



Finding a Path Forward

**ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER
NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS THEME STUDY**

Edited by Franklin Odo





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Appendix I

Registration Requirements for Designating AAPI Properties National Historic Landmarks

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides guidance for evaluating the significance and integrity of properties associated with the Asian American/Pacific Islander theme and their potential for designation as National Historic Landmarks (NHLs). The physical evidence of this multi-faceted heritage is present in a huge variety of cultural resources throughout the United States—in North America and the Pacific Islands—although their representation as NHLs should be greater and in more states and regions of the U.S. Factors that have contributed to relatively sparse representation of AAPI-related resources among National Historic Landmarks include a lack of survey data, the relatively short time some groups have been part of United States culture, and fewer suggestions submitted by advocates. AAPI-related properties designated NHLs are listed below.

This theme study is an effort to improve AAPI representation in the NHL program. The essays provide general contexts for evaluating NHL eligibility. The registration requirements in this section provide specific guidance on applying the NHL evaluation methodology to AAPI resources, including applying the NHL criteria to AAPI resources and evaluating the integrity of AAPI resources. Examples of nationally significant resources related to AAPI culture and history are used to illustrate this process.

Introductory information about the NHL program and evaluation concepts are provided, but detailed instructions on initiating an NHL nomination and compiling an acceptable nomination are not provided. The National Park Service (NPS) National Historic Landmark website provides a great deal of information about the NHL program and the process for seeking designation.¹

Possibly Okei Ito, originally taken circa 1870-1871 by George H. Gilbert.
Photo courtesy of the American River Conservancy.



AAPI PROPERTIES DESIGNATED NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

The NHL designation year is in parentheses

NHLs with Chinese American Associations

Bodie Historic District, Bodie, CA (1961)
Kam Wah Chung Company Building,
John Day, OR (2005)
Locke Historic District, Locke, CA (1990)
Pearl S. Buck House, Perkasié, PA (1980)

NHLs with Japanese American Associations

George Nakashima Woodworker Complex,
New Hope, PA (2012)
Granada (aka Amache) Relocation Center (2006)
Harada House, Riverside, CA (1990)
Heart Mountain Relocation Center, Powell, WY (2006)
Little Tokyo Historic District, Los Angeles, CA (1995)
Manzanar Relocation Center, Independence, CA (1985)
McGregor Memorial Conference Center, Wayne State
University, Detroit, MI (2015)
Panama Hotel, Seattle, WA (2006)
Poston Elementary School, Unit 1, Colorado River
Relocation Center, Yuma County, AZ (2012)
Rohwer Relocation Center Cemetery, Rohwer,
Desha County, AR (1992)
Topaz (aka Central Utah) Relocation Center,
Delta, Millard County, UT (2007)
Tule Lake Segregation Center, Newell, CA (2006)

NHLs with Pacific Islander Associations

Government House, Pago Pago, American Samoa (1990)
The Forty Acres, Delano, CA (2008)
Hokukano-Ualapue Complex, Ualapue,
Molokai, HI (1962)
Huilua Fishpond, Kaneohe, HI (1962)
'Iolani Palace, Honolulu, HI (1962)
Ka Lae (South Point Complex), Naalehu, HI (1962)
Kalaupapa Leprosy Settlement and National
Historical Park, Kalaupapa, HI (1976)
Honokohau Settlement, Kailua-Kona, HI (1962)
Kamakahonu, Kailua-Kona, HI (1962)
Kaunolu Village Site, Lanai, HI (1962)
Kawaiaha'o Church and Mission Houses,
Honolulu, HI (1962)
Keauhou Holua Slide, Kailua-Kona, HI (1962)

Lahaina Historic District, Lahaina, HI (1962)
Loaloa Heiau, Kaupo, HI (1962)
Mauna Kea Adz Quarry, Mauna Kea Ice Age Natural
Area Reserve, Island of Hawai'i, HI (1962)
Mo'okini Heiau, Kohala Historical Sites State
Monument, Hawi, HI (1962)
Old Sugar Mill of Kōloa, Kōloa, HI (1962)
Pi'ilanihale Heiau, Hana, HI (1964)
Pu'u o Mahuka Heiau State Monument,
Haleiwa, HI (1962)
Pu'ukoholā Heiau National Historic Site,
Waimea, HI (1962)
Russian Fort (in Fort Elizabeth State Historical
Park), Waimea, Kauai, HI (1966)
Wailua Complex of Heiaus, Waimea, Kauai, HI (1962)
Washington Place, Honolulu, HI (2007)

Properties with Multiple AAPI Affiliations

Kake Cannery, Kake, AK (1997)
Steward's House, Foreign Mission School,
Cornwall, CT (2016)
U.S. Immigration Station at Angel Island,
San Francisco Bay, CA (1998)

UNDERSTANDING REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

"Registration requirements" refers to the essential considerations required for designating AAPI properties as National Historic Landmarks. In many cases, the essays in this theme study provide the most essential component of the property identification and evaluation process: the historic context. The historic context is a lens through which the property can be viewed to assess its place in history and the significance of the events related to it. Because of the complexity of AAPI history and culture, in some cases the essays do not provide sufficient information to support the identification of a property as significant, but may point to a historic context that needs to be further developed. For example, if an essay addresses Filipino reactions to unfair labor practices within the context of American labor history, and provides a context for evaluating a specific site of demonstrations or negotiations, it could be used as a model for development of a context that relates to a similar scenario affecting Chinese plantation workers in Hawai'i or cannery workers in Alaska.

Other considerations in the evaluation process

include the application of the NHL criteria for evaluation and the criteria considerations, establishing a period of significance, determining the areas of significance that apply, identifying a property's place within the NHL thematic framework, and evaluating a property's integrity. Each of these considerations is discussed in this chapter. Existing National Historic Landmarks illustrate how the criteria have been applied, providing models that may be applicable to other properties being considered.

For a property to be eligible for NHL designation under the Asian American/Pacific Islander theme, it must be directly associated with the history of associated cultural, national, or ethnic groups within the context of North American and Pacific Island heritage. A property must have a direct, meaningful, and documented association with an historical event or individual of national significance, or it must be of exceptional archeological or design significance (architectural, landscape architectural, engineering, or artistic). At least one of the six NHL criterion must be met to demonstrate eligibility, and exceptional significance must be demonstrated within the context of comparable resources.

The physical integrity of a nominated property must be intact from the period of significance, as evaluated within seven defined variables known as "aspects." In some cases, evaluations of integrity should be balanced within the framework of the scarcity or generally compromised nature of resources associated with a culture. Factors that may impact evaluations of integrity for resources associated with an AAPI group include a scarcity of built associations with a culture; a large number of resources that have been physically affected by modification, abandonment, or demolition; and a majority of resources less than 50 years old (the NHL and NRHP threshold for historical objectivity). In any evaluation, a thoughtful approach to evaluation is required within the accepted procedures and regulatory framework of the NHL program. Variance from standard evaluation practices should be explained and justified.

Cultural resources in the Pacific Islands may exhibit similarities with tribal resources in North America. In both cases, lands may have been associated with specific groups for a very long time, and cultural attachments today may resonate deeply with spiritual beliefs. For this reason, resources associated with Pacific Island history and culture may be evaluated as traditional cultural

places (including traditional cultural landscapes) and nominated as historic districts, sites, or objects. Such resources may have lengthy periods of significance compared with other resources.

IDENTIFYING ASIAN AMERICAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER CULTURAL RESOURCES

Many places in the United States have been touched by AAPI cultures. Their presence may be overt, such as Japantown in Los Angeles, or subtle, like an archeological site associated with Chinese miners in a remote part of the West. Their presence may be pervasive, as in the Pacific Islands: evident everywhere today and in the past and influencing the culture in its entirety. With some AAPI cultures, the presence of associated places may be rare and the association fleeting.

Properties linked to AAPI heritage are wide ranging, including temples, schools, community centers, industrial plants, railroad camps, mining towns, World War II confinement camps, Chamorro *latte*, and urban historic districts. AAPI culture has affected United States laws, labor, religion, education, arts, and more, contributing a significant imprint on the nation's cultural fabric.

The essays in this theme study provide background information on many aspects of AAPI political, economic, and social life; community building; immigration experiences; and injustices and discrimination. The essays mention some specific places related to incidents or people important in AAPI history and, in some cases, suggest general types of properties that may be associated with AAPI history. Many of these places are or have the potential to be designated as NHLs.

THE NHL STUDY LIST

The AAPI essays and other resources were used to develop the AAPI NHL Study List, which includes properties that may be eligible for NHL designation. The list is considered preliminary, because it is not based on a comprehensive survey, the contexts are incomplete for this purpose, and the integrity of identified properties is often not known; however, properties on the Study List have histories and other qualities that indicate potential national significance.

The Study List was compiled using a variety of sources from the National Park Service and elsewhere.

Besides the essays in this theme study, the sources most consulted for development of the Study List were National Register and National Historic Landmark nominations and the NRIS database (National Register Information System). The NPS also queried state historic preservation offices about their knowledge of AAPI properties and the NPS regional offices about properties in their jurisdictions. These sources yielded additional recommendations for the AAPI NHL Study List.

AAPI ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Archeological sites have an important role in achieving an understanding of AAPI history. For some aspects of AAPI history, the archeological record may be all that exists. For others, the archeology of the site has the potential to answer important questions about the built environment and the property's importance within a particular historic context. The contribution of a site's information potential can include the capacity to substantially modify a major historic concept, resolve a substantial historical or anthropological debate, or close a serious knowledge or data gap in a major theme of AAPI history. The national significance of an archeological site is evaluated by its potential to provide information of major scientific importance that may contribute to knowledge, theories, concepts and ideas, and answer questions about important chapters in history. Sites that are poorly represented elsewhere or that are the only known site of its type may be particularly important for their information potential. The evaluation process for archeological sites includes comparing a site to similar sites that are considered significant for their information potential. The integrity of archeological resources is evaluated by determining the degree to which the resources present or previously excavated can answer pertinent research questions.

Site types often associated with Asian American and Pacific Islanders include ethnic communities and districts such as, but not limited to, urban and rural Chinatowns and Japantowns; labor camps such as logging and sawmill camps, mining camps and towns, railroad construction camps, maritime industry camps, and agricultural and ranching camps; World War II internment and relocation facilities; commercial sites such as laundries, stores, mines, boarding houses, brothels, and bathhouses; buildings and sites used by community

organizations, including temples, cemeteries, community halls, playgrounds, and government buildings; domestic properties such as homes and gardens; company towns; and agricultural areas and businesses. Common archeological features found at these locations include, but are not limited to, wells, privies, middens, fire/cooking pits/hearths, builders' trenches, foundations, basements/cellars, chimney falls, and graves. Other site specific features should be anticipated based on site and/or industry type. These could include, but are not limited to, garden or agricultural field layout features, mining features, milling features, and seafood/ maritime industry features. The spatial patterning of communities and features at a site may contribute to our understanding of a property and provide important information on broader topics of site formation.

Archeological research concerns the study of the origin, history, interaction, and evolution of cultures and human behavior. To contribute to the development of understanding in these broad areas, research questions are posed within more focused frameworks, such as acculturation and adaptation, globalization, social networks, racism, prejudice and discrimination, religion and spirituality, gender and sexuality, cultural comparison, age group studies, and recreational activities. Some themes commonly applied to research specific to the Asian American/Pacific Islander theme are patterns of cultural persistence and change, cultural interaction, Japanese internment, comparison with other non-Asian diasporic communities, social and commercial networks, the lives of women and children, and transnationalism. These frameworks can be used to propose research questions relevant to broad archeological topics, as well as to the areas of significance discussed in this thematic study. Some of these frameworks and areas of significance overlap each other, and characteristics of the sites are often relevant to multiple avenues of research.

Archeological research conducted on potentially eligible sites offers an opportunity to expand the understanding of a site and its contribution to the events and lives of the people and cultures it represents. For the potential of archeological work to be fully realized and contribute to an argument for national significance, elucidation of clear, focused research objectives aimed at addressing nationally significant themes is imperative. Difficulty exists in predicting what may lay beneath the

surface and the subsurface condition or degree of preservation—in other words, the archeological integrity of the site.

It is difficult to discuss the importance of a site prior to excavation, interpretation, and evaluation. Even if present, subsurface archeological components may not contribute data nationally significant to the specific history of a property or historical concept. On the other hand, they may provide data to completely change our understanding of an aspect of AAPI history. Because of the somewhat unpredictable value of unexplored archeological sites, assessing exceptional significance requires significant documentation and contextualization. Even lacking national significance, however, archeological sites can be a rich vein of information: the possibilities for discovery are vast, and the effort is worthwhile at most sites and essential at others.

The significance of archeological artifacts, assemblages, and features is derived from their ability to aid in site identification, ethnic affiliation, formulation of research goals, and the insight they provide into the everyday life of a site's occupants. Generally, the identification of ethnicity through artifact assemblages is complex and the degree to which individual material objects delineate ethnic identification is a major subject of disciplinary debate. For this reason, research questions that concern the relationship between ethnic affiliation and material culture require deep critical evaluation in the context of other historical or material information. For example, an ethnic community's consumer waste may be just as likely to reflect an adherence to national mass consumer trends or reflect economic conditions and establish ethnic differentiation based on traditional practices, identity, or resistance.

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK BASICS

In this section, fundamental concepts of the National Historic Landmarks program are briefly explained, including the types of properties nominated, the NHL criteria, areas of significance, periods of significance, the NHL thematic framework, and evaluating integrity. For those steeped in preservation programs, this information will be familiar, but those being introduced to the NHL program through this theme study should have a fundamental understanding of these concepts to appreciate

the identification and evaluation methods applied when properties are considered for NHL designation. More detailed information about all of these concepts can be found on the NHL website <https://www.nps.gov/nhl/>.

AAPI PROPERTY TYPES

The Federal regulations that specify how the National Historic Landmarks program shall be carried out (36 CFR 65) state that a property that can be considered eligible for NHL designation is a “site, building, object, structure or a collection of the above which form a district” (36 CFR 65.3[m]).² Definitions for these property types follow, with examples of AAPI properties as illustrations of the types.

