet-9 inches high round-arched bronze grilles set in a stone frame penetrate the walls of the shallow, groin vaulted nave, one on each side. They each contain twenty-one gold, blue and red glass cabochons that depict Liberty, the Hero, the Hand of God, the Holy Dove, the Torch, the Lamb, and the Shofar. These seven symbols are repeated in different colors, and were cast in Empoli, Italy, by the Cristalleria Artistica Toscana under the direction of Vanucci. The view through the grilles is to enclosed gardens with two walls, a lower 3 feet-6 inches wall in front of a higher 8 feet-1 inch. To protect the chapel from heavy rains, cloth awnings were installed above the nave’s two round-arched openings in 1965. The chapel’s floor and two steps leading up to the chancel are of Verde Antico marble, as is the altar. At the top of the steps is a bronze altar rail with four cabochons and gates. The wall at the rear of the barrel vaulted chancel is faced with Royo Alicante marble. A gold-leafed Latin cross dominates the wall behind the altar; a six-pointed Star of David and the eight-spoke Buddhist wheel are inscribed into the wall flanking the altar. Two candle-like, lamps with marble bases and opaline glass shades sit atop the altar. These lights and the cross were fabricated by Bruno Bearzi of Florence, Italy.

A terrace referred to as “The Memorial Court” is immediately in front of the memorial building and measures 120 feet wide and 90 feet deep. It is paved with squares of porphyry from Alto Adige, Italy; two demi-octagonal, concrete planter boxes delineated by 6-inch-high concrete curbs adorn this space. A plumeria tree stands within each of the grass-covered planters, and a niche containing a pair of benches is in the long side of each planter. The vista from the terrace encompasses the cemetery and beyond to Makiki and Waikiki with Diamond Head in the background. Flagpoles are located at each of the terrace’s two front corners, each in its own walled niche with a plumeria tree, overlooking the Courts of the Missing. Each flagpole flies both the American flag and the black Missing In Action flag.

A central set of steps, approximately 50 feet wide and 346 feet long, lead up to the terrace from the cemetery. At the foot of the steps, a forecourt, paved in porphyry in an overlapping semi-circular, fan pattern, serves as a transition space between the inner circular drive and the memorial. At the base of the steps leading up past the Courts of the Missing and to the memorial building is a stone inscribed with the words, “In these gardens are recorded the names of Americans who gave their lives in service to their country and whose earthly resting place is known only to God.”

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The seventy steps are broken by six landings, with ten steps between each landing. The eight original Courts of the Missing flank the steps, four on each side. The lowest court is at ground level, the next is ten steps above at the first landing. The remaining courts are then situated at every other landing. The Courts of the Missing are also known as the
"Gardens of the Missing," a phrase coined by General Thomas North, the secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission, in the early stages of planning the monument.¹ The walls of the rectangular shaped courts are faced with Trani marble from southeast Italy and the names of the missing are inscribed in these slabs. Travertine bases and caps finish the 12 feet high walls. A white plumeria tree (*Plumeria acuminata*) grows in the middle of each court, and a travertine bench is situated outside each court, at its far side. The courts are paved by concrete pavers with exposed aggregate. Between the steps and the Courts of the Missing are formal beds planted with crotons (*Cordiaeum sp.*) and allspice trees (*Pimenta dioica*). The names of the missing are arranged alphabetically by service and/or military conflict in courts as follows:

- Courts 1-3: Navy
- Court 2: Marines (some)
- Court 4: Marines and Coast Guard from World War II; Army from Korean War
- Court 5: Army, Navy, and Air Force
- Court 6: Army
- Court 7: Army and Air Force
- Court 8: Korean War, all branches

In addition to the original eight courts, two half courts were built and dedicated in 1980 near the foot of the steps to honor the 2,489 missing from the Vietnam War. The three walls of these half courts have travertine bases and caps and white Carrera marble slabs inscribed with the names of the missing. They are capped by urn finials. The right court bears the inscription, "In proud memory of the achievements of her sons and in humble tribute to their sacrifices this memorial has been erected by the United States of America. These men were part of the price that free men have been forced to pay to defend human liberty and rights. To these men we owe a debt to be paid with grateful remembrance of their heroism." While the left one is inscribed, "This memorial has been erected by the United States of America in proud and grateful memory of her solders sailors marines and airmen who laid down their lives in all quarters of the earth that other peoples might be freed from oppression." Above the inscriptions is a bas relief of a pair of Folk Art-inspired angels holding a wreath encircling the seal of the United States. They are flanked by primitive renderings of laurel leaves.

In all, the Courts of the Missing record the names of 28,745 men who presumably died in battle but whose remains were never recovered. The Courts memorialize the missing from World War II (18,093), Korean War (8,163), and Vietnam War (2,489). The names of the 1,102 men entombed in the *U.S.S. Arizona* are included on the tablets in the Courts of the Missing.

¹ "To Take Place Sunday, Dedication of Memorial in Punchbowl," *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* (Honolulu, HI), April 25, 1966.
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark “x” in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [X] 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.
- [X] 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.)

Property is:
- [ ] A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C a birthplace or grave.
- [X] D a cemetery.
- [ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] F a commemorative property.
- [X] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Military
- Politics/Government
- Landscape Architecture
- Architecture
- Sculpture

Period of Significance
1948-present

Significant Dates

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
Arthur M. Kruse, Thompson & Thompson
Weihe, Frick & Kruse
Theodore Vierra

Period of Significance (justification)

The beginning date of 1948 for the period of significance corresponds to the year that the National Memorial Cemetery was established. Present is used as the end date as the National Park Service has determined that “present” is most consistent with the Congressional intent of the federal laws establishing the national cemeteries and with National Register policies for evaluating properties of continuing exceptional importance. A closing date of “present” allows for the recognition of the highly significant values these cemeteries have had in the recent past and the desire to honor those killed in recent military conflicts.
Cemetery of the Pacific is eligible for inclusion as a historic district in the NRHP under Criteria A and C. Criteria of memorials, monuments, or historic buildings, may also be documented under Criterion C. The National Memorial list, the new submission adds architecture and sculpture.

Areas of significance as landscape architecture, military, politics/government, religion, and social/humanitarian. To this Also, the new submission refines the period of significance to 1948-present. Finally, the original nomination listed the criteria A, B, and C. This new submission expands on criteria A and C, but removes B based on current NRHP guidelines.

The original statement of significance, prepared in 1975, implied through its narrative that the site was significant under Consideration D (a cemetery) and G (less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years) also apply.

The National Park Service, as manager of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), states that all national cemeteries are to be considered eligible for the NRHP “as a result of their Congressional designation as nationally significant places of burial and commemoration.” National cemeteries are primarily eligible under Criterion A for their association with the military history of the United States and, more recently, the history of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Additionally, those having artistic or architectural significance as designed landscapes or for the design of memorials, monuments, or historic buildings, may also be documented under Criterion C. The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific is eligible for inclusion as a historic district in the NRHP under Criteria A and C. Consideration D (a cemetery) and G (less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years) also apply.

The original statement of significance, prepared in 1975, implied through its narrative that the site was significant under criteria A, B, and C. This new submission expands on criteria A and C, but removes B based on current NRHP guidelines. Also, the new submission refines the period of significance to 1948-present. Finally, the original nomination listed the areas of significance as landscape architecture, military, politics/government, religion, and social/humanitarian. To this list, the new submission adds architecture and sculpture.

