

HONOLULU HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT CORRIDOR PROJECT  
SURVEYED PROPERTY CONSIDERED ELIGIBLE FOR NATIONAL REGISTER

TMK: 11016004

Historic Status: **Evaluated Eligible**

Portion of Alignment: **Airport Portion**

Resource Name/Historic Name: **Hawaii Employers Council**

Sector: **38 Lagoon Drive Station Sector**

Location: **2682 WAIWAI LOOP**

Owner: **HAWAII EMPLOYERS COUNCIL**

Station Block:

Date-Original: **1961**

Source: **Tax Office**

Present Use/Historic Use: **Commercial**

Architectural Description:

This two-story, flat-roofed building of reinforced concrete and CMU is constructed with an irregular floor plan which reflects the lines of the rear parcel boundary that abuts Keehi Lagoon Park. The building is set back on its parcel to accommodate parking on the street side. The front facade of the building consists of nine bays. Counting north to south, Bays 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9 are identical, each about fifteen feet wide and two stories tall. These bays are faced with painted CMU set in a pattern of projecting headers. Bays 2 and 3 are hidden by a slightly concave wall of smooth CMU which projects about ten feet from adjacent bays. This wall is about thirty feet wide and the makai half creates an entry area in front of the two-story glass entrance to the building in Bay 2. Bays 7-9 are set back about three feet from Bays 4-6. Bay 7 has a doorway leading to an open service area. Bay 8, about 30-feet wide, forms a second-story bridge between Bays 7 and 9, and has a slightly angled footprint. The bridge structure is concrete and has horizontal band of windows on front and rear. The ground-floor area behind Bays 7 and 9 are used for parking. The pattern of vertical divisions between bays is repeated on the rear facade of the building with unusual structural elements. Vertical piers rise slightly above the walls, connected to beams that support the roof projection over the exterior hall. Tall metal-framed windows and doors are set back from the exterior plane of the piers, especially on the upper story. There is a small garden at the northeast corner of the building.

Integrity:

Appears unaltered.

Significance:

This building is significant under Criterion A for its association with the history of labor relations in Hawaii and under Criterion C for its association with the architectural firm Wimberly and Cook and its successor firm, Wimberly, Allison, Tong & Goo, which had a major influence on Hawaiian architecture in this period. The Hawaii Employers Council was founded in 1943 in response to the National Labor Relations Act of 1935, which guaranteed the rights of workers to organize. Relations between labor and management had been stormy before the war, when the ILWU had organized the dock workers and was making gains on the sugar and pineapple plantations. The Council was formed to organize the employers, bring the unions to the table, and stabilize these relations through wages and working conditions fair to both sides rather than endure further strikes and lockouts. By February 1962, when the Council moved to its new offices, it had over 300 members, who acted as a solid bloc under Council discipline.