Buildings

A building, such as a house, barn, church, hotel, or similar construction, is created principally to shelter any form of human activity. “Building” may also be used to refer to a historically and functionally related unit, such as a courthouse and jail or a house and barn.

Examples of buildings

Houses, barns, stables, sheds, garages, courthouses, city halls, social halls, commercial buildings, libraries, factories, mills, train depots, stationary mobile homes, hotels, theaters, schools, stores, and churches.

Some AAPI Buildings Designated NHLs

Panama Hotel, Seattle, Washington
Old Sugar Mill of Koloa, Kauai, Hawai'i
Harada House, Riverside, California
McGregor Memorial Conference Center, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan
Government House, U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, Eastern District, American Samoa
Kake Cannery, Wrangell-Peterburgh Borough-Census Area, Alaska
'Iolani Palace, Honolulu, Hawai'i
Kam Wah Chung Company Building, John Day, Oregon

Structures

A structure is a work made by human beings and composed of interdependent and interrelated parts in a definite pattern of organization. Unlike buildings, structures are functional constructions, usually made for purposes

other than creating human shelter.

Examples of structures

Bridges, tunnels, gold dredges, firetowers, canals, turbines, dams, power plants, corncrib, silos, roadways, shot towers, windmills, grain elevators, kilns, mounds, cairns, palisade fortification, earthworks, railroad grades, systems of roadways and paths, boats and ships, railroad locomotives and cars, telescopes, carousels, bandstands, gazebos, and aircraft.

AAPL Structures Designated NHLs

No structures are presently designated NHLs, but potential AAPL structures include those associated with mining, transportation, fishing, and other agricultural or industrial activities.

Sites

A site is the location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined or vanished, where the location itself maintains historical or archeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure.

Examples of sites

Habitation sites, funerary sites, rock shelters, village sites, hunting and fishing sites, ceremonial sites, petroglyphs, rock carvings, gardens, grounds, battlefields, ruins of historic buildings and structures, campsites, sites of treaty signings, trails, areas of land, shipwrecks, cemeteries, designed landscapes, and natural features, such as springs and rock formations, and land areas having cultural significance.

Some AAPL Sites Designated NHLs

Pu'ukohola Heiau National Historic Site, South Kohala District, Oahu, Hawai'i (archeological site)
Keauhou Holua Slide, Keauhou vicinity, Hawai'i (archeological site)
Mauna Kea Adz Quarry, Hilo vicinity, Hawai'i (archeological site)

Districts

A district is a geographically definable area, urban or rural, that possesses a significant concentration, linkage or continuity of sites, buildings, structures or objects

united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development. A district may also comprise individual elements separated geographically but linked by association or history.

Examples of districts

College campuses, central business districts, residential areas, commercial areas, large forts, industrial complexes, civic centers, rural villages, canal systems, collections of habitation and limited activity sites, irrigation systems, large farms, ranches, estates, plantations, transportation networks, and large landscaped parks.

Some AAPL Districts Designated NHLs

Locke Historic District, Locke, California
George Nakashima Woodworker Complex, Solebury Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania
Granada Relocation Center, Granada, Prowers County, Colorado
Little Tokyo Historic District, Los Angeles, California
The Forty Acres, Delano, California
U.S. Immigration Station, Angel Island, California
Kalaupapa Leprosy Settlement, Molokai, Hawai'i
Lāhainā Historic District, Maui, Hawai'i

Objects

An object is a material thing of functional, aesthetic, cultural, historical or scientific value that may be, by nature or design, movable yet related to a specific setting or environment. Objects are often artistic in nature or relatively small in scale and simply constructed. Although it may be, by nature or design, movable, an object is associated with a specific setting or environment.

Examples of objects

Sculpture, monuments, boundary markers, statuary, and fountains.

AAPL Objects Designated NHLs

The Rohwer Relocation Camp Memorial Cemetery is a historic district, but it contains 28 contributing objects: 24 grave markers, two entrance markers, and two monuments. All were made by the Japanese Americans confined at Rohwer.



Evacuee's Memorial at Rohwer Relocation Center Memorial Cemetery, 1990. Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places.

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

Properties must meet at least one of six National Historic Landmark criteria to be eligible for NHL designation. Many properties designated NHLs also meet one or more National Register criteria for an aspect of state or local significance. Such additional significance may be noted in the nomination, but it does not contribute to the NHL designation. For example, a house, nationally significant as the home of an individual associated with an important Supreme Court ruling that enhanced the lives of AAPI people, may also have local architectural significance as an Arts and Crafts bungalow. This latter has no bearing on its NHL designation, although certainly the integrity of the house to the period of significance could be meaningful to the designation.

The eight NHL Criteria Exceptions are applied when properties normally excluded from consideration are nominated. Such properties are of exceptional national significance, despite being religious properties, moved from their original locations, and less than 50 years old, for example. The exceptional nature of the property must be justified in the text of the nomination. An example of the application of an exception is the

George Nakashima Woodworker Complex, designated in 2014 for its association with the Japanese American furniture designer. A number of the components of the historic district that constitutes the complex were built less than 50 years ago. In addition, Nakashima died in 1990, and the nomination was put forth only 24 years later.

Examples of the application of the criteria and criteria exceptions to specific properties related to AAPI history and culture are provided later in this appendix. The following explanation of the NHL criteria and criteria exceptions is taken from the Code of Federal Regulations, 36 CFR 65.4, *National Historic Landmarks Program*.

36§65.4 National Historic Landmark Criteria

The criteria applied to evaluate properties for possible designation as National Historic Landmarks or possible determination of eligibility for National Historic Landmark designation are listed below. These criteria shall be used by NPS in the preparation, review, and evaluation of National Historic Landmark studies. They shall be used by the Advisory Board in reviewing National Historic Landmark studies and preparing recommendations to the Secretary. Properties shall be designated National Historic Landmarks only if they are nationally significant. Although assessments of national significance should reflect both public perceptions and professional judgments, the evaluations of properties being considered for landmark designation are undertaken by professionals, including historians, architectur-



Buddist or Shinto gravestone at the Rohwer Relocation Center Memorial Cemetery. Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places.

al historians, archeologists, and anthropologists familiar with the broad range of the nation's resources and historical themes. The criteria applied by these specialists to potential landmarks do not define significance nor set a rigid standard for quality. Rather, the criteria establish the qualitative framework in which a comparative professional analysis of national significance can occur. The final decision on whether a property possesses national significance is made by the Secretary on the basis of documentation including the comments and recommendations of the public who participate in the designation process.

(a) Specific Criteria of National Significance: The quality of national significance is ascribed to districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States in history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture and that possess a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- (1) That are associated with **events** that have made a significant contribution to, and are identified with, or that outstandingly represent, the broad national patterns of United States history and from which an understanding and appreciation of those patterns may be gained; or
- (2) That are associated importantly with the **lives of persons** nationally significant in the history of the United States; or
- (3) That represent some **great idea or ideal of the American people**; or
- (4) That embody the distinguishing characteristics or an **architectural type** specimen exceptionally valuable for the study of a period, style, or method of construction, or that represent a significant, distinctive, and exceptional entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- (5) That are composed of integral parts of the environment not sufficiently significant by reason of historical association or artistic merit to warrant individual recognition but **collectively compose an entity** of exceptional historical or artistic significance, or outstandingly commemorate

or illustrate a way of life or culture; or

- (6) That **have yielded or may be likely to yield information** of major scientific importance by revealing new cultures, or by shedding light upon periods of occupation of large areas of the United States. Such sites are those which have yielded, or which may reasonably be expected to yield, data affecting theories, concepts, and ideas to a major degree.

NHL Criteria Exceptions

(b) Ordinarily, cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years are not eligible for designation. If such properties fall within the following categories they may, nevertheless, be found eligible for designation:

- (1) **A religious property** deriving its primary national significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- (2) **A building removed from its original location** but which is nationally significant primarily for its architectural merit or for association with persons or events of transcendent importance in the nation's history and the association consequential; or
- (3) **A site of a building or structure no longer standing** but the person or event associated with it is of transcendent importance in the nation's history and the association consequential; or
- (4) **A birthplace, grave, or burial** if it is of a historical figure of transcendent national significance and no other appropriate site, building, or structure directly associated with the productive life of that person exists; or
- (5) **A cemetery** that derives its primary national significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance or from an exceptionally distinctive design or an exceptionally significant event; or
- (6) **A reconstructed building or ensemble** of buildings of extraordinary national significance

when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other buildings or structures with the same association have survived; or

(7) A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own national historical significance; or

(8) A property achieving national significance within the past 50 years if it is of extraordinary national importance.

Areas of Significance

The Areas of Significance are general topics intended to convey the broad area of history to which the criteria apply. Useful for searching for like properties in the National Register Information System database (NRIS), the Areas of Significance can also provide an organizing principle for nomination Statements of Significance. For each criterion applied to a property, one or more areas of significance can be applied and justified. The nomination for the Kam Wah Chung Company Building in John Day, Oregon, for example, applied two areas, Commerce and Health/Medicine. These areas relate to the commercial importance of the store to the Chinese American community, as well as its role in fostering health through its extensive offerings of herbal remedies. In the nomination, each area was explained, as was its national significance as a rare example of this type of mercantile business that included an extensive collection of historical documentation related to the business.

Any of the Areas of Significance listed below may apply to AAPI nominated properties, but some are more widely used than others. Note that “Other” enables the use of areas that are not otherwise specified.

Agriculture
Architecture
Archeology
 Prehistoric
 Historic-Aboriginal
 Historic-Non-Aboriginal
Art
Commerce
Communications

Community Planning and Development
Conservation
Economics
Education
Engineering Entertainment/Recreation
Ethnic Heritage
 Asian
 Black
 European
 Hispanic
 Native American
 Pacific Islander
 Other
Exploration/Settlement Health/Medicine
Industry
Invention
Landscape Architecture
Law
Literature
Maritime History
Military
Performing Arts
Philosophy
Politics/Government
Religion
Science
Social History
Transportation
Other

Period of Significance

The period of significance, which is defined for each nominated property, is the span of time in which a property achieved national significance. For a property associated with a historic event, the period of significance is inclusive of the years the “event” occurred. For an architecturally significant property, it is the year of construction. For a property associated with an important person, the period of significance is the years when their significant achievements were made that coincide with their association with the property. The process for identifying periods of significance is explained in the National Register and NHL instructions, available on the NPS website.

For properties associated with AAPI history and culture, the period of significance may be short, such

as the few years the Japanese American internment camps operated during World War II, or long and long ago, such as the period when the Keauhou Holua Slide in Hawai'i was used in contests by Hawaiian chiefs. Identifying a period of significance should confirm that the research effort has been probing enough to identify a time of association.

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK THEMATIC FRAMEWORK

The NHL program developed a thematic framework of American history during the early years of its existence to foster well-rounded representation among designated properties. Just as today we have a goal to increase NHL designations to better reflect AAPI history and culture, in earlier years of the program it was considered important to represent all periods and themes in American history, using topics that were general enough to accommodate most aspects of history. Gaps in representation in the thematic framework were indicators of designations that were needed. The framework was revised in 1994 to better reflect the breadth of American history.

Today, nomination preparers are advised to find a place in the thematic framework for a nominated property and to develop an appropriate context accordingly. For example, the framework includes the topic “Expressing Cultural Values,” which pertains to art, architecture, literature, performance, educational and intellectual pursuits, and other cultural expressions. The Pearl S. Buck House in Pennsylvania, associated with the author whose writing brought Chinese culture to non-Asian Americans, corresponds with “Expressing Cultural Values” in the theme of literature. The context for evaluating the significance of Pearl Buck and the house where she did much of her writing should revolve around the theme of literature of the period, non-Asians’ understanding of China and Chinese Americans, and Pearl Buck’s accomplishments in expanding Americans’ world view and understanding of a culture that was foreign to most.

National Historic Landmark nomination preparers can use the framework as an aid to identifying the context that should be developed. It should be considered as a fundamental and common-sense means of viewing history and compartmentalizing, to a certain extent, historical phenomena. This process can help in focusing a context and preventing it from becoming either too

expansive or too narrow. Further guidance on use of the NHL framework can be found on the NHL website <https://www.nps.gov/nhl/>.

NHL Thematic Framework

The thematic framework, as revised in 1994, includes the following topics:

I. Peopling Places

Topics that help define this theme include:

1. Family and the life cycle
2. Health, nutrition, and disease
3. Migration from the outside and within
4. Community and neighborhood
5. Ethnic homelands
6. Encounters, conflicts, and colonization

II. Creating Social Institutions and Movements

Topics that help define this theme include:

1. Clubs and organizations
2. Reform movements
3. Religious institutions
4. Recreational activities

III. Expressing Cultural Values

Topics that help define this theme include:

1. Educational and intellectual currents
2. Visual and performing arts
3. Literature
4. Mass media
5. Architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design
6. Popular and traditional culture

IV. Shaping the Political Landscape

Topics that help define this theme include:

1. Parties, protests, and movements
2. Governmental institutions
3. Military institutions and activities
4. Political ideas, cultures, and theories

V. Developing the American Economy

Topics that help define this theme include:

1. Extraction and production
2. Distribution and consumption
3. Transportation and communication

4. Workers and work culture
5. Labor organizations and protests
6. Exchange and trade
7. Governmental policies and practices
8. Economic theory

VI. Expanding Science and Technology

Topics that help define this theme include:

1. Experimentation and invention
2. Technological applications
3. Scientific thought and theory
4. Effects on lifestyle and health

VII. Transforming the Environment

Topics that help define this theme include:

1. Manipulating the environment and its resources
2. Adverse consequences and stresses on the environment
3. Protecting and preserving the environment

VIII. Changing Role of the United States in the World Community

Topics that help define this theme include:

1. International relations
2. Commerce
3. Expansionism and imperialism
4. Immigration and emigration policies

THE INTEGRITY OF AAPI PROPERTIES

A property must retain a high degree of physical integrity to be considered eligible for National Historic Landmark designation. According to NHL federal regulations 36 CFR 65.4(a), “the quality of national significance is ascribed to districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects that possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States in history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture *and that possess a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association*” (italics added).

