DEPARTMENT OF LAND UTILIZATION

#### COUNTY OF HONOLULU CITY AND

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March 15, 1993

Mr. Brian J. J. Choy, Director Office of Environmental Quality Control 220 S. King Street, 4th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

## CHAPTER 343, HRS Environmental Assessment/Determination Negative Declaration

Waikiki Westbury Limited Partnership 1700 Ala Moana (Outrigger Ala Wai Tower) Owner/Applicant:

Location 2-6-11: 08

Tax Map Key Zoning variance Request

To allow (retain) storage areas within Proposal the parking garage which exceed the

maximum density (floor area) and increase

nonconformity.

A Negative Declaration is issued Determination :

Attached and incorporated by reference is the environmental assessment prepared by the applicant for the project. Based on the significance criteria outlined in Chapter 200, State Administrative Rules, we have determined that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Approved

Director of Land Utilization

DAC:jt Enclosures 1993-04-08-0A-FEA-Outrigje ala Wai Tower (Strage area)

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

FOR

OUTRIGGER ALA WAI TOWER (STORAGE AREAS)

Waikiki, Oahu, Hawaii

TMK No. 2-6-11: 08 (1)

PREPARED FOR:

Waikiki Westbury Limited Partnership

PREPARED BY:

Cades Schutte Fleming & Wright

December 16, 1992

#### I. <u>INTRODUCTION/SUMMARY</u>

This report serves as an Environmental Assessment for proposed actions on the property.

#### <u>Applicant</u>

The Applicant is Waikiki Westbury Limited Partnership, the leasehold owner of the parcel identified by tax map key no. 2-6-11: 08 (1), commonly known as the Outrigger Ala Wai Tower (the "Property"). Exhibits "A" and "B" show the Property site.

#### Approving Agency

The Applicant is requesting a variance from the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Land Utilization ("DLU") to retain storage areas within the parking garage on the Property. The approving agency is DLU.

## Agencies Consulted in Preparing this Assessment

The following agencies have been contacted as part of the development of this Assessment:

Department of Land Utilization

## II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

#### Location

The Property is located at 1700 Ala Moana Boulevard in the Waikiki Special District on Oahu and has 38,773 square feet. Exhibits "A" and "B" show the Property site. The Property is in the State "Urban" District, is designated on the City's Development Plans as High-Density Apartment, and is zoned in the Apartment Precinct, Waikiki Special District, under the City's Land Use Ordinance.

# **Existing Conditions**

Photographs of the storage areas, which are located in the parking garage, are attached as <a href="Exhibit"C"</a>. A photograph of the Property from Ala Moana Boulevard is attached as <a href="Exhibit">Exhibit</a>"D".

## Project Objectives

The building on the Property exceeds the permitted floor area under the City's Land Use Ordinance because of the decrease in the permitted floor area ratio since the time the building

was constructed. In the variance application, the Applicant requests permission to retain the storage areas within the parking garage. There are two basic reasons for the variance request.

First, the variance would help to minimize the usage of the elevators in the building. The 39-story building does not have a service elevator, and the design and location of the elevator system cause numerous mechanical problems, which prevent housekeeping services from using the elevators on a more frequent basis. Largely because of its mauka/windward orientation and the elevator machinery's exposure to the elements, there have been numerous mechanical problems that require frequent repairs.

Second, although eight (8) parking stalls are eliminated due to the storage areas, no parking deficiency results from a legal or practical standpoint. Less than one-half of the spaces in the parking garage are occupied at any one time. Even with the storage areas, there are more parking spaces available (148) than are legally (136) or practically required.

#### <u>Schedule</u>

Applicant proposes to retain already-built storage areas.

## III. DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

## Existing Land Use

The Property is presently used for transient vacation units and multi-family dwelling units. 120 of the 136 units received a Nonconforming Use Certificate for Transient Vacation Units from DLU. The remaining 16 units are used as multi-family dwelling units.

The 5-level parking structure is set back approximately 125 feet from the front property boundary line. Access to the building is off of Ala Moana Boulevard. The storage areas, which are built entirely within the parking structure and near the core of the building, are not visible from Ala Moana Boulevard.