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (NMCP or Punchbowl) is significant at the national level under criterion A for its associations with the history of the development of national cemeteries in the United States and also as an extraordinary example of the work of the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC or Commission). There are a total of 147 national cemeteries within the United States. NMCP is one of the 131 national cemeteries under the administration of the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Other national cemeteries include fourteen under the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, and two administered by the Department of the Army, U.S. Department of Defense.

Located within NMCP is the Honolulu Memorial, which was constructed under the auspices of ABMC. Established by Congress in 1923, ABMC commemorates the service, achievements, and sacrifice of the U.S. armed forces. To this end, ABMC manages twenty-four overseas military cemeteries, and also established and maintains twenty-two overseas memorials, monuments, and markers where American armed forces have served since April 6, 1917. The commission only establishes memorials within the United States when directed by public law, and the memorial at Punchbowl is one of three such congressionally designated World War II memorials, with the others erected in New York City and San Francisco. Nearly all ABMC cemeteries and memorials specifically honor those who served in World War I or World War II; however, the Honolulu Memorial is an exception, as it also honors those who served in the Korean War and Vietnam War.

The national cemetery system has its origins in the Civil War (1861-1865). In 1862, Congress authorized President Abraham Lincoln to purchase lands for cemetery purposes, where the Civil War dead might be buried. By 1864, twenty-seven burial grounds were acquired and designated as national cemeteries. Following the conclusion of the war in 1865, a post-war reburial program was initiated to retrieve and consolidate battleground burials. By the conclusion of this program in 1870, there were seventy-three national cemeteries dedicated to those who had fallen during the course of the
Civil War. As a result of agitation on the part of Civil War veterans, the function of the national cemeteries was expanded in 1873 to provide a final resting place for all Civil War veterans and certain family members. Also, with casualties resulting from the Indian wars in the west and then the Spanish-American War, the national cemetery function was expanded to handle all American war casualties and the veterans who fought in those wars. By the conclusion of the Spanish-American War in 1899, the first conflict for which U.S. remains were repatriated from foreign countries, the Army had developed ninety-seven national cemeteries.²

With the conclusion of World War I, United States policy with regards to its war dead was modified, with many of the American dead being buried in the nations they helped to defend. The American Battle Monuments Commission was established by Congress in 1923 to develop these foreign burial grounds in conjunction with the War Department. ABMC erected a memorial chapel in each of the eight military cemeteries already established by the War Department. Additionally, the commission developed eleven monuments and two bronze tablets on World War I battlefields and elsewhere to record the achievements of the U.S. armed forces.

During the 1930s seven new national cemeteries were developed in the continental United States to address the need for burial space for U.S. veterans and their dependents. In 1938, Congress passed an Act to add another twenty cemeteries, which were foreseen as needed to address the demands of the World War II veterans as they died. However, Congress did not provide funding to acquire new cemetery sites and instead relied upon States to donate lands for these purposes. In November 1941, Congress approved funding to establish a national cemetery in Hawaii. The bombing of Pearl Harbor, less than a month after the appropriation passed, curtailed most activity on this endeavor.

By the end of World War II several hundred temporary cemeteries had been established by the American Graves Registration Service (AGRS), U.S. Army. Complying with the preferences of the next-of-kin, between 1947 and 1954, AGRS repatriated the remains of approximately 171,000 war dead or 61 percent of the recovered bodies to national cemeteries and other cemeteries within the United States. New national cemeteries were established in the Territory of Puerto Rico; Willamette, Oregon; and Honolulu, Hawaii. Other national cemeteries were expanded. The Hawaii national cemetery would distinguish itself as the final resting place for all the unknown soldiers from World War II’s Pacific Theater, and the Korean and Vietnam conflicts (except for those interred at Arlington National Cemetery’s Tomb of the Unknown Soldier).

The balance of World War II dead, 39 percent, was reinterred in cemeteries on foreign soil. The Secretary of the Army, with the assistance of ABMC, in 1947 selected sites for permanent cemeteries in England, France, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Italy, Tunisia and the Philippines. The same year, the Commission selected a different "outstanding American architect" to design each cemetery, including the burial layouts and the monument. After the AGRS completed interments, the cemeteries were transferred to ABMC by executive order. The memorials at these cemeteries took a variety of forms as a result of the use of different architects. The only design requirement was that each cemetery should include a small devotional chapel; inscription of the names and particulars of the missing in the region; and a permanent graphic record of the services of the U.S. military.

In addition to the fourteen memorials at the foreign cemeteries, ABMC also oversaw the construction of three other World War II memorials within the United States. The Honolulu Memorial was the first project ABMC undertook on American soil, and it required an act of Congress to authorize this expansion of the Commission’s scope of operation. The other U.S. memorials are the East Coast Memorial (1963) at Battery Park in New York City, which honors military service members who lost their lives in the western waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the West Coast Memorial (1960) at the Presidio in San Francisco, which honors those who died in the eastern waters of the Pacific Ocean. Neither of these objects approaches the scale of the Honolulu Memorial. As such, the latter memorial is the pre-eminent example of ABMC’s work in the United States.

The National Cemetery of the Pacific is also significant at the national level under criterion C. Located within an extinct volcano crater, the site required the Army to develop within a confined area the necessary burial space for thousands World War II dead and space for a fitting memorial to the missing. The cemetery embodies the characteristics of its period in terms of design, materials, workmanship, and construction methods. In addition, the Honolulu Memorial is architecturally significant as an excellent example of a war memorial constructed under the aegis of the AMBC. Like the cemetery itself, it is typical of its period in terms of design, materials, workmanship, and construction methods.

The design of NMCP is typical of other post-World War II national cemeteries with well-maintained lawns and flat granite markers. The sheltering slopes of the crater’s interior walls present a remarkable and all-embracing visual experience. The tropical natural plantings—Chinese banyan, monkey pod, shower and the Buddha-associated Bo trees—distinguish its landscape from every other national cemetery.

This landscape fulfills the socio-psychological functions of a modern cemetery, according to noted American landscape architect Albert Davis Taylor in 1927, at the inception of the modern cemetery movement. The cemetery’s design provides seclusion with the enveloping crater walls excluding from the cemetery picture any disturbing elements from the bordering areas of urban development, making Punchbowl a hallowed place, removed from the exegencies of everyday life. With its symmetrical plan radiating out from a central axis and with the Honolulu Memorial serving as a terminus/focal point, the design provides a dignified atmosphere that allows the visitor, as Taylor noted, “to lapse into that so called coma of introspection and retrospection that appeal so strongly in any well designed church.” The design is clean, with-tree lined drives and the siting of signature trees balanced by the serenity of open space.

The flat granite markers are typical of post-World War II national cemetery design. Upright headstones were typical of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and the national cemeteries developed in this period are characterized by their presence. During the 1920s, cemeteries such as Forest Lawn in Los Angeles, California, and Ferncliff, New York, introduced the concept of the cemetery as a memorial park, and included flat headstones that allowed for uninterrupted lawns, and purportedly more efficient maintenance. In response to this changing vision, the Under Secretary of War Harry Hines Woodring approved the use of government-issued flat marble markers on August 11, 1936, then flat granite markers were approved on September 13, 1939, both to be used in private cemeteries that did not permit upright headstones. The marble and granite flat markers were 24 inches long, 12 inches wide, and 4 inches deep with incised inscriptions.

