

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

TMK: **98003010**

Historic Status: **Evaluated Eligible**

Portion of Alignment: **'Ewa portion**

Resource Name/Historic Name: **HECO Waiau Plant**

Sector: **13 Pearlridge Station Sector**

Location: **98-475 KAMEHAMEHA HWY**

Owner: **HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC CO INC**

Station Block:

Date-Original: **1938**

Source: **Pratt 1988, 15.**

Present Use/Historic Use: **Electric power generation**

Architectural Description:

This large building has square massing with a stepped-back section at its uppermost story that has two large smokestacks. Along its sides, the lower section of the building has closely spaced square pilasters (with no capitals) that extend to just below the inset cornice of the main mass. The pilasters interrupt horizontal bands of short awnings. The uppermost stepped-back section has an encircling awning band and a cornice with a slight projection. At its west end the building is lower with a double hip roof.

Integrity:

Smokestacks changed. Windows possibly changed.

Significance:

Criterion "A" - for its association with the history of electric power generation on Oahu. Electric power generation by HECO began near downtown Honolulu. An early HECO plant was the 1894 generator on Honolulu's waterfront; in 1907 this plant got a steam turbine. The HECO plant at Waiau was the company's first "expanded generating facility" (Pratt 1988, 15), completed in 1938. The Waiau plant was constructed to provide power to O'ahu west of Iwilei (where there was a substation). A building permit for a new 7-story power plant was issued in May 1945. Ca. 1950 a 40,000 kw turbine/generator/boiler system was added at the Waiau plant; this could correspond to a April 1949 building permit for an addition to the power plant. In March 1958 a building permit was issued for the construction of a new building which was completed in 1961.