NHL guidance defines integrity as “the ability of a property to convey its historical associations or attributes. The evaluation of integrity is somewhat of a subjective judgment, but it must always be grounded in an understanding of a property’s physical features and how they relate to its historical associations or attributes.”

Thus, a property with integrity exhibits the preservation of its features from the period of its historical significance. For example, if properties are significant examples of design or construction and nominated under Criterion 4, they must retain the majority of features that constitute the style or technique recognized as significant. The seven “aspects” of integrity that apply to National Historic Landmark evaluations are described below. They are the same as the seven aspects of integrity that apply to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Seven Aspects of Integrity

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the significant events occurred. Most properties associated with this theme will remain in their original location.

Design is the combination of elements that creates the historic form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. Design includes such factors as the organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation, and materials.

Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. For properties considered under this theme study, the setting includes the character of the places where they were developed, as well as their siting in those places.

Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history. Workmanship can be important in illustrating a time period associated with an event. This quality is particularly important for architecturally significant properties.

Feeling is a property’s expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. It results from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey a property’s historic character.

Association is the direct link between an important historic theme, event, or person and a historic property. A property retains integrity of association if it is the place where the event occurred and can still convey that historic relationship to an observer.

Evaluating Integrity

Three basic steps are followed to assess the integrity of a property:

1. Identify the essential physical features that represent its significance;
2. Determine whether the essential physical features are apparent and intact; and
3. Compare the property with similar properties in the nationally significant theme.³

Each step is related to the historical significance of the property. For example, an essential physical feature of a significant Japanese *gakuen* (school) may be the existence of the floorplan that reflects classrooms. In step 1, this and other important features should be identified, such as building materials and the essential building form. If the floorplan is apparent and intact—for example, without later partitions to create apartments—step 2 may be met for this feature. The third step concerns both the relative significance of a property and its integrity compared to properties with similar significance. In this example, if the integrity of the *gakuen* has been compromised in some way, and another school with comparable national significance has excellent integrity, the school with better integrity may be considered a better representation of Japanese American education.

In some cases and with considerable discussion, the application of stringent integrity requirements may vary for AAPI properties that are unique or that represent a rare or vanishing resource type. In the example of the *gakuen*, there may not be any similar properties related to this educational context, so certain impairments in integrity may be found acceptable. A property's relative level of integrity needs to be assessed and justified by the nomination preparer. Slightly compromised integrity also may be acceptable for resources that represent an ephemeral type or transient function, such as outbuildings on a farm or plantation that have been altered for other uses. This is particularly true if other aspects of integrity are overwhelmingly intact—or if Criterion 6 (archeology) is the key to significance. For example, some Japanese American World War II internment camps have few physical features aboveground (therefore they may lack integrity of design, materials, and workmanship), but if they have a high degree of integrity of setting, location, feeling, and association, other defi-

ciencies in integrity may not be a drawback to eligibility. If the archeological record is also deemed significant, the site could have even greater value.

Pacific Island sites may embody powerful cultural, spiritual, and historical meaning and be considered, in terms of the NHL program, as traditional cultural places (TCPs) or traditional cultural landscapes. These sites may have strong cultural values that are not diminished by changes that would seem to compromise the integrity of other sites. An example could be modern development on a site that otherwise retains its natural landscape of land and water, vegetation and topography. The degree of change should be weighed against the strength of the cultural values.

An analysis of physical integrity should be presented in Section 5 of the nomination (formerly Section 8). The Statement of Significance, Section 6 (formerly Section 7), should provide a comparative analysis, using other properties of a similar type or history.

Integrity Considerations for AAPI Non-archeological Resources

The integrity of properties considered exceptionally significant for their relationship to AAPI history are evaluated in the same way as resources without this association; however, in some cases, there are moderating issues. Factors that may moderate integrity evaluations could relate to the small number of permanent resources associated with an AAPI group for political, cultural or economic reasons; the recent arrival of some AAPI groups; overt actions by the government to limit property ownership; and a transient history due to various immigration or resettlement programs. For example, AAPI history is marked by state and federal laws that encouraged—even required—discriminatory practices related to land ownership. The alien land laws passed by many states limited the ability of Asian immigrants to own farmland and other real estate. The alien land laws did not name specific groups that were targeted, but referred to “aliens ineligible for citizenship,” which generally referred to Chinese and Japanese natives (and other AAPI groups) who were ineligible for citizenship. These laws were finally ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in 1952, but for nearly a century in some states, Asian non-citizens could not own property.

Resources associated with Japanese Americans on

the west coast may have been reduced further by the imposed incarceration during World War II. When Japanese Americans were sent to internment camps, typically they were forced to abandon property and in many cases they were not able to reclaim it after the war. Thus, Japanese Americans were forcibly removed from shops, houses, factories, farms, and more in the proscribed military areas on the West Coast. Japanese American history in these areas may be poorly represented by standing resources, and those that remain may have compromised integrity due to changing uses and forced abandonment or encroachment by others. Other Asian groups, notably the Hmong and Vietnamese, were brought to the United States in the wake of war. Arriving with few resources, their early history is often linked to public housing, community centers, and churches. Although these were vital places providing physical and emotional comfort, links may be tenuous and fragmented.

These factors can indicate atypical relationships with property associated with Americans who have been less transient and less manipulated by government policy. Coupled with the menial, transitory work that was the lot of many Asian immigrants, tangible community building during the early years after arrival may be minimally evident in some places and in some periods. Although concrete data is not available, the number and age of buildings, structures, and sites related to AAPI history and culture may not be representative of the presence of these immigrants in many places.

For these reasons, every aspect of integrity should be considered within the framework of AAPI relationships with place. An actual shortage of resources related to AAPI culture may influence integrity evaluations of those that are extant. The evaluation of AAPI resources should consider that built cultural resources associated with AAPI groups may be minimal or compromised due to circumstances beyond their control. If there is a demonstrated rarity of built resources associated with the history of AAPI groups, for the reasons discussed, certain aspects of integrity might be judged less stringently. This should not be a consideration for archeological resources.

Integrity Considerations for AAPI Archeological Resources

Archeological integrity is based on a site-specific

evaluation of conditions in terms of the potential to provide data relevant to archeological or anthropological questions of national significance. National significance, in turn, refers to either the *already recovered* or the demonstrated *potential to recover* data that has the ability to make a major contribution to the existing body of information. Examples of major contributions include the data's ability—once recovered, analyzed, and interpreted—to resolve a longstanding debate, challenge or revise the received wisdom on a given topic, or fill a knowledge or data gap in terms of what is known about a particular culture, place, practice, topic, or theme in American history and archeology.

The degree or nature of any disturbance—and whether it is the result of human agency (e.g. changes in land use, looting, agricultural activity, etc.) or natural forces (e.g. wind, water, erosion, burrowing animals, etc.)—is evaluated both horizontally (across the site) and vertically (moving downward through the strata comprising the site). This assists in assessing whether the site retains sufficient integrity to warrant designation. Archeological sites important for information they have already yielded (i.e., that have been largely or even entirely excavated) may still be eligible for designation if the data and knowledge they have generated are determined to meet the threshold of national significance.

THE NHL CRITERIA AND CRITERIA EXCEPTIONS APPLIED TO AAPI PROPERTIES

Properties nominated for National Historic Landmark designation must be nationally significant under at least one of the NHL criteria. Nominated properties may be eligible under more than one criterion, but for each applied, exceptional national significance must be demonstrated. In this section, application of the criteria to AAPI properties is illustrated through a number of examples. These examples are considered good and accurate applications of the NHL criteria. For those designated under more than one criterion, the most significant or best developed criterion is discussed.

APPLYING CRITERION 1: ASSOCIATION WITH IMPORTANT EVENTS

Properties significant under Criterion 1 are “associated with events that have made a significant contribution to,

and are identified with, or that outstandingly represent the broad national patterns of United States history and from which an understanding and appreciation of those patterns may be gained.”⁴ The essays in this theme study outline many aspects of AAPI history and aspects of specific histories of different AAPI groups. They provide a perspective of some important “events,” referring to specific incidents, cultural patterns, and political and economic movements and developments. They are not comprehensive, but demonstrate how the history of one culture may apply to an evaluation of the history of another. For example, demonstrations by workers or students affiliated with one group agitating for change may pertain to other groups doing the same. In regard to specific properties, the significance of a cannery to Chinese American history might suggest how a nomination for a different agricultural processing plant associated with Filipino workers might also reflect nationally significant events. Furthermore, it may suggest how the nomination might be structured.

The NHL examples represent a range of history stories, including the development of communities resulting in Chinatowns and Japantowns, AAPI involvement in building the nation’s railroads, and AAPI contributions to agriculture and mining. As citizens and resisters, AAPIs’ activism resulted in changes to immigration and labor laws and led to positive ethnic identification in universities via new course offerings and majors related to AAPI history and culture.

For properties to represent the theme in terms of Criterion 1, a clear association with the AAPI population during the identified period of significance must be demonstrated. Properties must clearly represent a contribution, development, or watershed moment within the history of a specific AAPI group or groups. To be nationally significant, such resources must have an impact at a national level, for example by setting a precedent that is followed by others, influencing the nation’s laws or legal system, or representing innovative contributions to any number of disciplines or endeavors. The history represented by Criterion 1 must clearly demonstrate the relationship of AAPIs to the history of the United States.

NHLs Designated Under Criterion 1

The significance of the following properties nominated under Criterion 1 is summarized in this section,

in the order listed.

- **U.S. Immigration Center, Angel Island**, Marin County, California
- **Harada House**, Riverside, California
- **Kam Wah Chung Company Building**, John Day, Oregon
- **Bodie Historic District**, Bodie, California
- **Kake Cannery**, Kake, Alaska
- **The Forty Acres**, Delano, California
- **Government House**, Pago Pago, American Samoa
- **Granada Relocation Center**, Granada, Colorado
- **Iolani Palace**, Honolulu, Hawai‘i
- **Kawaiaha‘o Church and Mission Houses**, Honolulu, Hawai‘i
- **Old Sugar Mill**, Kōloa, Hawai‘i
- **Pi‘ilanihale Heiau**, Maui County, Hawai‘i

U.S. Immigration Center, Angel Island

(NHL 1998, NRHP 1971)

Marin County, California

Ethnic Heritage: Asian

Criteria: 1 (Politics/Government and Military) and 5 (historic district)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=a29a579c-1873-4802-804f-b3f15d4a30fo>

The U.S. Immigration Center on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay is nationally significant as the major West Coast processing center for immigrants to the United States arriving between 1910 and 1940. The majority of immigrants passing through the Angel Island facility were Asian. Harsh treatment was not unusual, but the Chinese were particularly targeted—with long periods of detention and grueling testimony intended to detect those immigrating with fraudulent paperwork. Graffiti on the walls in Chinese reveals the toll the immigration process took on individuals. After 1940, the Immigration Station was transferred to the U.S. Army and became the North Garrison of Fort McDowell (the entire island was Fort McDowell). Although not important to this theme study but considered a significant aspect of the fort’s history in the nomination, the facility housed German and Japanese prisoners of war and members of the Italian Service Units from 1942 to 1946. The nomination does not mention the role of Angel Island in Japanese American history. Japanese Americans from Hawai‘i were processed at

Angel Island en route to the mainland relocation centers.⁵ The nomination could be amended to address this aspect of the North Garrison's history.

Harada House (NHL 1990, NRHP 1977)

Riverside, California

Ethnic Heritage: Japanese

Criteria: 1 (Law and Ethnic Heritage)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=-164da850-d9fe-4333-8ca6-b7bd8954b351>

This architecturally undistinguished house, built in 1884, represents the first test of the constitutionality of the California Alien Land Law of 1913, which barred non-citizens from owning land. In 1915, Jukichi Harada purchased the house for his family under his three children's names. Born in the U.S., the children were American citizens, and thus able to own real estate. In *California v. Harada* (1916 to 1918) the Riverside Superior Court ruled that all native-born citizens could own land, even minor children of immigrant parents.

Kam Wah Chung Company Building

(NHL 2005, NRHP 1973)

John Day, Oregon

Ethnic Heritage: Chinese

Criteria: 1 (Commerce, Exploration/Settlement, Health/Medicine, Social History, Ethnic Heritage)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=a37edbc6-c117-4497-8faf-881709bdoab9>

The Kam Wah Chung Company Building, located in the eastern Oregon community of John Day, is the only standing structure that remains as a reminder of the town's once thriving Chinese community. Built c.1866 as a trading post, the building later served as a commercial, social, cultural, and spiritual center for the Chinese settlement of John Day. The Kam Wah Chung Company Building is considered the best known example of a Chinese mercantile and herb store in the United States, representing the Chinese role in the post-Civil War expansion period of the American West.

Bodie Historic District

(National Historic Site 1961, NHL 1966)

Bodie, California

Ethnic Heritage: Chinese

Criteria: 1 (Community Planning/Development, Industry, Ethnic Heritage) The application of Criterion 1 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=e4ed82ee-oebo-421f-ad8c-76c138e98aa1>

The Bodie Historic District, the best-preserved ghost town from the California gold rush period, is located



Kam Wah Chung Company Building, northeast view. Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places.

ed seven miles south of Bridgeport, California, in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. It is an excellent example of an American West boomtown and the accompanying lifestyle that developed in western mining communities. Many Chinese came to live and work in Bodie during its early years, where they supplied a substantial workforce for the local gold mining industry. The Chinatown that developed in Bodie boasted a Taoist temple and a number of opium dens. More than 100 historic buildings remain in the district, conveying Bodie between its founding in 1859 and its demise in 1942, when mining was finally suspended and the last residents left the town. Although not mentioned in the documentation, the historic district represents Chinese contributions to mining and the development of Bodie.