However, it was another nine years when on December 1, 1948, the Secretary of War authorized flat granite markers for use in the new national cemeteries in Hawaii and Puerto Rico; in 1951, the flat markers were also authorized for Willamette National Cemetery (Oregon). These markers are similar in design to the flat markers previously authorized, with the exception of the thickness, which was reduced to 3 inches. The flat markers, like the upright General-type headstone designed and placed into use after World War I, include space for an emblem of belief—a Latin Cross for the Christian faith or Star of David for the Hebrew faith. In 1951, the Secretary of War authorized the use of the Wheel of Righteousness for the Buddhist faith due to the large number of soldiers of that religion buried at Punchbowl.

Planning the Hawaii cemetery was headed up by Arthur M. Kruse (1889-1980), assistant chief of the Planning Branch, Engineering Division, Office of Chief of Engineers. Kruse studied landscape architecture at Cornell University. Prior to joining the War Department in 1941, he worked in private practices in Detroit, Michigan; Buffalo, New York; and Toronto, Canada. During World War I he was a member of the Town Planning Division of the U.S. Housing Corporation. Kruse was elected a fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) in 1924.

Landscape plans were prepared by the Honolulu firm of Thompson & Thompson. Robert O. Thompson (1895-1960) and his wife, Catherine Jones Richards Thompson (1897-1985), were the foremost landscape designers in Hawaii during the 1930s. Robert was a native of Michigan, who met Hawaii-born Catherine Jones Richards while he was studying at Harvard and she was attending the Cambridge School of Architects and Landscape Architects. She returned to Hawaii and opened a practice in 1926. In 1928 she invited Robert to join her, and in 1934, the professional partners married. Their major works of the 1930s included Ewa and Waialua plantations, the Doris Duke residence, and the Kalakaua Public Housing Project. Other projects included the simple and gracious landscapes of the Board of Water Supply Pumping Stations and Nuuanu Reservoir, and the courtyards of the Honolulu Academy of Arts, C. Brewer Building, and Thomas Square. Following World War II, Thompson & Thompson designed the landscape of Tripler Hospital and also landscapes associated with Hawaii-architect Vladimir Ossipoff’s buildings including the Pacific Club (1960), Outrigger Canoe Club (1963), Thurston Memorial Chapel (1967), and the residences of Milton Cades (1953), Theodore Cooke (1955) and Howard Liljestrand (1958). Robert Thompson was elected an ASLA fellow in 1952; Catherine in 1966.

The Honolulu Memorial developed by the ABMC further contributes to the architectural significance of the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. It is a rare example of the commission’s work in the United States in the years following World War II, and typifies the high level of design associated with the ABMC’s work around the world. With the conclusion of World War II, ABMC’s authority was extended to include the commemoration of the service and sacrifice of the United
States military during World War II. To accomplish this, fourteen permanent cemetery sites in Europe and one in the Philippines were selected to be the final resting place and memorial to those who died in battle and whose families requested their remains be interred with their comrades-in-arms, near the field of battle. In addition, Congress authorized the construction of three memorials in the United States, including that at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. The design of each cemetery and memorial was undertaken by a team that included an architect, landscape architect, one or more sculptors, and usually a muralist. No firm or individual was involved in more than one project, assuring that no two memorials would be alike. However, ABMC required that each memorial include a non-sectarian chapel, the commemoration of the missing in each region, and permanent maps with explanatory texts to portray the military operations in the region during World War II. The design also needed to include one or more flagpoles and a reception building for visitors. The architects and artists who worked on the Honolulu Memorial adhered to the directives of the commission, thus the memorial at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific is typical of the cemeteries and memorials developed by the ABMC. The Honolulu Memorial was the only one to incorporate a semi-circular arcade/gallery as a means of displaying the maps of the military operations. Most of the memorials, like the one at Punchbowl, are elevated above the cemeteries in which they reside, although none accomplish this more dramatically than the Honolulu Memorial.

The Honolulu Memorial was designed by the architectural firm of Weihe, Frick & Kruse of San Francisco. The architectural firm was established in 1941 and dissolved in 1965. Ernest Weihe and Edward Frick were already established architects, who previously worked at Bakewell & Brown (1905-1927). After the dissolution of that firm in 1927, Weihe partnered with John Bakewell to form Bakewell & Weihe; Frick continued to work with Arthur Brown Jr. When Bakewell & Weihe ended their partnership in 1941, Weihe joined with Frick and Lawrence Kruse to found Weihe, Frick & Kruse. The firm worked on many significant projects in San Francisco including the Hall of Justice, the California Academy of Sciences’ Planetarium, the Pacific Gas and Electric Company headquarters, and various university buildings in the state.

Ernest Weihe (1893-1968) won the Paris Prize, an architecture scholarship to the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, in 1919, and received his architecture degree from the school in 1923. He served on the Architectural Commission of the Treasure Island Exposition in San Francisco from 1935-1939, and designed the “Portals of the Pacific” for the fair. Weihe was a member of the California State Board of Architectural Examiners from 1939-1941. In all likelihood, Weihe was the project architect for this memorial, as he travelled to Hawaii to observe the project area.

Edward Frick (1891-1977) won a scholarship from the Architectural League of the Pacific Coast in 1912 to attend the École des Beaux-Arts for his “A Festival Hall and Open Air Theatre” design for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. A year later he went to Paris but World War I interrupted his studies and he returned to San Francisco. Frick enlisted in a detachment of engineers and architects, and served in France from 1917-1919. He returned to Paris after the war and received his degree in 1922. Frick continued his association with Arthur Brown, Jr., after Bakewell & Brown dissolved in 1927. He was chief, Division of Architecture, for the Golden Gate International Exposition on Treasure Island (1935-1939) and was a member of the San Francisco Art Commission (1935-1945). Frick was the principal assistant on several Arthur Brown, Jr., projects including the U.S. Department of Labor and Interstate Commerce Commission buildings in Washington, D.C., and the Tower of the Sun on Treasure Island.


E. Bruce Moore (1905-1980) sculpted the “Columbia” figure for the Honolulu Memorial. He attended the Kansas City Art Institute and graduated from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. In 1937, he was awarded the M. R. Cromwell Fellowship to study ancient sculpture at the American Academy in Rome. Prior to the Honolulu Memorial commission, Moore was best known for designing the Samuel F. B. Morse medal for the National Academy of Design in New York, and his animal sculptures. Early work includes a pair of Buffalo heads, Southwestern Bell Telephone Building, Meade, Kansas (1932); “Great Dane” in the pediment of the National Archives & Records Administration Building in Washington D. C. (date); portrait statue of General Billy Mitchell at the Air Museum of the Smithsonian Institute (1957); “Pelican and Fish Fountain,” Pratt, Kansas (1932); “Black Panther” (1928) and “Little Brother” (1942), Smithsonian Institution’s American Art Museum; and several pieces at Brookgreen Gardens, Huntington Beach, South Carolina. In addition, Moore designed forty-four pieces of engraved crystal for Steuben Glass Company, including “The Queen’s Cup,” which
President Dwight D. Eisenhower presented to Queen Elizabeth II. The Columbia statue was his largest commission, and was awarded the Henry Hering Memorial Medal in 1968. Moore was known for his realistic or academic style of sculpture, and as such his Columbia statue (and other works by a variety of artists commissioned by the ABMC) was criticized by New York Times art critic John Canaday, who was a firm supporter of modern art.