#### Adjacent Land Use

The surrounding neighborhood is in mixed use, including medium and high-density apartment buildings, retail stores, hotels, and restaurants.

#### <u>Soils</u>

According to Soil Survey of Islands of Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Molokai and Lanai, State of Hawaii, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service (August 1972), the soil is Fill Land, Mixed (FL). This land consists of areas filled with material from dredging, excavation from adjacent uplands, and other materials. This land type is used for urban development.

#### Topography

The Property is relatively level.

## Plant and Animal Life

The Property is located in a highly urbanized area, and, as such, does not maintain any significant ecosystems. The landscaping of the Property was established by a former leasehold owner of the Property and is maintained by the Applicant. Applicant is unaware of any rare, endangered, or threatened plants or animals existing on the Property.

#### <u>Cultural Resources</u>

Since this Property is already developed, Applicant is unaware of any archaeological, historic or cultural sites on the Property.

#### Infrastructure

The Property utilizes the municipal water, wastewater and storm drain systems.

### **Access**

The Property has a driveway that provides access onto Ala Moana Boulevard.

## IV. POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

The building on the Property was built around the early 1980's. The proposed action supports the currently existing transient vacation and multi-family residential uses of the Property. The proposed action will not have any impact on cultural, flora or fauna resources. The storage areas cannot be seen from Ala Moana Boulevard and therefore will not have any impact on public views.

There will be no impact on air quality and noise levels in the immediate vicinity since the proposal is to retain the storage areas. There will be no impact on the City's infrastructure. If the variance is denied, an adverse impact will occur to the occupants of the building in that additional elevator maintenance and repair work is anticipated due to an increase in use.

## V. ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

#### A. No Action

If the variance is not granted, the operator of the project will be forced to use the elevators more frequently and for longer durations due to loading and unloading of supplies and equipment, which is sure to cause a higher incidence of maintenance and repair. A "no action" alternative creates negative consequences not only for the owner of the Property but for the occupants as well.

## B. <u>Alternative Location</u>

Placing the storage areas in an alternative location would have the same consequences as the "no action" alternative.