Kake Cannery (NHL and NRHP 1997)

Kake, Alaska

Ethnic Heritage: Multiple

Criteria: 1 (Maritime History, Industry, and Social History) and 5 (historic district)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=ebfefa8c-21fa-49f7-a620-2112cof2f118>

The Kake Cannery was designated a National Historic Landmark under the Labor History theme study. It encompasses multiple areas of significance, but the most important for the AAPI theme study are industry and social history. Chinese, Japanese, and Filipino workers comprised the primary contract labor force, helping launch the salmon canning industry as Alaska’s largest industry in the first half of the 20th century. During the period of significance (1912 to 1940), the Kake Cannery emulated trends in labor practices of the Pacific salmon canning industry, which corresponded with national patterns of immigration and labor organization. The physical plan of the cannery exhibits the use of foreign contract labor, with work areas defined by cultural groups that performed specific tasks. The Kake Cannery retains an unmatched degree of integrity among the very few original Alaska canneries that are extant.⁶

The Forty Acres (NHL and NRHP 2008)

Delano, California

Ethnic Heritage: Pacific Islander

Criteria: 1 (Economics, Social History, and Ethnic



Government House, Pago Pago, American Samoa, aerial view of the northernmost tip of the island. Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places.

Heritage—Pacific Island and Hispanic) and 2 (association with Césarío Estrada Chávez) Exception 8 (Less than 50 years of age)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=f-53395cd-4de9-4451-a248-47902207100f>

The Forty Acres in Delano, California, became the first national headquarters of the United Farm Workers of America, the first permanent agricultural labor union in the United States. The property is nationally significant for its association with the farm workers’ movement and with the influential career of César Chávez, the most significant leader of the movement from 1962 to 1993 and the most important Latino labor leader in the history of the United States. Larry Itliong, a Filipino who was a leader of the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, and

Chávez, leader of the National Farm Workers Association, combined efforts in the Delano grape strike that began in 1965. The collaboration resulted in formation of the United Farm Workers of America, with headquarters at The Forty Acres. The movement gained nationwide support and was ultimately successful in gaining a collective bargaining agreement for workers in 1970 and a number of subsequent gains for agricultural workers. The National Historic Landmark nomination notes the importance of the property to Filipino American history.

Government House (NHL 1990, NRHP 1972)

Pago Pago, American Samoa

Ethnic Heritage: American Samoa

Criteria: 1 (Politics/Government and Military) and Exception 8 (at the time of designation, the end date of the period of significance was less than fifty years ago)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=b325643b-6630-4e67-9fcf-b245c039ec87>

The Government House was built in 1903 by the U.S. Navy at the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila to serve as a residence for naval governors, shortly after the United States gained control of Eastern (American) Samoa. The two-story, frame house is the most enduring, land-based symbol of American naval and diplomatic might in the South Pacific. In essence the capitol of American Samoa

through much of its history, the house has served as the official residence of civilian governors since 1951.

Japanese American World War II Sites

The NHL theme study *Japanese Americans in World War II* provides a historical context and guidance on nominating places associated with the Japanese American wartime experience in the United States. The theme study, which can be found on the NHL website, includes summary descriptions of designated and potential NHLs.⁷ The following summary of the nomination for the Granada Relocation Center (Amache) provides an example of the application of Criteria 1 and 4 to one of the Japanese American World War II properties.

Granada Relocation Center, also known as Camp Amache (NHL 2006, NRHP 1994)

Prowers County, Colorado

Ethnic Heritage: Japanese

Criteria: 1 (Law, Politics/Government, Social History, and Ethnic Heritage) and 4 (Planning)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=04b78227-faff-42ec-974d-cf11a836434c>

The site of the Granada Relocation Center, commonly called “Amache,” is one of several relocation centers designated National Historic Landmarks. The designated area encompasses 593 acres that was the core of the



Granada Relocation Center, Colorado, historic view.
Photo courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration.



'Iolani Palace, front and side elevations.
Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places.

center's developed area. It includes the sites of detainee housing, administration, military police, a warehouse, support areas, and the center cemetery. A small number of buildings remain, as well as the historic road network and a number of building foundations. The grid and functional divisions are apparent, and the layout of buildings is evident by the remaining foundations. The remarkable integrity of the plan suggested the application of Criterion 4, while the association of the complex with the World War II forced confinement confirmed the application of Criterion 1. The intact and visible layout of the center provides a strong sense of the size of the installation and its military layout. The integrity of location, setting, association, and feeling are compelling and lend significance that compensates for the absence of buildings. Although entirely probable that the site has a high degree of information potential, the property was not evaluated under Criterion 6.

'Iolani Palace (NHL 1962, NRHP 1966)

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (Politics/Government) The application of Criterion 1 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=4247173b-49a0-4d6f-8766-e32e0455fea8>

Known as the only royal palace in the United States, 'Iolani Palace was the official residence of the last two

rulers of the Kingdom of Hawai'i, King Kalakaua and Queen Liliuokalani. As such, it is the most important surviving symbol of the days of Hawaiian independence. Designed and constructed from 1879 to 1882, it combines Italianate and Second Empire details. In 1898, the formal transference of the sovereignty of the Hawaiian Islands to the United States took place on the palace steps.

Kawaiaha'o Church and Mission Houses

(NHL 1962, NRHP 1966)

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (History of Hawai'i—the only area of significance noted on the nomination form)

The application of Criterion 1 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=8e0189a0-c577-4a61-b8c6-5fa5ab659aa1>

The impressive stone church, dating from 1838 to 1842, is the best representative of the work and influence of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions in the Hawaiian Islands. The Kawaiaha'o Church was a mission of the original Mission Church, founded in Boston in 1819. As Hawaii's state church, it was used for inaugurations and other services associated with the Kingdom of Hawai'i. Earlier buildings associated with the missionary effort survive nearby. The earliest, a prefabricated building dating from 1820, was built in Boston, disassembled, shipped to the "Sandwich Islands," and

re-erected “for the comfort of the ladies.” When nominated as an NHL, its significance was considered to be the “History of Hawai‘i,” but today we would consider it to be associated with the areas Ethnic Heritage, Politics/Government, Religion, and perhaps Architecture.

Old Sugar Mill of Kōloa (NHL 1962, NRHP 1966)
Kauai County, Hawai‘i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (Industry) and 6 (Archeology)

The application of Criteria 1 and 6 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=68dob514-a38a-4b06-9fcr-ocf42b49c2a6>

The first commercially successful sugar plantation was established on the island of Kauai by Ladd and Company in 1835, marking the foundation of what became the largest industry in Hawai‘i. Although native Hawaiians had grown sugar cane earlier, with commercial success sugar became pivotal in Hawaiian economics and politics, and was influential in the decision of the United States to annex the islands. The 10-acre site is marked by ruins of the enterprise; the massive stone base of the chimney and stone foundations of the mill date from the early 1840s.

Pi‘ilanihale Heiau (NHL 1964, NRHP 1966)

Maui County, Hawai‘i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (Politics/Government and Religion), 4 (Architecture), and 6 (Archeology) The application of Criteria 1, 4, and 6 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=ce-4646ae-b8b6-43fo-8od9-8a3c16969eef>

The Pi‘ilanihale Heiau, located near the town of Hana on the Island of Maui, is the largest Heiau—place of worship—on Maui and one of the most important archaeological sites in the Hawaiian Islands. It is exceptionally well preserved, with massive stone walls forming stepped terraces. Constructed in stages beginning in the 13th century, Pi‘ilanihale Heiau measures approximately 340 feet by 425 feet. Inside the massive exterior walls, lesser walls and enclosures exist. The nomination notes several

areas of significance that indicate application of the NHL Criteria noted above; however, the documentation is out of date, so for this summary a National Park Service website was consulted.⁸

APPLYING CRITERION 2: ASSOCIATION WITH SIGNIFICANT PEOPLE

Properties significant under Criterion 2 are associated with people who made contributions significant in American history. Their contributions may have impacted the lives of AAPI people or may represent AAPI contributions to American culture. Their association with the property must coincide with the period when they achieved national significance, and the association must be substantial. The essays of this theme study identify a number of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who made significant contributions to American history and culture, law, science, commerce, industry, and more. For properties to represent the theme in terms of Criterion 2, the individual must have significantly impacted the lives of AAPI people or the individual’s accomplishments must significantly represent AAPI history or culture. Simply *being* of AAPI descent does not convey national significance.

NHLs Designated Under Criterion 2

Properties designated under Criterion 2 are significant for their association with an Asian American or Pacific Islander (or someone not of AAPI heritage who is strongly associated with AAPI history or culture) who played an important role in American history.

- **George Nakashima Woodworkers Complex**, New Hope, Pennsylvania
- **Washington Place**, Honolulu, Hawai‘i
- **Pearl S. Buck House**, Dublin, Pennsylvania
- **Kalaupapa Leprosy Settlement**, Kalaupapa, Hawai‘i

George Nakashima Woodworkers Complex (NHL 2014, NRHP 2008)

New Hope, Pennsylvania

Ethnic Heritage: Japanese

Criteria: 2 (George Nakashima), 4 (Architecture, Art—American Craft movement, Engineering), and Exception 8 (less than 50 years of age)

<https://www.nps.gov/nhl/find/statelists/pa/GeorgeNakashimaWoodworkerComplex.pdf>



George Nakashima's studio and workshop. Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places.

George Nakashima is recognized as one of America's most eminent furniture designer-craftsman and a significant force in the American Craft movement of the mid-20th century, a seminal period for woodworking in the United States. As a self-proclaimed "woodworker," Nakashima became an important voice for the artist craftsmen, helping to create a new paradigm for studio furniture production in the postwar period. This is the basis of the significance of the property under Criterion 2, with AAPI significance achieved because Nakashima's work was influenced by his Japanese heritage. According to the NHL documentation, his exposure to Eastern religions and Japanese craft traditions taught him the value of humility and to seek peace, beauty, and harmony through his work. The Nakashima complex consists of 21 resources he designed and built in an innovative, Japanese influenced International Style design. Criterion Exception 8 was applied, because many of the buildings in the complex are less than 50 years old.

Washington Place (NHL 2007, NRHP 1973)

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (Politics/Government and Social History) and 2 (Queen Lili'uokalani)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=95c9bde4-93ff-4b86-bdf6-28dof67acc55>

Washington Place was the long-time home of the last Hawaiian monarch. It represents America's efforts to expand its influence and territory in the Pacific. Built in the 1840s as the elegant residence of wealthy American trader John Dominis, Washington Place later housed the

U.S. Legation to the Hawaiian Kingdom. It became the private residence of the future monarch, Queen Lili'uokalani, after her 1862 marriage to John Owen Dominis, the son of the original owner. Upon her brother's death in 1891, she became monarch during a challenging period when American commercial and military interests sought to expand their already dominant influence in most aspects of Hawaiian life. The Queen's efforts to maintain the security and national identity of her kingdom prompted an American-backed coup d'état that overthrew the constitutional monarchy in 1893. The resulting provisional government was more favorable to American interests. Formal annexation by the United States followed in 1898. After the former Queen's death, Washington Place served as the official governor's mansion from 1919 to 1959. The criteria used to establish the property's significance reflect its importance in Hawaiian and U.S. history and its association with Queen Lili'uokalani.

Pearl S. Buck House (NHL 1980, NRHP 1974)

Dublin, Pennsylvania

Ethnic Heritage: Chinese

Criteria: 1 (Literature and Social/Humanitarian) and 2 (Pearl S. Buck)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=333fa673-f9a3-49fd-97a6-f681b7b64a95>

Noted American novelist Pearl S. Buck maintained this mid-19th century stone farmhouse in Bucks County as her principal residence from 1933 until her death in 1973. She did much of her writing here. In 1932, she won the Pulitzer Prize for her novel *The Good Earth*, and in 1938 Buck won the Nobel Prize for literature "for rich and

genuine epic portrayals of Chinese life, and for masterpieces of biography.” Buck worked to dispel negative Asian American stereotypes through her writing and other initiatives, such as the East-West Association, which she founded in 1941 to bring entertainers and lecturers from Asia to the United States. She founded the Pearl S. Buck Foundation in 1963 to aid in the adoption and care of Amerasian children. Criterion 2 is applied because of this remarkable woman’s achievements in literature and in fostering appreciation for Chinese culture.

Kalaupapa Leprosy Settlement

(NHL and NRHP 1976, National Historic Park 1980)

Kalaupapa, Hawai‘i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (Community Planning, Religion, Social/ Humanitarian), 2 (Father Joseph Damien), 4 (Architecture), 6 (Archeology) The application of Criteria 1, 2, 4, and 6 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=322a82dd-d087-4bde-98bd-4902dd7f2635>

This windswept peninsula on Molokai’s northern coast was the site of a leper colony established in 1866 to curb an epidemic among native Hawaiians. Belgian priest Father Joseph Damien, “Martyr of Molokai,” volunteered to minister here in 1873 and died a victim of the disease in



Kalaupapa Leprosy Settlement, view from the lighthouse to the southeast. Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places.

1889. The site, which includes Fr. Damien’s Saint Philomena Church, became a National Historical Park in 1980.

APPLYING CRITERION 3: AMERICAN IDEALS

Properties eligible under NHL Criterion 3 are strongly associated with the most profound ideas and ideals of American democracy. Such properties related to AAPI history may have been associated with successful efforts to secure equal rights, including the right to own property, to have a free and equal education, to secure work and own businesses, and to vote and hold office. Thus, properties associated with American ideals may be public buildings where important decisions were made that affected AAPI rights, such as courthouses, statehouses, and city halls. They may be businesses, houses or schools where important civil actions were instigated; or that are tangible reminders of discriminatory practices toward AAPI people that were abandoned or revised to reflect American ideals; or places where stands were made to highlight and change discriminatory practices.

Criterion 3 is seldom used, but AAPI achievements in securing equal rights may present opportunities for its application. One of the few properties nominated under Criterion 3—in this case related to African American history—is the Brown Chapel AME Church in Selma, Alabama. Criterion 3 was applied because actions at the church are strongly associated with the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. Members of the church and the building itself played pivotal roles in the Selma to Montgomery marches that contributed to passage of the Voting Rights Act. At this writing there are no properties related to AAPI history that have been nominated under Criterion 3.