Summary and Conclusion

Today, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific retains much of its historic character with vast, landscaped lawns and vistas. Changes to the built features and landscape of the cemetery have generally been minor and in keeping with the original design.

Other national cemeteries established in the late 1940s concurrent to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific — Puerto Rico and Willamette—were designed in the spirit of the Memorial Park cemetery movement. All use flat markers rather than upright headstones and had extensive landscaping plans that created national cemeteries that were more park-like than predecessors, and all but erased the specter of death. NMCP is unique because of its major commemorative work that memorializes the missing from World War II’s Pacific Theatre and interprets the associated battles in artwork and maps, and expanded to include the Korean and Vietnam wars. The Honolulu Memorial, constructed and maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission, serves as the focal point of the cemetery. The site of numerous commemorative ceremonies each year, the memorial has become a recognized historic attraction in the state.

As one of three national cemeteries exclusively using flat markers in the post-World War II period, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific reflects the Army’s intent to emphasize natural beauty through landscaping rather than the visual impact of rows of upright headstones. Influenced by the lawn and memorial park movements, Army planners and their contractors recognized the site’s natural aesthetic qualities, allowing native plants and trees, and uninterrupted views to define the cemetery. The creation of the cemetery in Honolulu also reflected recognition by national cemetery planners that new, urban sites were needed to accommodate growing numbers of veterans across the country, and specifically, the war dead from the Pacific Theatre. Thus, the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, reflecting a local aesthetic, is an important regional and national shrine to the nation’s veterans.

Over 54,000 military men and women, and their eligible family members are buried in the national cemetery, as of June 2013. The U.S. flag flies daily over the orderly rows of flat granite markers and the Honolulu Memorial in honor of the lives and deeds of those who answered the call of duty. Set within the crater of an extinct volcano high above the city of Honolulu, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific provides a peaceful setting in which to reflect upon the lives of those willing to serve and protect their country in times of war and peace. The national cemetery, with the Honolulu Memorial as the most significant building erected therein, is a permanent shrine to the sacrifice of U.S. military personnel.
Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Expansion of the National Cemetery System and the Establishment of National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific Following World War I, the Office of the Quartermaster General, U.S. Army, recognized the need for cemetery expansion. With 79,351 war-related deaths, the mobilization of almost five million men and the expansion of burial eligibility requirements in 1920, the number of individuals eligible for interment increased significantly. By the late 1920s, the War Department recognized that the majority of its burial space—national cemeteries established after the Civil War—was located in rural areas. The rapid growth of American cities in the early twentieth century and the expanding number of eligible veterans living in urban areas convinced cemetery planners in the Department of the Quartermaster General to recommend new appropriations for national cemeteries in major cities. As a result, between 1934 and 1937, the Army established seven new national cemeteries near urban areas in New York, Maryland, Minnesota, Texas and California.3

In November 1941, Congress authorized through Public Law 298 a $50,000 appropriation for the establishment of a national cemetery in Honolulu, with the condition that lands for the cemetery would be transferred at no cost to the federal government. (In 1938, a similar bill—HR10333, 75th Congress—was presented but did not pass.) A 25-acre site for the cemetery was selected on the windward side of Oahu, near Bellows Air Field.4 However, before any action could be taken to develop the cemetery, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, plunging the United States into World War II.

In 1943, the Hawaii Territorial Legislature passed a resolution requesting Governor Ingram Stainback to give the Punchbowl—the common name used for the crater of an extinct volcano that rose high above the city of Honolulu to the east—to the War Department for purposes of a national cemetery. Stainback replied that the site was available and would be turned over when necessary funds were appropriated and made available. However, it was not until after World War II that plans moved forward to gain the requisite federal funding. Passage of a Congressional directive in 1946 to have the military repatriate the American World War II dead who lay scattered in temporary cemeteries on islands across the Pacific, prompted renewed interest in developing a national cemetery in Hawaii. By summer 1947, the Punchbowl had emerged as a suitable location, and Hawaii Delegate Joseph R. Farrington introduced a bill to Congress requesting an appropriation for the construction of a national cemetery in the crater.

This nearly round volcanic tuft cone, situated inland from downtown Honolulu, was formed approximately 275,000 years ago. Its traditional name—Puowaina, is generally interpreted by the military to mean “Hill of Sacrifice.” Oral traditions also refer to the heiau—temples—on the outer slopes of the crater and the placement of human sacrifices on its rim, although the veracity of this has been questioned in recent years.

The crater lies in the traditional `ili (land divisions within an ahupua`a) of Kewalo and Auwaiolimu, and at the time of the Great Mahele, the Kewalo portion of the crater was granted to the government and the Auwaiolimu portion to the crown. The Kewalo portion encompasses the southeast rim of the crater, where in 1816, John Young, a friend and advisor to Kamehameha I, ordered eight heavy guns be mounted to augment the newly constructed fort at the harbor, to protect Honolulu in case of foreign attack. The cannon continued to be manned through at least 1847, when the Polynesian—a weekly newspaper in Honolulu during the mid-1800s—made reference to Fort Punchbowl with its eleven guns. The magazine for the cannon was located on the outer slopes of Punchbowl, and today’s Magazine Street is a reminder of the road that led to the magazine.

In 1899, a cemetery was proposed by the government to be placed in Punchbowl crater, but this idea met with sufficient opposition to be discarded. Arguments against the cemetery ranged from fear of water pollution to fear of placing the dead above the city of the living; the same arguments would come up again when the national cemetery was being discussed. At the turn of the twentieth century, the interior of the crater was thickly covered with algeroba (keawe) trees, 3 “Inter-World War National Cemeteries 1934-1941,” (unpublished draft, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Submission, July 2012).
4 “Senate Votes $50,000 for Veteran Cemetery,” Honolulu Advertiser (Honolulu, HI), Nov. 11, 1941; and “Bellows Field Area Will Be Cemetery Site,” Honolulu Star-Bulletin (Honolulu, HI), Nov. 27, 1941.
Development of a national cemetery in Hawaii should have ended after the U.S. declaration of war. However, days after Pearl Harbor was bombed in December 1941, the Honolulu District Engineer requested that a general order be issued establishing a cemetery at the Punchbowl. General Orders 89, Honolulu District, was issued on December 26, 1941, but was rescinded less than a month later, likely due to the prior rights claim of the Hawaii National Guard. Local proponents continued to agitate for a national cemetery first looking elsewhere for suitable land on the island of Oahu. When none could be found, the territorial legislature passed a resolution on April 13, 1943, authorizing and requesting the governor to make the Punchbowl site available to the federal government; the governor took no action. Later the same year, local veterans urged the Commanding General, Hawaiian Department, to request the Punchbowl land from the governor, but the army command had decided to do nothing more in regard to establishing a national cemetery until the end of the war. The governor eventually made a conditional offer on the land, stating that it would be ceded to the federal government when monies were made available for its development; the offer was rebuked, again stating that no further action would be taken until the end of hostilities.