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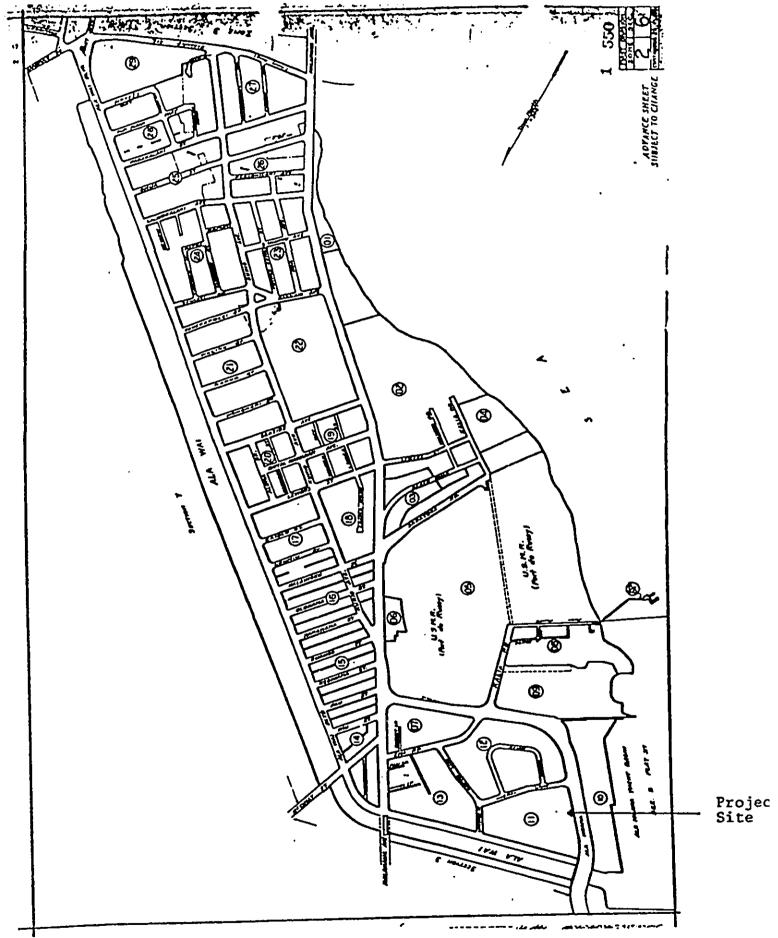
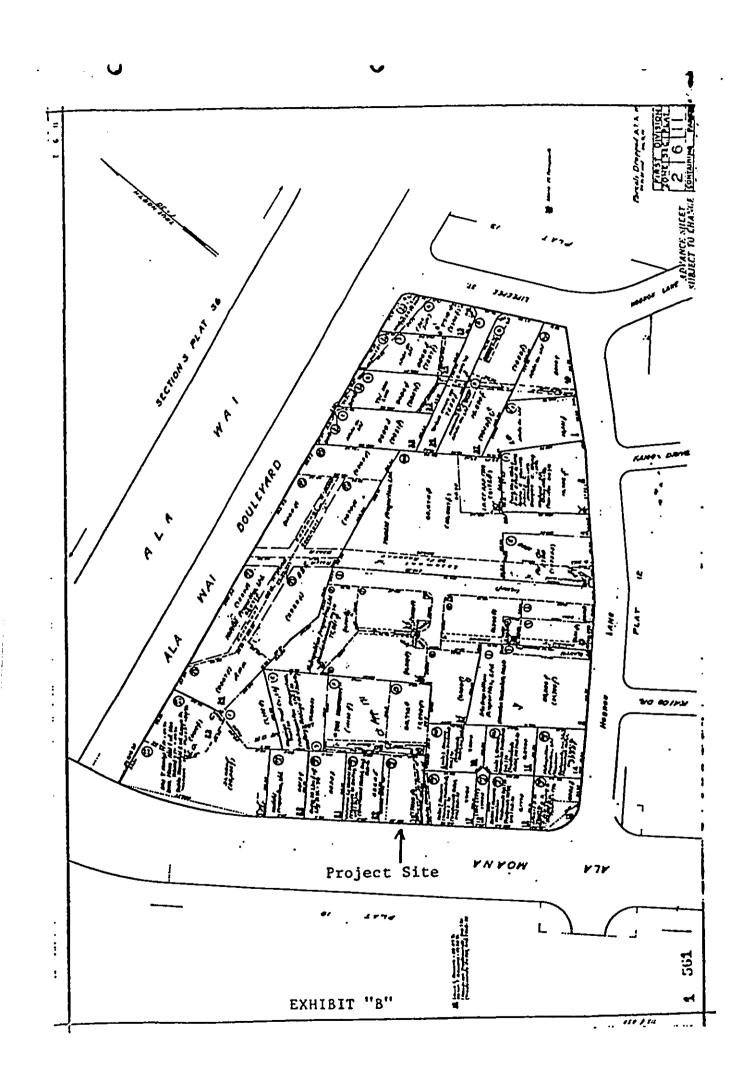
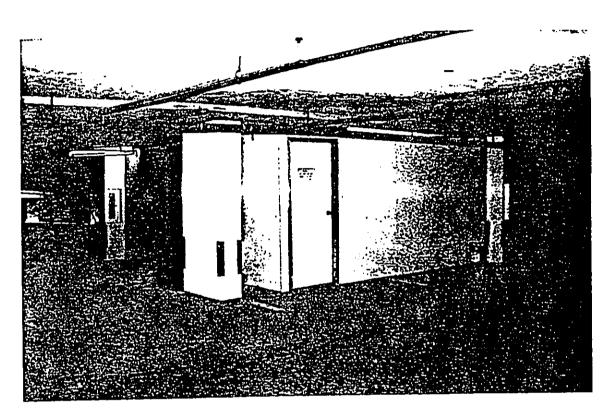
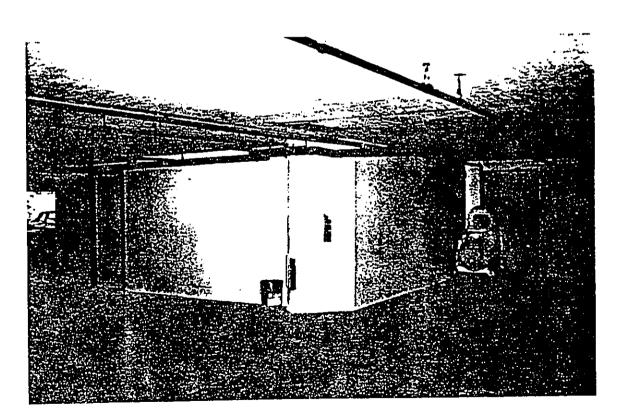