APPLYING CRITERION 4: ARCHITECTURE/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Properties that are exceptionally important works for their design are nominated under Criterion 4. To be eligible for NHL designation, the property should be an iconic or benchmark work for a nationally significant architect or landscape architect. A property can also be eligible under Criterion 4 if it is an important example of a noted type, period, or method of construction. To be nationally significant, the property should have an exemplary or innovative quality and a high level of integrity compared to others of a similar type.

- **Panama Hotel**, Seattle, Washington
- **Mo'okini Heiau**, Hawi, Hawai'i

NHLs Designated Under Criterion 4

Properties designated under Criterion 4 are significant as works of architectural or landscape architectural design reflecting AAPI cultural influences. To be nationally significant, the design should be exceptional as an executed work with an AAPI association, which may include association with an AAPI master designer.

Panama Hotel (NHL and NRHP 2006)

Seattle, Washington

Ethnic Heritage: Japanese

Criteria: 1 (Ethnic Heritage) and 4 (Architecture)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=fb3b719e-66db-4440-97ea-a1c645d4e704>

Located in Seattle's International District, the Panama Hotel contains one of the best remaining examples of a Japanese-style bathhouse in the United States in the hotel's basement. Bathing was a valued tradition in Japan, and bathhouses—*Hashidate Yu*— were among the most significant building traditions and cultural practices

brought to the United States by Japanese immigrants. At one time, there were hundreds of Japanese-style bathhouses in the western United States. Now there are only two known; the other is at Walnut Grove, California.

Built in 1910, the Panama Hotel was designed by Sabro Ozasa, one of a few Japanese American architects at the time and the first Japanese American architect to practice in Seattle. The hotel is located in the heart of the traditional *Nihonmachi*, or Japantown, and has provided temporary lodging for nine decades. The Panama Hotel is especially valuable for the study of early Japanese immigrants and their cultural retention and adaptation.

Mo'okini Heiau (NHL 1962, NRHP 1966)

Hawi, Hawai'i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (Religion), 4 (Architecture), 6 (Archeology), and Criteria Exception 4 (birthplace).

The application of Criteria 1, 4, and 6 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=adfria376-c540-45d3-bff3-3cda7f693483>

This massive platform, with its open, stone-paved court, was a temple of the rulers—a state temple, or *luakini*—where human sacrifices were performed. It is one of the most important traditional sites in Hawai'i because of its association with the legendary Polynesian priest Pa'ao, who is believed to have introduced new religious and social concepts to the islands c.1370. The landmark, a unit of the Kohala Historical Sites State Monument, also contains the nearby birthplace of King Kamehameha I, who founded the Kingdom of Hawai'i in 1795.

APPLYING CRITERION 5: DISTRICTS

Areas that contain a number of resources that collectively are important for their historical, artistic, or archeological significance can be eligible under Criterion 5. As historic districts, they may be an entire community, a discrete section of a city that comprises the local Chinatown, Japantown, or Little Manila, or a rural area. Districts may be areas that have a single, short-lived purpose, such as a mining or lumber camp, or they may be a complex of buildings whose purpose and appearance evolved over time, such as the U.S. Immigration Center at Angel Island (described under Criterion 1, above).



Historic image of the Panama Hotel. Photo from King County Assessor's Office, Property Record Cards, courtesy of the Washington State Archives, Division of Archives and Records Management, Puget Sound Regional Branch.



Main streets, Locke, California.
Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places, 1970.

NHLs Designated Under Criterion 5

Properties designated under Criterion 5 are significant as districts. Although the criterion is not always applied, the following represent AAPI districts that have been designated NHLs.

- **Locke Historic District**, Locke, California
- **Little Tokyo Historic District**, Los Angeles, California
- **Lâhainâ Historic District**, Lâhainâ, Hawai‘i

Locke Historic District (NHL 1990, NRHP 1971) Locke, California

Ethnic Heritage: Chinese

Criteria: 1 (Ethnic Heritage) and 5 (District)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=7c-e3cdb3-577a-4550-a532-becc4043f218>

Locke, founded in 1915, is the largest and most intact example of a rural Chinese American community in the nation. More than 50 closely spaced commercial and residential frame buildings comprise what has been called a “frontier Chinatown.” Locke is the only such community remaining in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River delta, where a large number of Chinese immigrants settled.

Little Tokyo Historic District (NHL 1995, NRHP 1986)

Los Angeles, California

Ethnic Heritage: Japanese

Criteria: 1 (Ethnic Heritage), Criteria Exception 1 (religious property) Criterion 5 applies but was not used in the nomination.

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=4e-ba7631-720a-465c-9dda-28ccc021ab58>

This small historic district, also known as Japantown, is directly southeast of the Los Angeles Civic Center. Little Tokyo served as a haven for newly arrived Japanese immigrants prior to World War II. It became the largest concentration of Japanese American centers in the United States. Little Tokyo Historic District reflects the ethnic heritage of Japanese Americans, despite enormous losses that occurred after 1942 when Japanese Americans in West Coast areas, including Los Angeles, were forced into “relocation” centers. Although after the war the community never fully recovered from the wartime evacuation, it still serves as the center of Japanese American culture in Los Angeles.

Lâhainâ Historic District (NHL 1962, NRHP 1966) Lâhainâ, Hawai‘i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (Commerce, Political, Religion/Philosophy, Social/Humanitarian, Transportation), 4 (Architecture), and 5 (historic district). The application of Criteria 1, 4, and 5 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=2a63dfe5-a9fb-4784-a6c9-bb2733of7d8a>

Lâhainâ, a port town, was a favorite residence of Maui kings and chiefs before Maui was incorporated into the Hawaiian Kingdom. It served as the royal residence and capital of the Hawaiian Kingdom from 1820 to 1845, in the period Hawai‘i was changing from a traditional chiefdom to a constitutional monarchy. From c. 1830 to 1860, the American whaling fleet made Lâhainâ an annual port of call. The core of the small town preserves the architecture and character of a mid-19th century Hawaiian seaport.

APPLYING CRITERION 6: ARCHEOLOGY

Properties significant under Criterion 6 are commonly archeological sites or properties with archeological components or potential. They contain or have provided archeologically relevant data with national significance, and retain a high degree of archeological integrity. For more information, please see the earlier section in this appendix, “A Note on Archeological Resources.”

NHLs Designated Under Criterion 6

The following properties were designated NHLs under Criterion 6. Hawai‘i has a particularly rich collection of archeological sites related to AAPI culture. Summaries of their significance are provided below.

- **Huilua Fishpond**, Kaneohe, Hawai‘i
- **Hokukano-Ualapue Complex**, Molokai, Hawai‘i
- **Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park**, Kailua-Kona, Hawai‘i
- **Kaunolu Village Site**, Lanai City Vicinity, Hawai‘i
- **Kamakahonu**, Kailua-Kona, Hawai‘i
- **Loaloa Heiau**, Honolulu, Hawai‘i
- **Mauna Kea Adz Quarry**, Hilo, Hawai‘i
- **Ka Lea (South Point) Complex**, Nā‘ālehu, Hawai‘i

Huilua Fishpond (NHL 1962, NRHP 1966)

Kaneohe, Hawai‘i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 6 (Archeology)

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=a875d21e-24fd-4639-a1f3-2ace36c1f535>

The Huilua Fishpond, which was operational well into the 20th century, is one of the few surviving fishponds of an estimated 97 that once existed along the coast of Oahu. Fishponds were constructed for hatching and keeping fish; they were unique achievements of ancient Hawaiians in their extensive aquaculture practice.

Hokukano-Ualapue Complex (NHL 1962)

Molokai, Hawai‘i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 6 (Archeology)

These discontinuous sites form one of the most important and impressive archeological complexes in Hawai‘i. Six temple platforms and two fishponds are testament

to the architectural and engineering achievements and to the political and economic power that evolved on Molokai between 1500 and 1778, when contact with the West was made.

Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park

(NHL 1962, NRHP 1978)

Kailua-Kona, Hawai‘i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 6 (Archeology)

Because of its ideal landing places for canoes and its fishponds, the Honokōhau coastal area was important to ancient Hawaiian Island chiefs and their descendants. This settlement location includes numerous ancient house sites, temples, fishponds, a sled run, tombs, and scattered petroglyphs. It is now included within the boundaries of the Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park.

Kaunolu Village Site (NHL 1962, NRHP 1966)

Lanai City Vicinity, Hawai‘i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 6 (Archeology)

Remains of this former village on Lanai’s leeward coast represent nearly all phases of Hawaiian culture. The state’s largest surviving example of a prehistoric fishing community, Kaunolu included at least 86 house platforms, at a time when 10 were typical of such communities. The Village was a favorite deep sea fishing location for King Kamehameha I, from c. 1778 to 1810. It was abandoned in the 1870s.

Kamakahonu (NHL 1962, NRHP 1966)

Kailua-Kona, Hawai‘i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (Politics/Government, Religion),

2 (Kamehameha I and Kamehameha II),

and 6 (Archeology). The application of Criteria 1, 2, and 6 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=d-baa161a-c22b-472a-b97f-d80fcec61d4>

Kamakahonu was the home of Kamehameha I, unifier of the Hawaiian Islands, from 1812 until his death in 1819.



View to north of Manawainui Valley from the highest platform in the Eastern Division of the Heiau. Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places.

The residential compound included the Ahuena *heiau* (personal temple) of the king. His son and heir King Kamehameha II (Liholiho) abolished the traditional religious system, and less than a year after Kamehameha I's death the first missionaries to the Hawaiian Islands landed at this location. The site is now within the grounds of a hotel. Several of the buildings associated with Kamehameha have been reconstructed, but they are not considered part of the site's national significance.

Loaloa Heiau (NHL 1962, NRHP 1966)

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (Architecture, Politics/Government, Religion) and 6 (Archeology) The application of Criteria 1 and 6 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

<http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=e5d6f8c6-7160-46ff-8f39-13a65aee1493>

This hillside temple site is one of the few intact examples of a state sacrificial temple. Once the center of an important cultural complex, the raised platform at the site may have been built c. 1730 by Kekaulike, a king of Maui. When nominated, the site was considered to have the potential to contribute valuable information about the aboriginal architecture, politics and government, and ancient religion of Hawai'i.

Mauna Kea Adz Quarry (NHL 1962, NRHP 1966) Hilo, Hawai'i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (Ethnic Heritage, Industry) and 6 (Archeology) The application of Criteria 1 and 6 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

Located at the top of Mauna Kea at an elevation of 12,000 feet, the large complex of archeological sites constitutes the largest primitive rock quarry in the world. It was used by ancient Hawaiians to obtain basalt and to make various stone tools, as evidenced by extensive heaps of basalt flakes and debris. The adz or adze is an ancient type of tool, similar to an axe in shape. The archeological complex contains more than 35 shrines and other ancient features.

Ka Lea (South Point) Complex

(NHL 1962, NRHP 1966)

Nâ'âlehu, Hawai'i

Ethnic Heritage: Hawaiian

Criteria: 1 (Ethnic Heritage) and 6 (Archeology) The application of Criteria 1 and 6 is assumed; the nomination pre-dates use of the Criteria.

This multifaceted site provides the longest and most complete archeological record of human occupation in the Hawaiian Islands. Fire hearths, a temple platform, canoe mooring holes, and salt pans are included in the complex. Through carbon 14 testing, a date of ca. A.D. 124 has been obtained at one house site, establishing it as one of the earliest recorded occupations in Hawai'i.

APPLYING THE NHL CRITERIA EXCEPTIONS

The National Historic Landmark Criteria Exceptions allow for the designation of properties that are ordinarily excluded from designation. Each exception is addressed below in terms of its relevance to the Asian American/Pacific Islander theme study.

Applying Exception 1: Religious Properties

Religion and spirituality were important aspects of Asian American and Pacific Islander cultural traditions. Many settlements by AAPI people were marked by the construction of temples and churches, which eventually may

have become the focal point of the community. Exception 1 is applied when temples, mosques, churches, and other houses of worship are nominated for NHL designation. They must derive their national significance from architectural or artistic merit or historical and cultural associations. Exception 1 does not need to be addressed if the religious institution is located in a historic district and it is not the focal point of the district. If a property is eligible under Criterion 6 for its information potential, Exception 1 does not need to be applied.

Exception 1 is not thought to have been applied to any NHL designations associated with AAPI history and culture at this writing, but several houses of worship that are potentially eligible for NHL designation would require the application of Exception 1. These include the Oroville Chinese Temple, the Weaverville Joss House (Taoist Temple), the Mendocino Joss House (Temple of Kwan Tai), and the Enmanji Buddhist Temple—all potentially eligible under Criterion 4 for their architectural merits. The Stockton Sikh Gurdwara appears to be eligible for NHL designation under Criterion 1 for its social and political associations. In all of these cases, Exception 1 also would be applied.

Applying Exception 2: Moved Buildings

Exception 2 is applied to properties that have been moved from their original locations but retain their architectural value or national significance under another criterion.

Exception 2 has not been applied to any AAPI associated property already designated a National Historic Landmark. The Enmanji Buddhist Temple in Sebastopol, California, is the only potentially eligible property identified through this theme study to which Exception 2 would be applied. It is architecturally significant as a representation of a 12th century Kamakura-style Japanese temple. The temple was built in 1933 as part of the Chicago World's Fair exhibit for the Manchurian Railroad Company. It was subsequently sold, dismantled, and reassembled on its present site in Sebastopol.

Applying Exception 3: Sites without Buildings and Structures

Exception 3 is applied when the site of a building or structure no longer standing is considered significant because the person or event associated with it is of tran-

scendent importance in our nation's history. Exception 3 is not often applied, but it has been used for resources associated with the theme study *Japanese Americans in World War II*. This exception does not apply if the property is being nominated under Criterion 6.

Exception 3 has been applied to the Topaz Relocation Center and the Heart Mountain Relocation Center. It would not be applied to any of the potentially eligible NHL properties identified in this study, but additional research may reveal the applicability of this exception to properties not yet identified.

Applying Exception 4: Birthplace, Grave, or Burial

A person of national significance associated with the AAPI theme study might be represented by their birthplace or burial place, if no sites, buildings, or structures that represent their historical significance still exist. Exception 4 is not often applied, and its use is not appropriate for properties nominated under Criterion 6. This exception has not been applied to any AAPI properties currently designated, and no applications for this exception have become evident through this study. Additional research may reveal the applicability of this exception to properties not yet identified.