The War in the Pacific officially ended September 2, 1945, which presented a new opportunity for the development of a national cemetery in Hawaii. Another year would pass though before the need for a cemetery in Hawaii for the repatriation of the Pacific war dead would come to a head. Authorization for local planning was given by the Office of the Chief of Engineers in February 1947, but at this time it was discovered that the local community had several concerns about the planned location in the Punchbowl including that it was too small to accommodate the burial of veterans for years to come, that the cemetery would result in contamination of the water supply and a generally unease about a “city of the dead overlooking a city of the living.” The Army had no response to the first allegation, as it was still unclear how many re-interments were anticipated. Regarding the second charge, the territorial public health department reaffirmed its 1942 finding that the cemetery was unlikely to be a menace to public health. Finally, proponents of the site said Hawaiians should be proud to have a national cemetery, filled with those who died defending their freedom, overlooking the city.

The first request for congressional funding in 1947 for the Hawaii national cemetery was denied by the House Appropriations Committee. In light of the denial, the Army briefly explored expanding the Schofield Barracks Post Cemetery for the re-interment of the war dead; in the end, however, the decision was made to use above ground storage for the remains until the national cemetery site was available. Finally, on February 24, 1948, the House Appropriations Committee favorably acted on the Hawaii delegate’s appropriation request, in a bill that included funds for thirty already established national cemeteries across the United States, in addition to funds for new national cemeteries in Hawaii and Puerto Rico. The Punchbowl project’s scale was expanded, with $1.172 million authorized for its development, as the committee deemed a proposed national cemetery in Guam unnecessary. The committee declared Punchbowl to be, “probably one of the most outstanding [sites] in the entire world for a memorial cemetery” and felt, “It is not difficult to visualize the time when the national memorial cemetery of the Pacific will be one of the nation’s greatest shrines.”

Construction of National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific and Initial Interments

Construction of National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific was accomplished by contract under jurisdiction of the Honolulu District Engineer, and was completed in four phases. James W. Glover Ltd. commenced work on the cemetery in late August 1948 with the demolition of existing structures, clearing, grubbing, grading of the site, and drainage. Other contractors were hired for subsequent phases. The second phase included water and electrical systems, retaining walls, sidewalks and initial work on roads. The third phase included the construction of the entrance pylons, flag pole and the observation point, installation of the outside utility systems, road completion, top-soiling and grass. Last was the landscape and the construction of the superintendent’s lodge, office and utility buildings. Construction was completed in just over a year in September 1949.

5 “Punchbowl Cemetery Will Take Two Years,” Honolulu Advertiser (Honolulu, HI), Feb. 25, 1948.
Simultaneous to the initial construction, logistics were developed to provide for an efficient, yet dignified interment of the multitude of remains in the military’s possession. Interments commenced on January 4, 1949, with an unknown serviceman who died in the Pearl Harbor attack; 108 others were buried the same day. Mass burials followed into July 1949 at the rate of approximately 200 servicemen a day, with the remains coming from temporary burial locations in Hawaii, and from locations overseas such as China, Australia, Burma, Guadalcanal, India, Saipan, Guam, Okinawa, and Iwo Jima. A June 1948 directive from the Office of the Quartermaster General in Washington, D.C., ordered all overseas reinterments (including Hawaii) be closed both to the next of kin and the general public. However, due to objections by military officials in Hawaii, this ban was lifted and the first burials open to the public commenced on July 19, 1949, with the burial of war correspondent Ernie Pyle and four others; in the afternoon, an airplane crew of ten shot down in Japan were interred in a group burial. By this time, over 11,000 dead had been buried at Punchbowl. Over the next five weeks nearly 400 more interments occurred at NMCP, many of whom were from Hawaii, including members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the 100th Battalion, the two all-volunteer, Japanese-American combat units that distinguished themselves in the European theater.

The cemetery was formally dedicated on September 2, 1949, the fourth anniversary of V-J Day (Victory Day over Japan). The day also marked the first anniversary of the ceremony honoring the return of the first large complement of Hawaii’s war dead. The featured speaker at the dedication was Secretary of the Navy Francis P. Matthews and the event featured a fly-over by Hawaii Air National Guard planes. By the end of 1949, more than 13,000 casualties of World War II, including 2,055 unknowns, were interred at Punchbowl.

When the cemetery first opened, graves were marked by an upright white, wooden cross or Star of David. The Army intended these to be temporary markers, until the originally planned flat granite markers could be prepared and placed on the graves. During the planning of the cemetery, the public information officer for the American Graves Registration Service-Pacific Zone conducted an informal telephone survey of public figures and institutions in Honolulu including the mayor, newspaper editors, cemeteries and mortuaries, and the chamber of commerce. The general consensus was for flat markers. A funeral parlor owner said, “Marble orchards are on the way out. Flat type markers result in greater uniformity and in greater ease in care of the cemetery.” The chamber of commerce echoed this sentiment stating that the veterans’ graves in Diamond Head Cemetery use flat markers and that the plot is far more attractive than “if it were marked with the monotonous and old-fashioned upright gravestones.” The temporary wooden markers were first placed in the cemetery in June 1949 prior to the start of public burials; then in a single day they were removed on September 24, 1951, resulting in a public furor in the national press and the halls of Congress that would continue off and on for several years.

As originally conceived, the national cemetery was planned to accommodate veterans who had served in World War II and their families. As a result of the Korean conflict, an additional 1,242 servicemen killed in combat were interred at Punchbowl, including 866 unknowns, who are buried in Section U. By 1956 over 15,000 war dead—soldiers, sailors and marines from every state—had been reinterred at the Punchbowl.

Construction of the Honolulu Memorial

Early plans for the national cemetery included an amphitheater and chapel at the western terminus. The Honolulu District Engineer’s proposal for the chapel included two wings to be used as columbaria for the interment of cremated remains. However by late 1948, all such plans had been dropped, perhaps due to the cost. Then in June 1949, the Army Corps of Engineers contracted with the firm Weihe, Frick & Kruse of San Francisco to design a memorial for the cemetery. The district engineer provided the architects with information related to the need for columbaria in the cemetery, but when the firm’s three presentation plans were completed, none included a columbarium.

Four years passed before the amphitheater and chapel at the cemetery were addressed. In June 1953, Congress appropriated $3.5 million to the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC), “to erect such works of architecture and art in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific as may be determined by the commission with the consent of the Secretary of the Army.” As ABMC was only authorized to construct memorials on foreign soil, a special Congressional

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
NPS Form 10-900     OMB No. 1024-0018     (Expires 5/31/2012)

National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific   Honolulu   Hawaii  
Name of Property                   County and State

approval had to be obtained prior to the appropriation. The memorial was to include an interdenominational chapel, inscriptions of 20,000 names of men missing in action during World War II and the Korean conflict, and a graphic history of the two wars. These three elements were common features found in all of the commission’s properties. Honolulu architect Theodore Vierra, who prior to World War II worked in the San Francisco office of Weihe, Frick & Kruse, was selected to be the architectural firm's local representative. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers supervised the work.

Construction on the memorial was scheduled to begin in July 1956, but soils tests found the ground too porous to support the proposed structure, leading to a redesign. Further delay resulted the next year when the Fine Arts Commission, Washington D.C., suggested changes to the proposed sculpture. Bidding delays further slowed the project, and it was not until Memorial Day 1958, that contractor Dillingham Construction Company broke ground for the memorial. By this time ABMC had already completed four World War II memorials in France, one in Italy and another in England. In addition, construction was underway on memorials in the Philippines (Manila), North Africa, Holland, Luxembourg, two in Belgium, and a second one in Italy and a fifth one in France.

