

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

TMK: 94019020 & 94019021

Historic Status: **Evaluated Eligible**

Portion of Alignment: **'Ewa Portion**

Resource Name/Historic Name: **Ohara & Okahara Two-Story Apartments**

Sector: **10 Waipahu Transit Center  
Station Sector**

Location: **94-965 & 94-973 Awane'i Street**

Owner: **Ohara, Kimiko TR Est & Okahara, Frederick M TR**

Station Block:

Date-Original: **1956**

Source: **Tax Office**

Present Use/Historic Use: **Residential**

Architectural Description:

Integrity:

These matching two-story apartment buildings are constructed of brick-like CMU at the first story and at the second story of vertical tongue-and-groove (T&G) siding with a single girt at window-sill level. Each has a low-slope hip roof; the Ohara Apartment roof is covered with ribbed metal panels, while the Okahara building's roof has asphalt shingles. The wide overhanging eaves of both have exposed rafters. Each has two dog-leg concrete stairs, with bases of CMU and with thin metal railings, providing access to their second-floor walkway and apartments. The walkway in each has a solid railing of horizontal boards. Cantilevered concrete canopies project over the first-floor windows on ends and rear walls. In the Ohara building the rear canopy is supported by a wood beam and posts. Windows in both buildings are glass jalousies.

Both appear unaltered, except in the Ohara Apartments the original corrugated metal roofing replaced by ribbed metal panels, and in the Okahara Apartments by asphalt shingles.

Significance:

Criterion "C" – both embody the distinctive characteristics of early post-WWII vernacular apartment buildings. These two buildings feature simplified construction and detailing. Some elements of the design and materials, such as hip roofs and T&G siding, reflect utilitarian single-wall residences typical of (but not restricted to) Hawaii's pre-WWII period; the CMU walls and the jalousie windows are materials commonly used after WWII. These multi-family buildings, with their minimal ornamentation, reflect their post-war period. However, as noted above, other design features of these apartments show continuity with earlier residential markers. The transitional buildings between Hawaii's pre-WWII vernacular houses and apartment buildings commonly seen in the islands after Statehood need further context study.