Applying Exception 5: Cemeteries

Exception 5 pertains to the designation of cemeteries. Cemeteries associated with this theme study may be considered significant for their association with the grave of a person of national significance, for an extraordinary design, or for an extremely significant event that occurred there. The use of this exception is not appropriate for properties eligible under Criterion 6.

Exception 5 was applied to the Rohwer Relocation Center Memorial Cemetery near McGehee, Arkansas, which is associated with the *Japanese Americans in World War II Theme Study*. It is the most intact component of the Rohwer Relocation Center, which operated from 1942 to 1945. The cemetery includes 24 headstones, monuments, and landscaping. Further applications of Exception 5 did not become evident through research for this study, but additional research may reveal the applicability of this exception to properties not yet identified.

Applying Exception 6: Reconstructed Properties

Exception 6 is applied to nominations for reconstructed properties, but such properties are only eligible if the reconstruction is accurate and is part of a restoration master plan, when no other buildings with the same association are extant.

Kamakahonu is a Hawaiian site comprised of several reconstructed buildings that were recreated as part of a restoration master plan in 1975 to 1977. The nomination did not identify the criteria exception, because the criteria and exceptions were not in use in 1962 when the property was nominated. Also, the nomination pre-dated the reconstructions. It is not clear if the reconstructions constitute nationally significant components of the site or intrusions. Additional applications of Exception 6 did not become evident through research conducted for this study, but additional research may reveal the applicability of this exception to properties not yet identified.

Applying Exception 7: Commemorative Properties

Exception 7 pertains to commemorative properties that have attained national significance on their own merits. This Exception has not been applied to any designated NHLs related to AAPI history or culture. If nominated, Exception 7 might apply to the Sacramento Nisei VFW Post No. 8985, also known as the Nisei War Memorial Community Center. The memorial commemorates the residents of Sacramento's lost Japantown, an area with over 300 businesses before residents were forced to relocate under the infamous Executive Order 9066.

Applying Exception 8: National Significance within the Past 50 Years

Properties less than 50 years of age are not eligible for NHL designation unless Exception 8 is applied. This Exception was applied to the George Nakashima Woodworker Complex in New Hope, Pennsylvania. Other potential applications of Exception 8 did not become evident through research conducted for this study; however, it is likely that additional research will reveal the applicability of this exception to properties not yet identified, because a number of AAPI groups are fairly recent arrivals to the U.S. For such properties, it may be possible to assess exceptional significance before 50 years have passed.

A SAMPLING OF PROPERTIES POSSIBLY ELIGIBLE FOR NHL DESIGNATION

Asian American and Pacific Islander cultural resources exist throughout the United States: in cities, towns and rural areas, and aboveground and subsurface. As discussed earlier in this chapter, because there are many resources and they relate to many different cultures, it is nearly impossible to design and carry out a nationwide cultural resource survey. Instead, state historic preservation offices, city preservation programs, and others will carry out surveys to identify resources related to AAPI historical and cultural themes on a local or regional basis.

The properties mentioned in this chapter were taken from the AAPI NHL Study List, developed as part of this theme study. Inclusion on the list and in this appendix is not a confirmation that NHL eligibility is assured. The evaluations of those included are preliminary and generally based on minimal information. However, they provide a sampling of properties associated with several ethnic and national groups related to AAPI history and culture.

The properties described in this section are organized by national or regional origin. For some groups, such as Chinese Americans and Japanese Americans, many more historic properties were noted than for others. For other groups, little information about associated resources became evident. One purpose of this theme study is to inspire people to consider where AAPI resources are located, what is important, how they correspond with the theme study contexts, and whether they are eligible to be recognized as National Historic Landmarks.

CHINESE AMERICAN RESOURCES

Six Companies (Not NRHP Listed)

**843 Stockton Street
San Francisco, California
Possible Criterion: 1**

The Chinese Six Companies refers to the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association in San Francisco. Six benevolent associations consolidated in 1882, maintaining the six original groups as branches under a main governing body. The association was located at a headquarters building on Stockton Street. The Six Com-

panies held a critical social and economic role in the development of Chinatown, helping Chinese immigrants gain employment and form businesses, develop schools and build temples, and maintain a presence at the center of community events. They also served a political and judiciary role by mediating disputes between fellow Chinese. The group eventually became a powerful national organization, known for defending the civil rights of Chinese Americans. The funds received from membership dues were used to hire successful litigators to fight unconstitutional laws aimed at Chinese residents and citizens. Six Companies helped fight cases before the United States Supreme Court, including *Chew Heong v. United States*. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of Heong, agreeing that his right to re-enter the US after leaving was protected under the 1880 Angell Treaty.

Recommendation. The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (Six Companies) is nationally significant for its role in defending the rights of Chinese immigrants, particularly following passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. Additional research is needed to determine the building's full national significance. It appears to have retained a high degree of integrity.

Forbidden City Nightclub (Not NRHP Listed)
369 Sutter Street
San Francisco, California
Possible Criterion: 1

Charlie Low opened the Forbidden City Nightclub on the outskirts of Chinatown in San Francisco in 1938. The club eventually became the most famous nightclub and cabaret among the 12 located in Chinatown. It was the setting for C. Y. Yee's best-selling novel *Flower Drum Song*, published in 1957. A year later, Rodgers and Hammerstein wrote a successful musical based on the novel, and in 1961, the musical became a Hollywood film. The nightclub provided burlesque and vaudeville-style entertainment and became the Asian American equivalent of the New York City Cotton Club.

Recommendation. The Forbidden City Nightclub may be nationally significant under Criterion 1 for its contribution to entertainment as a nightclub for AAPI people and as the backdrop for various Broadway and movie productions that attained national recognition. It helped break the barriers of the types of entertainment

that Asian Americans could enter and inspired an appreciation for Chinese women (although not all performers were Chinese, they were marketed as such) and various aspects of Chinese culture. The nightclub was located on the second floor of the Sutter Street building in San Francisco. The exterior of the second floor has retained a high degree of integrity; however, the first story has been compromised with modernized store fronts. A more in-depth investigation is necessary to determine if the Forbidden City Nightclub has sufficient integrity to be considered eligible for NHL designation.

Fong Won Herb Company Building
(Not NRHP Listed)
575 10th Street
Oakland, California
Possible Criterion: 2

The Fong Won Herb Company Building, located in Oakland, California, may be significant under Criterion 2 for Fong Won's efforts to promote Chinese therapeutics in the greater San Francisco area and his efforts for legal acceptance of Chinese medicine. Fong Won, the most renowned Chinese herbalist in America during the 1930s, opened his business in Oakland in 1915. He wrote the publication *Herb Lore*, which provides details about various ailments and their treatment by the Chinese with herbs. The Fong Won Herb Company treated conditions of over 30,000 patrons, and Won was known as the "King of the North American Herbalists." In 1931, Fong Won was indicted on 16 counts of fraud by the Medical Board and Federal Trade Commission, but he was acquitted in Federal court.

Recommendation. The Fong Won Herb Company moved several times after it was launched in 1915, finally locating at 575 10th Street in Oakland at the home and store Fong Won built in 1924. The building is nationally significant as a renowned store for Chinese herbal therapeutics. Several illustrations of the exterior and interior are depicted in the book *Herb Lore*, which provides critical insight to its original historic appearance. It has undergone several alterations on the exterior, including treatment of the doors and removal of the Chinese-style cupola. A thorough evaluation of its integrity on the interior and exterior and a comparison with other buildings of this type are needed to determine NHL eligibility.

You Chong (Y. C.) Hong Law Office
(Not NRHP Listed)
Gin Ling Way, Central Plaza, New Chinatown
Los Angeles, California
Possible Criterion: 2

You Chong Hong (1898-1977) was an important figure in the field of civic law, working on behalf of Chinese Americans to attain equal rights. In 1923, he became the first Chinese American to pass the bar exam in the State of California. Hong became a successful immigration lawyer, working on more than 7,000 cases between 1925 and the 1960s. On numerous occasions he was invited to provide testimony at congressional and presidential commission hearings, particularly regarding the Chinese Exclusion Act. He was a founding member of the Los Angeles New Chinatown, and he served as grand president of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance and chairman of the Chinese Times Publishing Company. Hong helped build the New Chinatown in Los Angeles, after the original Chinatown was demolished to make way for Union Station. His law office, restored to its 1938 appearance in recent years, was located on Gin Ling Way on the Central Plaza in the New Chinatown.

Recommendation. The building that houses the Y. C. Hong law offices may be eligible under Criterion 2 for association with the noted Chinese American attorney. Other buildings associated with Hong, including his house (if extant), need to be considered for the strength of their association with Hong and his career.

Ah Louis Store (NRHP 2008)
800 Palm Street
San Luis Obispo, California
Possible Criterion: 2 (People)

The Ah Louis Store in San Luis Obispo, California, is historically significant for its association with Chinese American pioneer Ah Louis, or On Wong. The Ah Louis Store is a two-story, brick, Italianate-style building, built in 1885. It was located in the center of Chinatown in San Luis Obispo and was the Ah Louis family home from 1885 to 1936.

Ah Louis was a prominent labor contractor in California, who brought much of the Chinese work force to California for various projects, including construction



View looking north from Palm Street, California State Historical Landmark plaque located to left under lower window. Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places.

of the Pacific Coast Railway and the Southern Pacific Railroad. He also organized contract labor for numerous road projects, as well as for agricultural and domestic needs. Ah Louis was a successful businessman, and he pioneered the flower and vegetable seed business in San Luis Obispo County. From there his seeds were sold across the United States. Ah Louis served as a bridge between the Asian and white communities, supplying various industries with the labor that helped make them prosperous.

Recommendation. A thorough evaluation of Ah Louis and his contributions to the Chinese community in California and to the American economy in general should be undertaken to determine if his accomplishments can be evaluated as nationally significant under this theme study.

Weaverville Joss House
(NRHP 1971: Weaverville Historic District)
SW corner of Hwy 299 and Oregon Street
Weaverville, California
Possible Criteria: 4 and Exception 1

The Weaverville Joss House, built in 1874, is the oldest continuously used Chinese temple—or Joss House—in California. The Taoist temple is also known as “The Temple among the Trees beneath the Clouds.” In 1956,

it became part of the California State Park System. The Weaverville Joss House looks much as it did when it was built, with minor adjustments to the building and grounds for safety and to accommodate visitors. The building has exquisite detailing and its Chinese heritage is overwhelmingly evident.

Recommendation. Although this joss house has remarkable integrity, its significance in terms of its history and architectural design should be compared with other Chinese joss houses of the second half of the 19th century—and perhaps earlier and later. It is essential to develop an inventory of extant joss houses for the sake of comparison. The Mendocino Joss House, the Bok Kai Temple, and the Oroville Joss House are among those with which it should be compared.

Bok Kai Temple (NRHP 1975)

Corner of D and First streets

Marysville, California

Possible Criteria: 4 and Exception 1

The Bok Kai Temple was built in 1880 in the Chinatown part of the small mining town of Marysville in the Northern Sacramento Valley. Marysville's Chinatown is one of the oldest in the United States, and the temple is one of the earliest. The importance of the small temple is indicated by visits from important Chinese dignitaries in its earlier history, including Sun Yat-Sen, founder and first



Front of Bok Kai Temple, taken from the top of the Yuba river levee.
Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places, 2001.

President of the Republic of China, and Kang Youwei, leader of the Constitutional Monarchy movement in China from 1898 to 1911. The Bok Kai Temple, with unusual murals on the exterior, seems unique among Chinese temples in the United States.

Recommendation. The Bok Kai Temple is an exquisite representation of 19th century temple building by early Chinese immigrants to the United States. Listed in the National Register in 1975 at the state level of significance, its re-evaluation for national significance seems warranted. The temple retains excellent integrity.

**Mendocino Joss House (NRHP 1971:
Mendocino and Headlands Historic District)**

45160 Albion Street

Mendocino, California

Possible Criteria: 4 and Exception 1

Located in the Mendocino and Headlands Historic District, the Mendocino Joss House represents early temple building by Chinese immigrants to the United States.

Its simple wood construction with little decoration and rectangular plan are typical of pioneer western construction practices. The temple may have been built as early as 1854, or slightly later. It is an important example of a simply constructed temple, perhaps reflecting the materials available during this early settlement period.

Recommendation. The Mendocino Joss House is one of the earliest and most continuously used Chinese temples in the United States. It may be a rare, mid-19th century survivor, reflecting early Chinese immigration. Its integrity appears to be excellent. Efforts should be made to confirm the date of construction and to find comparable examples. A historical context related to joss houses could assist in the evaluation of all those known to exist and yet to be found. Explanations of the disparities in decoration and embellishment would be useful.

San Francisco Chinatown (Not NRHP Listed)

San Francisco, California

Possible Criteria: 1 and 5

Only a few Chinatowns in the United States are nationally significant. The San Francisco Chinatown may rise to that distinction as the primary port of entry for Chinese immigrants to the United States. Established in 1848 to



Historic photograph of Main Street looking west in the Mendocino and Headlands Historic District. Photo by Willis B. Foote; courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places, 1971.

1849, until about 1980 the San Francisco Chinatown had the largest concentration of people of Chinese heritage in the nation. It developed as an enclave that was self-supporting, with businesses, schools, hospitals, benevolent societies, temples, and other services and businesses to maintain a community. Its residents retained homeland customs and Chinese languages.

Recommendation. The San Francisco Chinatown, rebuilt in the same location after the original Chinatown was destroyed by the San Francisco earthquake, is potentially nationally significant for its size and early history. Parts of Chinatown today may not retain sufficient integrity for NHL consideration, but a critical component may be intact. This Chinatown warrants a closer examination

to determine if, compared to other Chinatowns, it may be exceptional.

