

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 17 1975
DATE ENTERED	JAN 11 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME *National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific*
 HISTORIC *Name Change*
 AND/OR COMMON *"Punchbowl"* *C Skull*
7-2-81
CE
Punchbowl - National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 2177 Puowaina Drive — NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Honolulu CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Hawaii VICINITY OF

Honolulu COUNTY CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	OTHER: Nat'l Cemetery

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(If applicable)* Veterans Administration

STREET & NUMBER 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.

CITY, TOWN Washington, D. C. STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Punchbowl is a volcanic crater whose origins are lost in 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 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.

x ? see #8, p. 2, 114
no

x

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010 818 W1 8V1111, n.w. no 811188 1m111 81111 V

(201) 320 0281

810 v 11011 81111 v 11111

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES _____ BUILDER/ARCHITECT _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

As a site of pre-historic significance, Punchbowl had a deep religious meaning for the Hawaiian people long before the advent of Western contact with the islands in 1778. It was known as "puowaina," roughly translated as "hill of sacrifice," where offenders of certain "kapus" (tabus) were taken to be sacrificed.

Punchbowl also played a major role in the Battle of Nuuanu in 1795. According to several accounts, the heiau (place of worship) of Kanelauu, one of several such heiaus associated with the main Puowaina heiau, was the site where the battle began. The invading Maui forces of Kamehameha pursued the Oahu army of Kalanikupule around the Papakolea side of the volcano, forcing the latter to retreat into the Nuuanu Valley. The Oahu army was conquered after attempting to make stands in strongly fortified heiaus in the valley. By the time they reached the cliffs of Pali, the Oahu army was defeated, the Chief wounded and the women and children trying desperately to escape over the Pali.

The Battle of Nuuanu cleared the way for the unification of the islands into a kingdom under Kamehameha. Punchbowl became important early in the Monarchy as a strategic gun emplacement. John Young, an English seaman who became Kamehameha's Kuhina nui (powerful executive officer) helped him fortify Honolulu in response to Russian presence in the islands.¹

Alexander Baranov, chief manager of the Russian-American company in Alaska, sent Georg Anton Schaffer to Hawaii early in the 19th century seeking compensation for a ship which was damaged in a storm near Waimea, Kauai. The Russian presence increased with the construction of Fort Elizabeth in Kauai and the raising of the Russian flag over various locations including a warehouse in Honolulu. Young feared the Russians would attempt to colonize in support of their sandalwood trade.

On the King's orders, Young constructed a fort at the Honolulu harbor and placed heavy guns atop the crater of Punchbowl hill.

In 1847 there were eleven guns and 33 officers stationed at Fort Puowaina according to one source. Other sources list two ceremonial guns named "Kolola" and "Kalahikikiola." Other than ceremonial purposes, the guns were not used until 1895.

1. The position of Kuhina nui was not formally established until the death of Kamehameba I in 1819.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 111.54

UTM REFERENCES

	<u>619-880</u>	<u>2357-940</u>		<u>619-880</u>	<u>2357-160</u>		
A	<u>0,4</u>	<u>618940</u>	<u>2,35,810,0,0</u>	B	<u>0,4</u>	<u>618940</u>	<u>2,35,7240</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<u>0,4</u>	<u>618940</u>	<u>2,35,7240</u>	D	<u>0,4</u>	<u>618000</u>	<u>2,35,810,0,0</u>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION 160 940 2357-940

A line North of Prospect Street and around the crater on Puowaina Drive and continuing around the Makiki side area designated for conservation use.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

GJORE MOLLENHOFF/Historic Preservation Officer

Hawaii Historian

ORGANIZATION

Veterans Administration

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.

TELEPHONE

(202) 389-2681

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES NO NONE

Jan L. Silverman
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

Federal Agency Representative

DATE

6/17/75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

Clayton L. Kopp
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

1/11/96

ATTEST

Ronald W. Greenberg
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12/31/75

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In an attempt to restore the Hawaiian Throne to the deposed Queen Lili-uokalani, Royalist Captain Samuel Nowlein led an attack against republican forces holding the Puowaina gun positions. Nowlein and his men were forced to surrender because of the superior strategic position of the guns atop the crater.

Before World War II, the area was used as a training ground for the Hawaii National Guard. When the war broke out the Hawaiian Separate Coast Artillery Brigade planned to install a full battery of four 15 mm cannons for defense against an attack from the sea. Therefore, the gun placements were designed for coastal attack. There is no evidence to show that the guns were ever fired, either during the attack on Pearl Harbor or any other raid during the war. The crater did serve as an observation and fire control point in the harbor defense system.

On January 4, 1949, the Punchbowl crater again became a "Hill of Sacrifice," when an unknown serviceman, killed in the attack on Pearl Harbor, became the first American buried in the newly established National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

In July of that same year the cemetery officially opened with the interment of Pacific theatre casualties, including world renowned war correspondent Earnie Pyle.

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific was originally designed in a style similar to the American cemeteries dedicated in Europe following World War I, with row upon row of simple white crosses. Local opposition to a National Cemetery which, by use of the crosses as grave markers, implied a "Christian" cemetery led to the removal, in 1951, of all crosses. These were replaced by simple flat markers upon which could be incised any one of several religious designations--the cross, the Wheel of Buddha, the Muslim crescent and star, the Eastern cross, the Star of David, the cross and crown, or the Greek cross.

Interred in this National Cemetery, lie many of the deceased of the 442 Regimental Combat Team the most decorated of World War II. This Japanese unit fought a double war, against the enemies of the United States, and against their own government for the right to wear their country's uniform and serve, despite fears that because of their Japanese backgrounds, their loyalty to their country might be in doubt.

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3

Here lie 22 recipients of the Medal of Honor, this country's highest award for valor.

In the Courts of the Missing, are inscribed the names of 26,287 Americans whose remains were not recovered or who were buried at sea. On these memorial tablets are the names of 26 who for their extraordinary valor were also granted in the Medal of Honor.

Following the Korean conflict, all of the unknown dead from the war were interred in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. The one who does not now rest here with his comrades-in-arms, was reinterred in the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery.

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific is a final resting place for those whose sacrifices have preserved America's freedoms. Here a grateful nation pays perpetual respect to the men and women who have protected and defended this nation for us and for our children.