The “Gardens of the Missing,” the first phase of the Honolulu Memorial, were completed by 1961. The second phase included the construction of the map galleries and chapel; work on the chapel commenced in April 1960. Construction was halted for several months after a piece of the “Columbia” statue fell, injuring two workmen and sufficiently damaging the piece to require its replacement. Further delay transpired because of the unexpected time required to produce the maps on the gallery walls. The memorial was completed in 1964 and unofficially opened to the public in January 1965. The formal dedication finally took place on May 1, 1966, almost ten years after construction was due to begin and eighteen years after the establishment of the cemetery.

Changes to the National Cemetery System and NMCP
In June 1973, Congress passed the National Cemeteries Act. The act was a direct result of a Veterans Administration (VA) study of the national cemetery system, completed in 1968, that recommended the transfer of all national cemeteries, with the exception of Arlington and Soldiers’ Home, from the Army to the VA. In September 1973, VA assumed control of national cemetery functions under the newly established National Cemetery System. Shortly after, the VA recommended the expansion of the national cemetery program, ending the Army’s decades-long non-expansion policy. To accomplish such growth, the VA recommended the creation of regional national cemeteries within the ten Standard Federal Regions.

Additionally the VA looked to make changes at the existing national cemeteries to better meet the needs of the nation’s veterans. Donald Wolbrink and Associates, Inc., of Honolulu, was hired in 1975 to develop a master plan for the cemetery. Study objectives included accommodating additional burial space, effective handling of visitors; utilization of undeveloped areas and existing tunnels for interment by means of columbarium/mausoleum facilities. A set of columbaria, designed by Hawaii Architects and Engineers, were added on the mauka (mountain side) slopes of the cemetery in 1981.

Since that time other alterations have also transpired at the cemetery. To address the Vietnam missing in action, the two Vietnam Tablets of the Missing were dedicated on May 30, 1980. In 1986 the roadway to the summit of the crater was closed and in its stead a “Memorial Walk” and lookout was completed in 1990. The walkway is lined with bronze and stone memorials donated by veterans service organizations and other groups.

The cemetery reached its in-ground capacity of 33,255 gravesites in 1991. However, spouses continue to be buried with their loved ones, and the columbaria still provide final resting places for those approved for interment in the cemetery.

The most recent addition to the Honolulu Memorial was the Vietnam pavilion map galleries, which were dedicated on Veterans Day 2012. Following the designs of Fung Associates, Inc., one pavilion contains two maps depicting the Vietnam conflict. The second pavilion acts as a visitor orientation center. The pavilions were designed to blend in with the memorial, yet be differentiated from the original by the trained eye. The corners are constructed of travertine blocks to have corners without seams and the eagles and stars were replicated using computer laser technology as a base with

7 “Punchbowl Urged as War Memorial Site,” Honolulu Advertiser (Honolulu, HI), April 14, 1954.
Provisional Infantry Battalion” they travelled to Oakland, California and on June 12, 1942, their unit was designated as the 100th Infantry Battalion. After training, the 100th arrived in Oran, North Africa, on September 2, 1943, and entered combat.

442nd Regiment, the unit was deployed to Anzio beachhead and from there advanced on Lanuvio, Italy, where the 100th earned the nickname “The Purple Heart Battalion.” After a short rest and gaining reinforcement from members of the Cassino. In the course of this battle, the Battalion’s original 1,300 plus members were reduced to almost 500, and the unit

Benevento, an important rail center and road intersection. From here the unit moved to take the 1,500-foot peak of Monte Cassino. In the course of this battle, the Battalion’s original 1,300 plus members were reduced to almost 500, and the unit earned the nickname “The Purple Heart Battalion.” After a short rest and gaining reinforcement from members of the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, including Sergeant Shigeo “Joe” Takata, the first member of the 100th Battalion to be killed in action, dying on September 29, 1943, at Chiusana, Italy. The battalion and regiment were composed primarily of Japanese-American soldiers from Hawaii, and over the course of World War II and the Korean War became the most decorated military unit in United States’ history, with twenty-one members of the 100th receiving the Medal of Honor during World War II. On June 5, 1942, while the battle of Midway was taking place, 1,432 Nisei (second generation Japanese-Americans) of the Hawaii National Guard had their weapons taken away. They were boarded onto the SS Maui under the cover of night and shipped to the continental United States without saying goodbye to their family or loved ones. Under the title "Hawaiian Provisional Infantry Battalion" they travelled to Oakland, California and on June 12, 1942, their unit was designated as the 100th Infantry Battalion. After training, the 100th arrived in Oran, North Africa, on September 2, 1943, and entered combat on September 29, 1943, near Salerno in Southern Italy. The unit fought well as they advanced fifteen miles in twenty-four hours for a week against strong enemy resistance and taking on casualties; they earned their first major victory by taking Bruyeres and suffered nearly 800 casualties during five days of fighting to successfully rescue the lost battalion, the U.S. Army’s 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry, 36th Infantry Division, which was surrounded by the German forces in the Vosges Mountains. By the time the unit reached Saint-Die, less than 800 soldiers remained of the 2,943 who comprised the unit one month earlier. By the conclusion of World War II, approximately 14,000 men served in the 442nd with the unit experiencing a 93 percent casualty rate.

Also buried or memorialized at Punchbowl are sixty-three recipients of the Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States. Thirty-two recipients are interred here; one is memorialized with an individual marker and thirty others are recognized on the Honolulu Memorial Courts of the Missing.8

In order to expand the capacity of the cemetery and better accommodate the thousands of visitors that come to the cemetery and Honolulu Memorial each year a number of changes will be made over the next several years. Foremost is the removal of the former lodge (current administrative building) and administrative building (current public information center) in order to accommodate additional columbaria within the crater. Administrative and public services will be moved to a new building to be constructed along Puowaina Drive.

Section D also contains the remains of the members of the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, including Sergeant Shigeo “Joe” Takata, the first member of the 100th Battalion to be killed in action, dying on September 29, 1943, at Chiusana, Italy. The battalion and regiment were composed primarily of Japanese-American soldiers from Hawaii, and over the course of World War II and the Korean War became the most decorated military unit in United States’ history, with twenty-one members of the 100th receiving the Medal of Honor during World War II. On June 5, 1942, while the battle of Midway was taking place, 1,432 Nisei (second generation Japanese-Americans) of the Hawaii National Guard had their weapons taken away. They were boarded onto the SS Maui under the cover of night and shipped to the continental United States without saying goodbye to their family or loved ones. Under the title "Hawaiian Provisional Infantry Battalion" they travelled to Oakland, California and on June 12, 1942, their unit was designated as the 100th Infantry Battalion. After training, the 100th arrived in Oran, North Africa, on September 2, 1943, and entered combat on September 29, 1943, near Salerno in Southern Italy. The unit fought well as they advanced fifteen miles in twenty-four hours for a week against strong enemy resistance and taking on casualties; they earned their first major victory by taking Benevento, an important rail center and road intersection. From here the unit moved to take the 1,500-foot peak of Monte Cassino. In the course of this battle, the Battalion’s original 1,300 plus members were reduced to almost 500, and the unit earned the nickname “The Purple Heart Battalion.” After a short rest and gaining reinforcement from members of the 442nd Regiment, the unit was deployed to Anzio beachhead and from there advanced on Lanuvio, Italy, where the 100th spearheaded the breakthrough of the German defensive line, leading to the Allies liberation of Rome. At Civitavecchia, forty miles north of Rome, the unit met up with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The 442nd was comprised of Japanese-American soldiers from both Hawaii and the continental United States. On June 11, 1944, the 100th was attached to the newly arrived 442nd but because of their exemplary efforts during the war and the long and hard-fought battles they were a part of, they were allowed to keep their original designation, giving the newly formed Nisei fighting unit the name 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team under the 34th Division. The 442nd would then participate in the push through Italy and join the invasion of southern France as part of the 36th Infantry. The 442nd would join the fight to liberate Bruyeres and suffered nearly 800 casualties during five days of fighting to successfully rescue the lost battalion, the U.S. Army’s 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry, 36th Infantry Division, which was surrounded by the German forces in the Vosges Mountains. By the time the unit reached Saint-Die, less than 800 soldiers remained of the 2,943 who comprised the unit one month earlier. By the conclusion of World War II, approximately 14,000 men served in the 442nd with the unit experiencing a 93 percent casualty rate.