Riverside Chinatown (NRHP 1990)

Riverside, California

Possible Criterion: 6

The Riverside, California, Chinatown archeological site was inhabited from 1885 through 1939. The majority of residents migrated from the Guangdong Province in China. This site contains archeological features and data representative of domestic life, commercial enterprises of many different types, social and community assembly, and religious practices. These features make this



Chinese New Year in Riverside, California, Chinatown, c. 1898. Photo courtesy of the Riverside Metropolitan Museum, Riverside, CA.

site significant under several areas of the NHL thematic framework.

The significance of this site is representative of the Chinese immigrant American experience in the areas of ethnic diaspora, commercial practice, agricultural practice, and community relations and social movements.

In 1985, an archaeological, anthropological, and historical study was undertaken on the Riverside Chinatown site. This study demonstrated that the site was preserved and protected under 10 to 15 feet of fill and that the archeological deposits were not only intact but maintained a very high degree of integrity. In addition to the high degree of archeological integrity of the Riverside Chinatown site, this site is one of the only known sites “encompassing an entire Chinese commercial and residential village that has not been subjected to later Anglo development.”⁹

Recommendation. As an urban archeological site exhibiting several decades of occupation by Chinese Americans, the Riverside Chinatown has the potential to explain a great deal about the evolution of Chinese American lifeways over time, the relationship between the Chinese community and the development of Riverside and its infrastructure, and how the Chinese were integrated into the city’s life and fabric. Because the most extensive investigations were done a number of years ago, an update on the current subsurface integrity of the archeological landscape will be critical for determining NHL eligibility.

Wong How House

San Luis Obispo County, California

Possible Criteria: 1 and 6; Exception 8

(less than 50 years)

This standing structure and associated archeological deposits date to the 1890s. The house displays characteristics of both turn-of-the-century American vernacular and Chinese vernacular building styles. Located near China Harbor, it was the home of the last seaweed gatherer on the California central coast. Wong How lived an isolated life as a seaweed gatherer, and his life represents an individual’s navigation of life as an immigrant in the United States. He died in 1975.

The Chinese are considered pioneers of Califor-

nia’s maritime industries. The industry began when, in response to urban racism and calls to boycott Chinese businesses, immigrants moved into this area and engaged in gathering and selling the *Ulva* seaweed, also known as ‘sea lettuce,’ which only grows in this area along the California coast. They exported the seaweed to Chinese American consumers and later to China and elsewhere.

The archeological site appears to have great integrity, in part because it is located in an isolated spot. A surface collection identified an intact midden nearby, which included a variety of Chinese ceramics, Chinese and American glass bottles, faunal material, and shellfish, including abalone. Archeological resources at this site may contribute to an understanding of immigrant survival and adaptation in isolated environments.

Recommendation. The Wong How House and its associated site should be evaluated for current integrity and all research confirmed for accuracy, including claims about Wong How’s life as a seaweed gatherer and the seaweed industry in general. Further archeological investigations have the potential to address some of these claims, as well as provide information about the 20th century life of a Chinese American man living in relative isolation and, perhaps, little influenced by modern American lifeways. An assessment of comparable sites in order to gauge the particular significance of the research potential of the property is also recommended.

Summit Camp

Tahoe National Forest, Placer County, California

Possible Criterion: 6

Summit Camp, located near Donner Pass in Tahoe National Forest, was a camp where Chinese men lived for four years while blasting tunnels for the rail lines. The property is a large area, with intact structural elements. It has been the subject of a number of research projects, because it was among the largest and longest-occupied residential bases for Chinese railroad workers in North America.

Recommendation. The Summit Camp may be eligible for NHL designation based on the information that has been gleaned from this remote but long-studied site and the information potential of areas that have

not yet been studied. Findings should be consolidated and evaluated to determine if studies have been sufficient to evaluate the site's NHL eligibility.

Ouray Chinese Laundry/Vanoli Site (5OR30)

Ouray, Ouray County, Colorado

Possible Criterion: 6

Ouray, a small mining town located in the San Juan Mountain Range, represents the life of the Chinese as part of a small, rural, and isolated population. The research conducted here contrasts to life in urban Chinatowns that have been better studied. In this context, members of both the Chinese and Euro-American immigrant communities interacted in this laundry, which existed at the turn of the last century. Archeological findings reveal important understandings of the complex networks formed within an isolated pluralist community. Portions of the site were excavated in the 1970s and 1980s by archeologist Steven Baker.

Recommendation. Although the site is relatively small, it may be an excellent source of information about life in a small mining town where Caucasian and Asian workers lived separately but with overlap in some aspects. Previous findings, current integrity, and the potential for additional information all need to be evaluated to assess the NHL potential of the site.

Gin Lin Hydraulic Mining Site

**Applegate River Valley, Siskiyou Mountains,
Jackson County, Oregon**

Possible Criterion: 6

The Gin Lin Hydraulic Mining Site represents innovations in Chinese placer gold mining and demonstrates the ingenuity and business acumen of Chinese immigrants to the United States at a time of widespread discrimination against Asian Americans. Early Chinese miners started as placer miners and then moved to implementing the process of hydraulic gold mining, borrowing from the surrounding American technological methods. The Chinese arrived in southwest Oregon by 1855. Gin Lin, the owner of the Gin Lin Mining Company, was a mining entrepreneur, who purchased claims along the lower Little Applegate River in 1864. He first worked with one hydraulic, but added a second

in 1878 and expanded subsequently. He was highly successful, apparently earning millions from the mining operations. Gin Lin appears to have left Oregon in the 1880s, and his fate is unknown. Remains of the mining operation are visible at the site, including the mining ditches necessary for the enormous amounts of water required to separate the gold from its matrix.

Recommendation. Further investigation could reveal archeological resources that have the potential to provide information about Chinese immigrant domestic life, as well as mining technology. An analysis of current integrity, comparative sites, and the data potential of the site all need to be evaluated to assess the NHL potential of the Gin Lin site.

Miller Gulch Sawmill Site (Site CA-SON-2263H)

Sonoma County, California

Possible Criterion: 6

The 1870s sawmill is located in what is now Salt Point State Park in northern California. The site includes a bunkhouse. The site sheds light on the work and life of overseas Chinese who worked in the redwood lumber industry in California. Previous archeological work recovered ceramics, including brown-glazed stoneware used for liquids and food storage, rice bowl fragments, and fragments of opium pipes. The finds would help reconstruct the economic and social life of the overseas Chinese and their inter-relationships with American mill owners and other residents and employees of the mill.

Recommendation. The site should be compared with other work sites and camps that have answered questions about Chinese lifeways and the interaction between Chinese and other workers. Scores of such sites once existed and a number have been studied and evaluated for National Register eligibility. Fewer have been evaluated for NHL eligibility, so integrity standards and the comprehensiveness of the information potential need to be compared to find those that are of exceptional value.

JAPANESE AMERICAN RESOURCES

Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony Farm (NRHP 2009)

Placerville, California

Possible Criterion: 1

The Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony Farm is possibly eligible as a National Historic Landmark under Criterion 1 as one of the oldest permanent Japanese settlements in North America. Members of the colony occupied the site from 1869 to 1871, marking the beginning of Japanese immigration to the United States. The site has a residence and barn associated with the Wakamatsu settlers, mulberry trees planted by the colonists, and associated agricultural fields and a fish pond. The agricultural setting, including surrounding farmlands, has remarkable integrity.

The Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony Farm contributes significantly to the broad patterns of the nation's history as the site of the first permanent settlement of Japanese immigrants in the continental United States. Of the 55 people of Japanese heritage documented by the United States census in 1870, nearly half were settled at



Wakamatsu colonists, c. 1870-1871; photo by George H. Gilbert. Photo courtesy of the American River Conservancy.

the Wakamatsu Colony in Gold Hill. The first child born in the United States of Japanese immigrants was born at Wakamatsu. The colony represents early Japanese influence on the agricultural economy of California and the United States.

Recommendation. This property appears to be potentially eligible for NHL designation under Criterion 1. The entire colony once covered 180 acres, but only 54 acres were listed in the National Register. The area had excellent integrity when the National Register nomination was written in 2009; however, the integrity of the entire 180 acres should be evaluated. The property also should be evaluated for its eligibility under Criterion 6. Recovery of archeological materials could provide unique insights into the material culture, the personal lives, relationships, cultural adaptations, and the maintenance of cultural traditions by the first Japanese immigrants to the United States.

Japanese Language Schools

- **Castroville Japanese Language School, Castroville, California (NRHP 1995)**
- **Holland Union Gakuen, Clarksburg, California (Not NRHP Listed)**
- **Kinmon Gakuen, San Francisco, California (Not NRHP Listed)**
- **Walnut Grove Gakuen Hall, Walnut Grove, California (NRHP 1980)**

Possible Criterion: 1

Japanese Language Schools or *gakuens*, developed by first- and second-generation Japanese Americans, were considered essential to all Japanese American communities. The *gakuens* were cultural and community centers, often established prior to the construction of a temple or church. *Nisei*, first-generation Japanese Americans, emphasized the importance of younger generations remaining connected to their heritage, including through knowledge of the Japanese language. *Gakuen* typically were situated near public elementary schools to facilitate student access to them. Only a very small number of *gakuens* remain on the mainland. They reflect the politics, ethnic heritage, and social history of one of the largest ethnic groups in the western United States.

Recommendation. Each *gakuen* should be evaluated for significance and integrity. Those with the



Main gate of the Eugene de Sabla Teahouse. Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places.

greatest significance and integrity may be eligible for NHL designation. Their disappearance and deterioration, particularly due to the mass relocation of Japanese Americans in 1942, makes the few remaining schools important reflections of Japanese culture and symbols of pride in their heritage. The language schools in Hawai'i are much more numerous, reflecting the larger Japanese population and a different wartime experience. Because of their prevalence, Hawaiian *gakuens* may more likely be of local or statewide significance and possibly eligible for the National Register.

Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs (NRHP 1995)

Gilroy, California

Possible Criterion: 1

The Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs is potentially eligible for NHL designation under Criterion 1 for its significance in the area of Recreation. It is the only known Japanese-owned hot spring resort in the United States,

catering to Japanese American vacationers. From 1938 to 1942, the property was owned and operated by (Harry) Kyuzaburo Sakata, and it became a popular destination for Japanese Americans in California. Author Sei Mitani considered the hot spring to be a gift to Japanese Americans from the owner Sakata. In turn, guests felt a responsibility to “protect the pureness of the hot spring given by Mother Nature and make this a place to revive the Japanese spirit among our fellow countrymen along the Pacific coast.”¹⁰ The resort was closed when the United States entered World War II and Japanese and Japanese Americans were removed from Gilroy.

Recommendation. The Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs is the only known example of its type, a Japanese hot spring resort that provided spiritual healing and a sense of relief from discrimination. An evaluation of integrity should be made to determine if enough fabric remains to convey a sense of time and place.

Eugene J. de Sabla, Jr., Teahouse and Tea Garden (NRHP 1992)

70 de Sabla Avenue

San Mateo, California

Possible Criterion: 4

Built in 1907, the Eugene de Sabla, Jr., Teahouse and Tea Garden is significant under Criterion 4 as an excellent early example of the influence of Japanese garden design. Although listed in the National Register of Historic Places, its significance in terms of the NHL criteria has not been evaluated. Makota Hagiwara designed this tea garden and the Japanese Tea Garden at Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. It is the only known privately owned tea garden that remains in the San Francisco area, from many that once existed.

Recommendation. The significance and integrity of the Eugene J. de Sabla, Jr., Teahouse and Tea Garden needs to be confirmed for the property to be considered exemplary of a Japanese tea garden type. Its notable design and apparent integrity are preliminary indicators of its significance. A definition of this landscape type must be articulated and a comparative analysis with similar designed landscapes will be important components of the evaluation process. Built in 1907, the garden also needs to be assessed within a timeframe and a level of influence of this particular Japanese garden style.



Walnut Grove, California, Japanese American Historic District, C Street. Photo courtesy of the National Register of Historic Places.

San Jose Japantown (Not NRHP Listed)

San Jose, California

Possible Criteria: 1 and 5

Japanese immigrants developed cohesive communities called Nihonmachi where they became largely self-sufficient. Most Japantowns were located on the West Coast, primarily in California. Japantowns were both large and small and were located in cities, suburbs, and rural areas. They were located in coastal areas, as well as inland; they were developed by farm laborers, cannery workers, fisherman, truck farmers, and railroad laborers. Although once Japantowns were numerous, only 43 have been identified in California through a state-wide identification, evaluation, and preservation effort led by the California Japanese American Community Leadership Council (CJACL). The group identified communities that exhibited one or more of the following characteristics: community halls, language schools, bathhouses, Buddhist temples, Christian churches, markets, nurseries, and other Nihonmachi businesses. Of these, only three of the major Japantowns survived the forced evacuation of their residents in 1942 and the nationwide urban renewal movement of the 1950s and 1960s. Little Tokyo in Los Angeles is already designated a National Historic Landmark. Others are in San Jose and San Francisco. The CJACL determined that the San Jose Japantown retains a very high degree of integrity, providing a definite historical sense of time and place, even compared to Little Tokyo in Los Angeles, which has undergone some modification over the past 30 years.

Many of the original late 19th and 20th century buildings associated with the San Jose Japantown still remain. These include several restaurants, laundries, a hall/theatre, boarding houses, a market, a Buddhist temple, a school, a midwifery clinic, a hospital, a United Methodist Church, original residences, a service station, residences turned into offices, and a senior center (the only one of its kind in the Silicon Valley). The CJACL also identified the location of a bathhouse and of a baseball field/sumo ring. These sites are not very disturbed and, therefore, may have a high potential for answering important questions through archeological investigations.

Recommendation. The San Jose Japantown may be nationally significant as one of the oldest and most intact major Japantowns in the United States, and the San Francisco Japantown should be evaluated for the same potential. A nationwide survey of Japantowns is required to determine the national significance and comparative integrity of these communities.

Walnut Grove Japanese American Historic District (NRHP 1990)

Walnut Grove, California

Possible Criteria: 1, 4, 5, and 6

Walnut Grove, located between San Francisco and Sacramento in the California Delta asparagus belt, became a center for Japanese American settlement during the early 20th century. It is especially significant for its vernacular architecture of the 1910s. As noted in the National

Register nomination, Walnut Grove has a rare collection of vernacular building types associated with Japanese American settlement.