EXHIBIT "A"



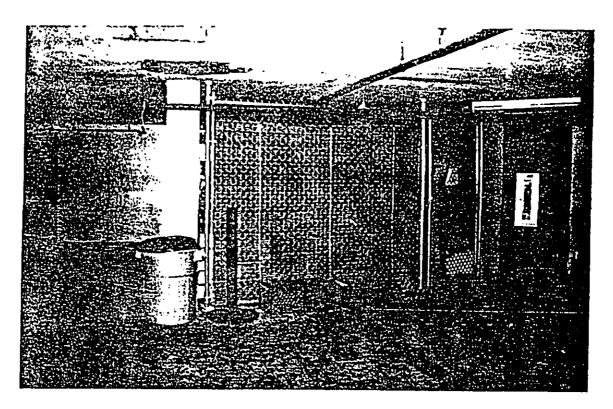


Siorage 1

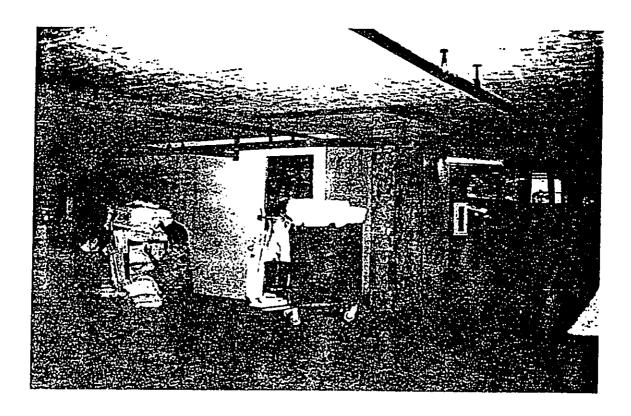


Storage 1

EXHIBIT "C" Page 1 of 3

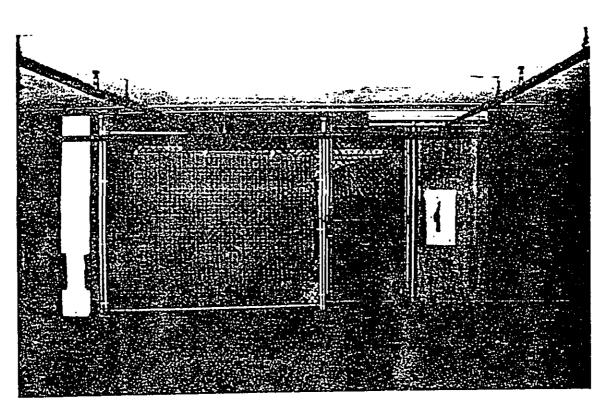


Storage 2

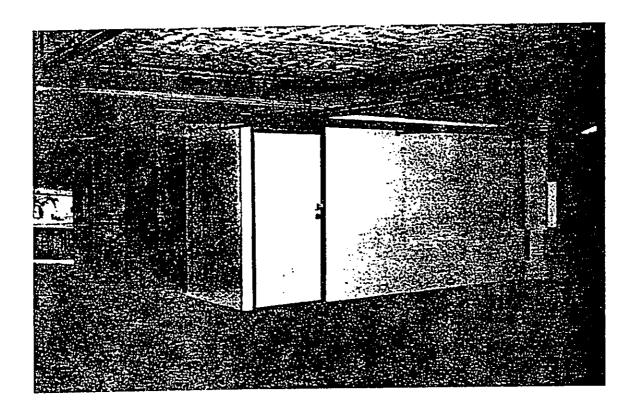


Storage 3

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Storage 4



Storage 5

EXHIBIT "C"
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EXHIBIT "D"