

MUSEUMS AND GARDENS, part 2

In the last article, we talked about some out of the ordinary places to visit. Here are more museums Oahu has to offer.

Art

Contemporary Art Museum. The former residence of the Cooke-Spalding family, lovely tropical gardens, hilly lawn, and innovative architecture complement the works displayed inside. Children can take art lessons on the first Saturday morning each month, by reservation.

Hawaii State Art Museum. Hotelier Chris Hemmeter bought and renovated the former YMCA to its current splendor. A 2002 gala kicked off the museum's grand opening. Visitors can enjoy First Friday concerts, Second Saturday family fun day, lunchtime art lectures, a memorable café lunch, a gift shop selling gorgeous products from local artisans, and a spacious shaded lawn.

Honolulu Academy of Arts. More than 60,000 works of Asian, Hawaiian, European, and American art that span 5,000 years, are featured at Hawaii's largest private art museum. Family fun day is the third Sunday of each month, featuring entertainment, crafts, and tours.

John Young Museum of Art. Krauss Hall, just south of the Art Building at the University of Hawaii is home to the last major project by painter John Young.

Tennent Art Foundation Gallery. The former home of English artist Madge Tennent displays the paintings that reveal her fascination with Polynesians. Her works are also on display with fine art museums locally, in San Francisco and London.

HAWAIIAN

Iolani Palace. One of only three royal palaces in the U.S., two monarchs, King Kalakaua and Queen Lili'uokalani, governed from here. The building was then used as the capitol building for the succession of governments thereafter until 1969, when the existing State Capitol was built.

Queen Emma Summer Palace. The Boston-built home in Nuuanu Valley was the summer retreat of Queen Emma, her husband King Kamehameha IV, and their young son Prince Albert Edward. The breezy wooden home features furniture, dining ware, and other items of historical interest.

HISTORICAL

Board of Water Supply. Hidden away in the old green pumping station at North King Street and Waiakamilo Road in Kalihi, the museum features the original 1899 steam pump and displays on our island's water cycle, water conservation, and the history of the BWS. By appointment only.

Bishop Museum. Traveling and permanent exhibits in the many exhibit halls, planetarium shows, a garden tour, participation hula, and lava melting demonstration round out a full day's visit.

Hawaii Maritime Center. Kids loved the real racing boat they could climb into, submarine classroom, ship corridors, steering wheels, and all the rest of the touch-please exhibits. This member of the Bishop Museum cluster is currently closed pending reopening.

Hawaiian Railway Society. The coral building downtown and the Ewa station are two remnants of the days when crops were transported by train to Honolulu harbor. The leisurely ride is a pleasant school field trip or Sunday afternoon ride. Don't miss the Halloween ghost story ride!

Judiciary History Center. The Center is visited by schoolchildren along with the Governor's Mansion and State Capitol to learn about the three branches of government. Children watch a film about an early landmark case, re-enact the trial, then hear how the Supreme Court ruled.

Mission Houses Museum. A quaint journey back in time, the museum features tools, clothing, photos of the landscape back then, and other aspects of daily life for the brave evangelists who traveled nearly halfway around the world to bring the Gospel to Hawaii.

Waipahu Plantation Village. The village displays the cultures of immigrants who began life anew in our islands. From all over Asia, Puerto Rico, and Portugal, workers with no common language lived in plantation homes and labored together in the fields during our agricultural golden age.

Washington Place. Captain John Dominis built the colonial style mansion that housed his daughter-in-law, the princess who became Hawaii's last reigning queen, Lili'uokalani. She lived here before residing at Iolani Palace as a monarch. Hawaii's governors also lived here until 2001.

MILITARY

U.S.S. Arizona. Remembered because of her sinking and the loss of the 1,177 servicemen during the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, the Memorial retains the right, in perpetuity, to fly the U.S. flag as if she were an active, commissioned naval vessel. *Battleship Missouri.* Japan surrendered on the Mighty Mo, ending WWII. It served in WWII, the Korean War, and Operation Desert Storm, was decommissioned in 1992, and donated in 1998 as a museum ship. *U.S.S. Bowfin Submarine.* Launched in 1942, it served nine WWII patrols, again in the Korean War, then as a training submarine in Seattle before being decommissioned and stationed at Pearl Harbor.

Pacific Aerospace Museum. Check out the plane closest to the flight simulators and see if you recognize the photo of the pilot. (Hint: He's the President known as "Papa".) The vintage airplanes and backdrop of the battle arenas make for a thoughtful stroll. *Naval Air Museum Barber's Point.* Rich military history is on display at the museum commemorating the Navy's last naval air station in the Hawaiian islands.

Tropic Lightning Museum & U.S. Army. Military buffs will enjoy the U.S. Army's two museums, one at Fort DeRussy in Waikiki and the other in Schofield Barracks, which feature Army tanks, artillery, weaponry, helicopters, and exciting "you were there" photos and technical effects.