Recommendation. Walnut Grove is an excellent example of a small rural community of Japanese Americans, with lots entirely owned by white Americans. The Japanese were able to build on these lots and own their buildings, but the lots remained owned by white Americans until the 1990s. The community retains a high degree of integrity. A comparative analysis is needed to determine if Walnut Grove is an exceptional example of a small, rural Japantown of the early 20th century.

Oakland Japantown
Oakland, California
Possible Criterion: 6

The Japantown in Oakland appears to have been occupied after the 1906 earthquake, when Japanese immigrants and Japanese Americans relocated from San Francisco. In the early part of the 20th century the community was flourishing with laundromats, markets, restaurants, and other shops. Resentment and racism were on the increase, however, with discriminatory California state laws passed in the 1910s and the federal exclusionary laws passed in 1924, barring Japanese immigration. Local racism, for example in the form of real estate redlining, was also endemic. Prior to World War II the area consisted of a mix of Japanese and other ethnic groups.

During World War II, the residents were forcibly moved to relocation camps. In the post-war era, the area changed, assuming a more dispersed character. Later, urban renewal programs displaced thousands of residents and established businesses closed. Redevelopment also caused the demolition of numerous historic buildings, and the entire community was reduced in size. Archeological remains of portions of the original Japantown may be intact. One residential property has been excavated, and the entire neighborhood may be a potential NHL district.

Recommendation. Because the extent and integrity of the Oakland Japantown archeological site is not clear, it is difficult to determine its information potential or if it is of exceptional importance. The several West Coast Japantowns that were vacated when Japanese

Americans were forcibly removed in response to Executive Order 9066 should be compared—both standing and subsurface components—to evaluate the NHL eligibility of each.

Japanese Gulch Site
Mukilteo, Snohomish County, Washington
Possible Criterion: 6

Japan Gulch represents an entire Japanese community that was associated with the Mukilteo Lumber Company (later the Crown Lumber Company) that was in operation from 1904 to 1930. In this case, the Japanese community was separate from the European-descent community and lived in company housing. It consisted, in part, of Japanese-style structures. Archeological resources at this property may contribute to an understanding of the settlement patterns and labor experiences of Japanese workers and their families.

Recommendation. Because of the extent and isolation of this exclusively Japanese community, the potential for its NHL eligibility should be studied from all aspects of its information potential: architecture, lifeways, adoption of American ways and products, and retention of Japanese culture. Further, the archeological landscape has the potential to reveal information about broad patterns of the lives of AAPI immigrants in the context of pluralist work forces, identity, and ethnic persistence in the context of company town environments.

KOREAN AMERICAN RESOURCES

Willows Korean Aviation School/Corps Airfield
(not NRHP listed)
7233 State Highway 162, Willows, California
Possible Criterion: 1

Korean Americans and the Korean government recognize the Willows school as an important heritage site. The building housed the Korean Aviation School/Corps in 1920. During its short existence, the school stood as a centerpiece of the Korean diaspora independence movement, allowing independence leaders from all over California to congregate and develop tactics to fight the Japanese and win their sovereignty. Its development was

a result of the March First Movement, a peaceful protest against the Japanese in Korea, which also succeeded in rallying Koreans abroad to fight for independence. The location of the flight school in Glenn County is due to the prevalence of rice farming, which attracted a number of Koreans. Kim Chong-lim, who made his fortune selling rice, enabled the Korean American community to lease land, buy airplanes, and manage the school. The Korean government considers the school the origin of the Korean Air Force, with a number of pilots who trained there becoming its first aviation officers.

Recommendation. The school is unique among AAPI resources, and its history seems compelling. The integrity of the building and the surrounding airfield (or former airfield) needs to be evaluated to determine if the 1920 appearance is intact.

FILIPINO AMERICAN RESOURCES

Filipino Community Hall (Not NRHP Listed)

1457 Glenwood Street

Delano, California

Ethnic Heritage: Filipino

Possible Criteria: 1 and 2

The Filipino Community Hall represents the nationally significant role of Filipino Americans in the farm labor movement, beginning in the mid-20th century. On September 8, 1965, Filipino American farm workers gathered in this building and voted to strike against Delano table-grape growers. The hall served as headquarters for the first few years of the five-year strike and was visited by influential supporters like the United Auto Workers' president Walter Reuther and Senator Robert F. Kennedy. The Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC), as the farm workers group was known, merged with the movement led by César Chávez, forming the United Farm Workers. The most prominent leader of AWOC was Filipino activist Larry Itliong. The building in Delano is associated with his important work and the work of other Filipino activists

Recommendation. This building is significant under Criterion 1 for its role in fostering better working conditions for Filipino agricultural workers and under Criterion 2 for its association with Larry Itliong, an important Filipino American labor activist. Itliong's

contributions were acknowledged by the designation of October 25 as Larry Itliong Day by Gov. Jerry Brown in 2015. Among questions to be addressed are Itliong's and other Filipinos' roles in farm labor history (particularly Philip Vera Cruz), their collaboration with César Chávez, and other buildings associated with Itliong and the farm labor movement. Answers to such questions can confirm Itliong's overriding significance as a labor leader and the importance of the labor hall in the work of the AWOC. The association of this building with Forty Acres needs to be clarified. The building retains a high degree of integrity.

Historic Filipinotown (Not NRHP Listed)

Los Angeles, California

Possible Criteria: 1 and 5

Filipinotown in Los Angeles is one of the few areas where Filipinos settled during the early 20th century, following the first large wave of immigration in 1923. In the 1920s and 1930s, a small area called Little Manila was created within Little Tokyo in Los Angeles, but numerous Filipino organizations and businesses developed during this period in another area that became Filipinotown. Filipino Americans began building houses in Filipinotown in the 1940s, after leaving Little Manila.

Recommendation. Although numerous Filipino communities (Little Manilas, Manilatowns) exist throughout the United States, Historic Filipinotown in Los Angeles seems to be the oldest extant Filipino settlement in the United States. Although the Filipino population is only one-quarter of the total population, the city of Los Angeles designated Historic Filipinotown a historic district in 2002, marking recent preservation efforts. A comparative analysis with other Filipinotowns is necessary to determine if the area is nationally significant, and a current survey of resources is needed to identify those related to Filipinos. Other Filipinotowns are located elsewhere in California and in the boroughs of New York City.

INDIAN/SOUTHEAST ASIAN RESOURCES

Refugee Processing Centers

- **Camp Pendleton, San Diego, California**
- **Fort Chaffee, Fort Smith, Arkansas**
- **Eglin Air Force Base, Valparaiso, Florida**

- **Fort Indiantown Gap, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania**

Ethnic Heritage: Vietnamese

Possible Criteria: 1 and Exception 8

The four refugee processing centers that were created after the Fall of Saigon in April 1975 accommodated over 130,000 Asians, primarily Vietnamese. This was the largest refugee resettlement effort in American history. It is significant in telling the story of Vietnamese immigration to the United States, as well as the political and military role the United States played in the lives of Vietnamese people during and after the Vietnam War.

Recommendation. These four processing centers are nationally significant under Criterion 1 for association with Vietnamese resettlement in the United States. Although not yet 50 years old, centers may be considered eligible if they retain enough integrity to represent this historical event. Although the temporary tents and support structures may no longer be standing, to be eligible for NHL designation the sites should retain integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association with few intrusions. These properties should also be evaluated for their significance under Criterion 6. Criteria Exception 8, applied when properties are less than 50 years old, should be applied if the age of the center so warrants.

RESOURCES WITH MULTIPLE AAPI AFFILIATIONS

San Francisco State College (Not NRHP Listed)

San Francisco, California

Ethnic Heritage: Multiple AAPI Affiliations

Possible Criterion: 1

San Francisco State College was the site of the longest student strike in American history organized by the Black Student Union and a conglomerate of campus ethnic organizations under the newly formed Third World Liberation Front. In 1968 to 1969, students and teachers fought to have separate black studies and ethnic studies programs developed at the school. After more than four-and-a-half months of striking, the school agreed to most of the Black Student Union and the Third World Liberation Front's terms. The strike resulted in development of the College of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State College. These events also marked the beginning

of a trend of several more strikes at various California universities to achieve better recognition of non-white groups. It spurred universities throughout the country to create new ethnic studies programs.

Recommendation. The importance of expanding university courses to encompass ethnic studies can be pinpointed to the events associated with the 1968 strike at San Francisco State College. The campus is nationally significant for its role in promoting this educational revolution. The sites and buildings most associated with the strike should be identified and their integrity evaluated in order to determine the place(s) that best represent the strike.

San Miguel Abalone Fishery

San Miguel Island, Santa Barbara County, California

Ethnic Heritage: Chinese, Japanese

Possible Criterion: 6

The fishery, which operated from the 1850s through the 1880s, represents an aspect of the working lives of the overseas Chinese. The Chinese abalone fishermen took advantage of the opportunities for harvesting abalone, so by 1853 there were from 500 to 600 Chinese men working on San Miguel Island. There is some evidence that Japanese fisherman also worked at the fishery. The Asian workers were eventually driven out of business by restrictive legislation.

The fishery site complex consists in part of one large base camp at Adam's Cove, several middens along beaches, and features elsewhere. Two discrete areas have been identified archeologically, and there is also evidence of use by Japanese fisherman and American sea mammal hunters at different times. At least six different Chinese camps are mentioned in a research article (Todd J. Braje, Jon M. Erlandson, and Torben C. Rick, "An Historic Chinese Abalone Fishery on California's Northern Channel Islands," *Historical Archaeology* 2007, v. 41 (4): 117-128).

Recommendation. This extensive and complex site may constitute an NHL district, but more work is needed to evaluate the various components. There is no question about the value of the site and its information potential, but determining boundaries and the integrity of various components are essential tasks in the evaluation of eligibility.

First Transcontinental Railroad Sites

Various states

Ethnic Heritage: Chinese, Japanese

Possible Criterion: 6

The construction of the transcontinental railroad is one of the great engineering successes of the United States and the 19th century as a whole. The rail line connected San Francisco in the west to the great rail lines in the Midwest and East. Chinese immigrants made up a significant portion of the workforce, and Japanese immigrants were also represented. The Chinese were first hired in 1865 to do the blasting and laying of ties in the high Sierra Mountains. Chinese immigrant labor graded and constructed the rail line along canyons and mountains with tight curves and steep sides. The population of Chinese railroad workers at one point may have been as high as 10,000 to 12,000 individuals. By 1868, two-thirds of the workforce was Chinese.

The sites are located along the railroad and include various sites and historic districts, such as the 11.6-mile-long Niles Canyon Transcontinental Railroad Historic District in California, which retains most of its original grade and supporting infrastructure. Important sites also exist in Utah. The railroad workers lived in canvas tents along the grade and in bunkhouses in colder areas along parts of the line. Much Chinese railroad workforce archeology has been devoted to the larger camps; however, the Chinese also lived in more ephemeral camps, so the remains and sites may consist of intermittent scatters and trash areas. Once the railroad was complete, Chinese laborers stayed on to conduct maintenance and repairs, or may have moved to work on other railroads in the United States.

Recommendation. The recognition of Chinese contributions to construction of the first transcontinental railroad should be recognized through an NHL designation. The number of sites that have been discovered suggests that a discontinuous district may exist and may be appropriate, composed of sites of greatest importance from historical and archeological perspectives. Research and field investigations that have focused on the railroad's construction in various states need to be examined to determine which areas represent this significance.

Moore Gulch Placer Mining Community

(Site 10-CW-159)

Vicinity of Pierce, Clearwater County, Idaho

Ethnic Heritage: Chinese, Pacific Islander

Possible Criterion: 6

The site was identified as significant because it represents a complete mining complex, including living quarters, mine tailings, trash dump, and diversion ditches. The site is significant for revealing specialized Chinese mining methods, as well as the history of Chinese consumption and life in a remote area. The artifact and feature material date from approximately 1880 to 1890. The site contains artifacts from both Chinese and non-Chinese material culture, so it shows how the Chinese, who were segregated and subjected to violence and attacks, lived during this time period under these circumstances. The site includes a smaller Hawaiian component, described in the 1982 National Register nomination. It states that in 1870 in Pierce, Idaho, there were 136 white and Hawaiian residents, 461 Chinese, and one African-American resident.

Recommendation. The site is important for the information it has revealed and its potential to reveal more about mining, from the process to living conditions in a mining town. Archeological investigations may reveal important information about the dynamics between groups in this segregated community. The NHL potential should be explored in the context of the information potential. It needs to include a comparison with similar sites, if any of this scale exists.

Endnotes

1 See the National Historic Landmark website at <https://www.nps.gov/nhl/>; the publication *How to Prepare National Historic Landmark Nominations* and other useful information is available at this site.

2 The Federal Regulations 36 CFR 65 can be found at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2009-title36-vol1/pdf/CFR-2009-title36-vol1-part65.pdf>.

3 National Park Service, *How to Prepare National Historic Landmark Nominations* (Washington, DC: US Department of the Interior, 1999), 11.

4 *Code of Federal Regulations*, Title 36, Part 65.4(a).

5 Barbara Wyatt, ed., *Japanese-Americans in World War II: National Historic Landmarks Theme Study*, (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 2012), 190-191.

6 Linda Cook and Karen Bretz, "Kake Cannery," National

Historic Landmark Nomination Form (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1997), Section 8.

7 <https://www.nps.gov/nhl/learn/themes/JapaneseAmericansWWII.pdf>

8 National Park Service, Discover Our Shared Heritage Travel Itinerary, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage, “Pi’ilanihale Heia, Hana, Hawai’i” (Found at https://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/Asian_American_and_Pacific_Islander_Heritage/Piilanihale-Heiau.htm on 1-4-2017)

9 Don Kleinhesselink, “Chinatown,” National Register Nomination (Washington, D.C.; National Park Service), January 1, 1990. Accessed online at: <http://npgallery.nps.gov/nrhp/GetAsset?assetID=a9dbb1c8-bd07-4e08-aa42-6ccce871e112>. Viewed July 20, 2016.

10 *Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs National Register Nomination* (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 1995).