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Burials at NMCP

The cemetery contains the graves of a number of individuals who are intricately linked with the United State’s involvement in World War II. Among the remains interred in the cemetery are those of 2,403 Americans who died on December 7, 1941, at Pearl Harbor, including Lt. Hans C. Christiansen, a young Army flier, who is believed to have been America’s first combat fatality of World War II. The remains of war correspondent Ernie Pyle lie in this cemetery. Pyle was born on August 3, 1900, and served briefly in World War I. During World War II, he gained an international reputation for his accurate and sympathetic front line stories portraying life under combat conditions. He was killed at Ie Shima, a small island off the tip of Okinawa, by enemy machine gunfire while riding in a jeep. He is buried in Section D.

Section D also contains the remains of the members of the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, including Sergeant Shigeo “Joe” Takata, the first member of the 100th Battalion to be killed in action, dying on September 29, 1943, at Chiusana, Italy. The battalion and regiment were composed primarily of Japanese-American soldiers from Hawaii, and over the course of World War II and the Korean War became the most decorated military unit in United States’ history, with twenty-one members of the 100th receiving the Medal of Honor during World War II. On June 5, 1942, while the battle of Midway was taking place, 1,432 Nisei (second generation Japanese-Americans) of the Hawaii National Guard had their weapons taken away. They were boarded onto the SS Maui under the cover of night and shipped to the continental United States without saying goodbye to their family or loved ones. Under the title "Hawaiian Provisional Infantry Battalion" they travelled to Oakland, California and on June 12, 1942, their unit was designated as the 100th Infantry Battalion. After training, the 100th arrived in Oran, North Africa, on September 2, 1943, and entered combat on September 29, 1943, near Salerno in Southern Italy. The unit fought well as they advanced fifteen miles in twenty-four hours for a week against strong enemy resistance and taking on casualties; they earned their first major victory by taking Benevento, an important rail center and road intersection. From here the unit moved to take the 1,500-foot peak of Monte Cassino. In the course of this battle, the Battalion’s original 1,300 plus members were reduced to almost 500, and the unit earned the nickname “The Purple Heart Battalion.” After a short rest and gaining reinforcement from members of the 442nd Regiment, the unit was deployed to Anzio beachhead and from there advanced on Lanuvio, Italy, where the 100th spearheaded the breakthrough of the German defensive line, leading to the Allies liberation of Rome. At Civitavecchia, forty miles north of Rome, the unit met up with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The 442nd was comprised of Japanese-American soldiers from both Hawaii and the continental United States. On June 11, 1944, the 100th was attached to the newly arrived 442nd but because of their exemplary efforts during the war and the long and hard-fought battles they were a part of, they were allowed to keep their original designation, giving the newly formed Nisei fighting unit the name 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team under the 34th Division. The 442nd would then participate in the push through Italy and join the invasion of southern France as part of the 36th Infantry. The 442nd would join the fight to liberate Bruyeres and suffered nearly 800 casualties during five days of fighting to successfully rescue the lost battalion, the U.S. Army’s 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry, 36th Infantry Division, which was surrounded by the German forces in the Vosges Mountains. By the time the unit reached Saint-Die, less than 800 soldiers remained of the 2,943 who comprised the unit one month earlier. By the conclusion of World War II, approximately 14,000 men served in the 442nd with the unit experiencing a 93 percent casualty rate.

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8 See Figures 1 and 2 for a complete listing of Medal of Honor recipients interred or memorialized at NMCP.
The cemetery also includes the remains of U.S. military veterans, and their eligible dependents, who went on to achieve fame in their careers in the public and private sector including:

Donn Beach, Section B, Site 1-C, interred 1989, born Ernest Raymond Beaumont Gantt, founder of Don the Beachcomber restaurants and inventor of the tiki bar.

John A. Burns, U.S. Army, Section N, Site 828-A, interred on April 9, 1975, former Governor of the State of Hawaii.

Captain Henry Gaylord Dillingham, Section D, Site 432, died when the B-29 bomber he was piloting was shot down over Kawasaki, Japan in 1945, just prior to the end of the war. The nine members of his crew are buried beside him.


Young-Oak Kim, Section CT9-G, Row 400, Site 458, interred 2005), member of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and first Asian-American to command a battalion during wartime (Korean War).


Patsy Takemoto Mink, Section U, Site 1001-B, U.S. Representative, Hawaii, interred on Oct. 4, 2002. Mrs. Mink was interred here based on her husband's eligibility.

Clara H. Nelson, Section U, Site 653-A, interred on Dec. 17, 1979, was known throughout the Islands as "Hilo Hattie" a Hawaiian singer, hula dancer, actress and comedian.


Charles Lacy Veach, Colonel, U.S. Air Force, Court 3, Wall J, Niche 233, inurned on Sept. 10, 1995, was an astronaut. He was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in action in Vietnam.
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National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific Honolulu Hawaii
Name of Property County and State


Thompson, Catherine Jones. A.S.L.A. “Maha Mau Loa (Eternal Rest) Landscape Architects Create in Crater A Place “Surrounded By Beauty and Everlasting Rest.”” Paradise of the Pacific 10 (October 1949).


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
NPS Form 10-900     OMB No. 1024-0018
(Expires 5/31/2012)

National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific Honolulu Hawaii
Name of Property County and State

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
X 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
X Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
Name of repository: ____________________________

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  111.5
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific Honolulu Hawaii

1. Name of Property

2. County and State

3. Zone 11 04 2357340.092 620059.481 23 04 2357304.433 619262.741

4. Zone 12 04 2357166.176 620035.114 24 04 2357353.434 619708.089

5. Zone

6. Easting

7. Northing

8. Zone

9. Easting

10. Northing

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

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific includes all the property administered by the United States of America as described by Tax Map Keys 2-2-005: 001 and 002 in 2012.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This is the property historically associated with the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Don J. Hibbard, Historian/Jennifer M. Perunko, National Cemetery Administration Historian

organization: Fung Associates, Inc./VA-NCA

date: July 4, 2012/October 2012

street & number: 1833 Kalakaua Avenue, Suite 1008/810 Vermont Ave, NW (43A4)

television: (808)-941-3000/202-632-5441

city or town: Honolulu/Washington

state: Hawaii/DC

zip code: 96815/20240

e-mail: projects@funghawaii.com/Jennifer.perunko@va.gov

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- Continuation Sheets

- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)
National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific        Honolulu        Hawaii
Name of Property                   County and State

