

# Hawaii Pacific Architecture

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## Building Castles in the Sky...

Allied Builders System was pleased to be asked to execute the grand scale remodeling of businessman Robert Taira's 36th story 3,800 sf Waikiki penthouse. Architect Bruce Newell's unique design solution called for demolishing the aging interior and creating a stunning tribute to the *kamaaina* bakery king's many accomplishments.

Today, multi-function cabinetry showcases Taira's extensive art collection, triples home storage and hides infrastructure upgrades. A theater-quality entertainment system and new central air-conditioning, hidden under three-inch ceiling panels also helped pave the way for truly palatial living.

"With the children gone, we opted to have everything light, airy, free-flowing toward the panoramic ocean view," said Taira. "We were thrilled with the plans and even more thrilled with the results..."

Adds Newell: "Allied's reputation for professional organization, quality workmanship and client caring preceded our introduction. They performed as advertised. We look forward to doing business with them again."



**ALLIED BUILDERS SYSTEM**  
Teamwork. Our motto. Our method.

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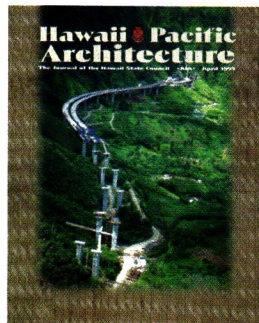
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## IN THIS ISSUE ...

This issue of *Hawaii Pacific Architecture* focuses on the architecture of non-buildings. Two articles address the acquisition and use of water. Raymond H. Sato, manager and chief engineer of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply describes how the pumping stations function to bring water to island residents. Paul Weissich, director emeritus of the Honolulu Botanical Gardens, gives his thoughts on the need for xeriscaping and other water conservation techniques. Janet Thebaud Gillmar talks about structures which have an impact on the urban landscape. Other non-building topics covered include the artillery batteries of Oahu and the island's freeway system. Concrete home-building systems which have revived interest in concrete and masonry residential construction are also discussed. Projects International's Sheraton Waikiki Hotel Porte Cochere and Entry Court renovation is featured as an AIA Award of Merit. This month's cover photo is of the H-3 Windward Viaduct under construction. The Hawaiian Tapa design used on the cover and throughout the magazine is courtesy of the Bishop Museum.

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