1. NAME

COMMON:
Dillingham Transportation Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
735 Bishop Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Honolulu

STATE:
Hawaii

3. CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY (Check One)</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Building</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Public Acquisition:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>In Process:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td></td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Being Considered:</td>
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</table>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Park</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>Private Residence</td>
<td>Comments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational</td>
<td>Military</td>
<td>Religious</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>Museum</td>
<td>Scientific</td>
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</table>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Kauikeolani Children's Hospital

STREET AND NUMBER:
226 N. Kuakini

CITY OR TOWN:
Honolulu

STATE:
Hawaii

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Bureau of Conveyances

STREET AND NUMBER:
Tax Office Annex

CITY OR TOWN:
Honolulu

STATE:
Hawaii

CODE:
15

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Old Honolulu

DATE OF SURVEY:
1969

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Archives of Hawaii

STREET AND NUMBER:
Iolani Palace Grounds

CITY OR TOWN:
Honolulu

STATE:
Hawaii

CODE:
15
The Dillingham Transportation Building is a four story Italian Renaissance concrete and concrete block structure with three connected wings. The first floor features an arcade that extends between the projecting wings. The cut stone arches span between massive rectilinear columns which support a classical, dentiled cornice creating a horizontal band surrounding the building. The columns extend above the cornice creating piers between a wrought iron hand rail and support classical concrete urns. The arcade roof is a simulated porch at the second floor level.

The main entry arch is flanked by rectilinear openings decorated with a twisted rope pattern. Above each of the openings is a medallion depicting a square rigged sailing ship and a modern (at the time of construction) steamship. The main entry at each of the other two projecting wings is a rectilinear opening with massive scrolls in terra cotta above.

The upper three floors are simple planes pierced by rectilinear window openings, the only break in the stucco finish being at the rusticated stone quoin. At the upper portion of the wall, below the eave, a frescoed frieze is punctured with circular attic vents with a wheel spoke design.

A Spanish tile roof in a hip form is supported at the eave overhang by exposed rafters. Between rafters the eave is painted with bright designs.

The entry lobby is a wonder of design and decoration. Multi-toned glazed brick in many patterns and textures create a unique floor covering with the center being concentric circles ending in a multi-pointed star. Walls are buff marble divided with stripes of gold mosaic tile strips and red marble. The ceiling consists of paneled beams with gold, black, green and red designs both on the beams and on the ceiling between, surrounded at the perimeter by a crown molding. Elevator doors are of "modernistic" designs cast in aluminum.

After this elaborate entry all other interior spaces are of simple business-like design. The first floor actually consists of the ground floor and a mezzanine floor.

Landscaping is minimal but tasteful in a small setback space between the building and sidewalks. Along the street a row of coconut palm trees overlook Bishop Street.

Currently, the building is in good repair and receiving adequate maintenance.
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in memory of B. F. Dillingham (there is a plaque dedicated to him in the lobby), the building is named "transportation building" because at that time the Dillingham family was concerned with various types of transportation to and around Hawaii.

Located at the foot of Bishop Street, the building offers an outstanding gateway to the harbor. Its architectural value lies mostly in its scale, texture and quality.
# Geography Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corner</th>
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Approximate Acreage of Nominated Property: 0.00

List All States and Counties for Properties Overlapping State/County Boundaries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>County</th>
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## Form Prepared By

Name and Title: Robert M. Fox (Architect) and Dorothy Riconda (Historian)

Organization:
- Hawaii Register of Historic Places
- Division of State Parks

Street and Number: P. O. Box 621

City or Town: Honolulu

State: Hawaii

Date: Sept. 14, 1972

## State Liaison Officer Certification

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

- National □
- State X
- Local □

Name: Sunao Kido

Title: Chairman & Member

Board of Land & Natural Resources

Date: Dec 12, 1972

## National Register Verification

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Name: [Signature]

Title: [Signature]

Date: 9-7-79

ATTEST:

[Signature]

Date: 7-4-79
The Dillingham Transportation Building is architecturally significant as a good example of the Mediterranean revival style applied to a commercial structure. The first story round arched arcade, upper story quoins and the low pitched, tile, hipped roof, well convey the style. The Mediterranean and Spanish mission revival styles enjoyed tremendous popularity in Hawaii during the twenties. These styles, the closest European equivalents to tropical design, were considered to be the most appropriate forms for Hawaii's climate with their arcades providing a sense of airy openness. The Dillingham Transportation Building is one of a number of downtown buildings to employ these styles, and is the most imposing of the Mediterranean revival buildings in the area.

The Dillingham Transportation Building is an integral part of the historic architectural patina of the now highrise-pocked Bishop Street area. Commanding the entire block on Bishop between Queen Street and Nimitz Highway, this building with its moderately formal facade mediates between the more highly embellished Second Renaissance Revival and less ornate Spanish mission revival styles. Free from the more formal restraints of the Beaux-Arts tradition, yet employing Renaissance revival elements in a commanding way, the Dillingham Transportation Building stands as a significant architectural landmark in Honolulu's downtown area. The building harmonizes well with its eclectic neighbors, the Alexander & Baldwin Building, with its excellent adaptation of Oriental and European features, and the Italian Renaissance inspired Alexander Young Hotel, First National Bank and Davies block (which is no longer extant).

The building is also significant for its associations with Benjamin Franklin Dillingham, the founder of Dillingham Corporation, whom the building memorializes. In 1889, after devoting twenty years to the hardware business, B. F. Dillingham created the Oahu Railroad and Land Company. This company was primarily responsible for the development of the 160 mile Oahu Railroad (NR). Through these rail interests, the corporation became involved with the development of the various sugarcane plantations along its route, and later expanded its cane activities to the islands of Kauai, Maui and Hawaii with the McBryde, Kihei, Puna and Olaa Sugar Companies. In 1910, the company received the government contract to dredge Pearl Harbor, which provided the company with a solid financial base. It has greatly expanded upon this base and presently ranks among the major three corporations in the state.