Photographs:
Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu        State: Hawaii

Photographers: Mayu Ohama, Alison Chiu

Date Photographed: 8/24/2012, 6/7/2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number:
1 of 26. Reservoir and Pump Station, Looking Northwest
2 of 26. Historic Gates and Terrace, Looking West
3 of 26. Visitor Center (Left) and Administration Building (Right), Looking East
4 of 26. View of Forecourt and Memorial, Looking Northwest
5 of 26. Maintenance Buildings, Looking Southwest
6 of 26. Entrance to South Tunnel, Looking Southwest
7 of 26. Memorial Walk, Looking Southwest
8 of 26. Memorial Lookout, Looking Northeast
9 of 26. Travertine-Clad Memorial, Looking Northwest
10 of 26. Chapel Interior, Looking Northwest
11 of 26. Memorial Hall Pavilion with Maps, Looking Northeast
12 of 26. Vietnam Memorial Pavilion, Looking Southeast
13 of 26. Memorial Court with Statue, Looking North
14 of 26. Memorial Court, Looking Southwest
15 of 26. Overall of the Site, View from the Memorial Court, Looking Southeast
16 of 26. Name Court, North Side, Looking Northeast
17 of 26. Landscape and Cemetery, Looking North
18 of 26. Landscape and Cemetery along Crater Edge, Looking West
19 of 26. Open-Air Committal Shelter (2003), Shown with Portable Cover, Looking Northeast
20 of 26. Marble-Marker Columbarium within Landscape (2003), Looking East
21 of 26. Marble-Marker Columbarium (2003), Looking Northwest
22 of 26. Landscape and Cemetery, Looking Southwest
26 of 26. Landscape and Cemetery with a View Towards the Old and New Columbariums, Looking North

Property Owner:
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name    U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs / Attn: Kathleen Schamel, Federal Preservation Officer
street & number     810 Vermont Ave, NW (003C2)       Telephone: (202) 632-5529
city or town    Washington       state    DC       zip code__20420
National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific    Honolulu    Hawaii
Name of Property    County and State

name    American Battle Monuments Commission / Attn: Tom Sole
street & number    Courthouse Plaza II, Ste 500, 2300 Clarendon Boulevard,    telephone (703) 696-6899
city or town    Arlington    state    VA    zip code    22201
### Figure 1

**33 MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS INTERRED OR MEMORIALIZED IN THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY OF THE PACIFIC**

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<th>NAME</th>
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*NOTE: Deceased MIA and memorialized in Manila, R.P., American Cemetery. Memorial Marker placed May 11, 1976.*
Figure 2

30 MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS MEMORIALIZED IN THE "COURTS OF THE MISSING" OF THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION HONOLULU MEMORIAL LOCATED IN THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY OF THE PACIFIC

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Site Boundary of the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
Site Map
All Images for site map and photo keys are taken from http://maps.google.com
Area Map
Photo Key

↑ Direction of Photograph
#

Photograph No.

Area Map 1

Area Map 2
Photographs:
Submit clear and descriptive black and white photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu State: Hawaii
Photographer: Mayu Ohama
Date Photographed: 08/24/2012
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Reservoir and Pump Station, Looking Northwest 1 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu       State: Hawaii
Photographer: Mayu Ohama
Date Photographed: 08/24/2012
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Historic Gates and Terrace, Looking West
2 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu  
State: Hawaii
Photographer: Mayu Ohama
Date Photographed: 08/24/2012
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Visitor Center (Left) and Administration Building (Right), Looking East
3 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu
State: Hawaii
Photographer: Mayu Ohama
Date Photographed: 08/24/2012
Description of Photograph(s) and number: View of Forecourt and Memorial, Looking Northwest 4 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu State: Hawaii

Photographer: Mayu Ohama

Date Photographed: 08/24/2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Maintenance Buildings, Looking Southwest

5 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu State: Hawaii
Photographer: Mayu Ohama
Date Photographed: 08/24/2012
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Entrance to South Tunnel, Looking Southwest
6 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu State: Hawaii
Photographer: Mayu Ohama
Date Photographed: 08/24/2012
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Memorial Walk, Looking Southwest
7 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu State: Hawaii
Photographer: Mayu Ohama
Date Photographed: 08/24/2012
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Memorial Lookout, Looking Northeast
8 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu        State: Hawaii

Photographer: Tonia Moy

Date Photographed: 04/01/2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Travertine-Clad Memorial, Looking Northwest

9 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu State: Hawaii
Photographer: Alison Chiu
Date Photographed: 06/07/2013
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Chapel Interior, Looking Northwest
10 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu  State: Hawaii

Photographer: Alison Chiu

Date Photographed: 06/07/2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Memorial Hall Pavilion with Maps, Looking Northeast

11 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu
State: Hawaii

Photographer: Alison Chiu

Date Photographed: 06/07/2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Vietnam Memorial Pavilion, Looking Southeast

12 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu State: Hawaii
Photographer: Alison Chiu
Date Photographed: 06/07/2013
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Memorial Court with Statue, Looking North
13 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu   State: Hawaii
Photographer: Alison Chiu
Date Photographed: 06/07/2013
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Memorial Court, Looking Southwest
14 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu  State: Hawaii

Photographer: Alison Chiu

Date Photographed: 06/07/2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Overall of the Site, View from the Memorial Court, Looking Southeast

15 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu  State: Hawaii
Photographer: Alison Chiu
Date Photographed: 06/07/2013
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Name Court, North Side, Looking Northeast
16 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu  State: Hawaii
Photographer: Alison Chiu
Date Photographed: 06/07/2013
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Landscape and Cemetery, Looking North
17 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu  State: Hawaii

Photographer: Alison Chiu

Date Photographed: 06/07/2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Landscape and Cemetery along Crater Edge, Looking West

18 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu State: Hawaii

Photographer: Alison Chiu

Date Photographed: 06/07/2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Open-Air Committal Shelter (2003), shown with portable cover, Looking Northeast

19 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu   State: Hawaii

Photographer: Alison Chiu

Date Photographed: 06/07/2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Marble-Marker Columbarium within Landscape (2003), Looking East

20 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu  State: Hawaii

Photographer: Alison Chiu

Date Photographed: 06/07/2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Marble-Marker Columbarium (2003), Looking Northwest

21 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu
State: Hawaii
Photographer: Alison Chiu
Date Photographed: 06/07/2013
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Landscape and Cemetery, Looking Southwest
22 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific  
City or Vicinity: Honolulu  
County: Honolulu  
State: Hawaii  
Photographer: Alison Chiu  
Date Photographed: 06/07/2013  
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Bronze-Marker Columbarium (1981), Looking Southeast  
23 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu

State: Hawaii

Photographer: Alison Chiu

Date Photographed: 06/07/2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Bronze-Marker Columbarium (1981), Looking Southwest

24 of 26.
Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
City or Vicinity: Honolulu
County: Honolulu  State: Hawaii
Photographer: Alison Chiu
Date Photographed: 06/07/2013
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Glass-Roof Committal Shelter with Lava Rock Walls (1981), Looking East

Name of Property: National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

City or Vicinity: Honolulu

County: Honolulu  State: Hawaii

Photographer: Alison Chiu

Date Photographed: 06/07/2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Landscape and Cemetery with a View Towards the Old and New Columbariums, Looking North

26 of 26.