



NATIONAL TROPICAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

Chartered by Congress to Create a National Resource in Conservation, Research, and Education

FACT SHEET

PROJECT: THE JULIET RICE WICHMAN BOTANICAL RESEARCH CENTER



Organization:

Founded in 1964, the National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG), a multifaceted environmentally-focused non-profit organization, is ideally-positioned to address the crisis in extinction of tropical plants in Hawai'i and the Pacific. Located within our Gardens are renowned research, conservation, and education departments, all specializing in their respected segments of botanical and related sciences.

NTBG's first garden, the McBryde Garden, was established in the Lāwa'i Valley on the island of Kaua'i in 1970. Since that time, NTBG's holdings have grown to encompass five gardens and three preserves throughout the Hawaiian Islands and South Florida totaling over 1,800 acres.

The mission of the National Tropical Botanical Garden is to enrich life through discovery, scientific research, conservation, and education by perpetuating the survival of plants, ecosystems, and cultural knowledge of tropical regions.

The NTBG is supported through private and public contributions.

Project:

The Juliet Rice Wichman Botanical Research Center

Scope:

For over 44-years, NTBG's tropical-focused herbarium, library, and living collections have been indispensable to our scientific research, P-20 education initiatives, and environmental conservation programs. The resources that these collections provide, not only Hawai'i-based researchers and students, but worldwide, are simply incomparable. It is rare to have all three of these resources — comprehensive living collections of tropical flora, an extensive herbarium, and an extraordinary botanical library — within one location.

The recently completed Botanical Research Center will serve as the hub of botanical research, education and conservation in the Pacific, as well as a significant resource for our island community. Through NTBG's education and outreach initiatives, local residents including the children, adults and the elderly learn about tropical botany, ethnobotany and horticulture, as well as the importance of traditional knowledge, and natural and cultural resource management. These resources made available by the NTBG to our island community provide unprecedented opportunities in Hawai'i.

- Location:** National Tropical Botanical Garden's Headquarters campus
Kalāheo, Kauaʻi, Hawaiʻi
- Project Costs:** \$14.5 million
Campaign: \$17.5 million, including building endowment and retrofit of existing administration building
- Secured Funding:** \$13.0 million toward total project costs
\$ 1.0 million toward building endowment
- Funding Needed:** \$1.5 million for project costs (2008 Hawaiʻi State Legislature Grant-in-aid Request)
\$1.0 million for building endowment
\$1.0 million for retrofit of existing administration building
- Philosophy:** Sustainable "green" design, construction, and maintenance
- Seeking Gold LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification
Design:
- To protect the invaluable herbarium and library collections, the building is designed to withstand hurricane-force winds.
 - To meet or exceed green building design and construction
 - 30 kW photovoltaic energy-generating roof
 - 50,000-gallon water catchment capacity
 - Natural light and views
- Footprint:** Approximately 10,000 square feet; two-story.
Total square footage: approximately 20,000 square feet.
- Architect:** Dean Sakamoto Architects, LLC
- Contractor:** Unlimited Construction Services, Inc.
- Construction Start:** January 31, 2007
- Completion Date:** January 31, 2008
- Additional**
- Project Information:** In addition to housing the herbarium and library collections, the Center makes available laboratories and offices, computer stations, a room for processing and drying new plant specimens, and dedicated work space for students, staff, and visiting researchers.
- The Center also serves as the permanent home of the Loy McCandless Marks Botanical Library, the largest and most significant botanical/horticultural collections in Hawaiʻi, with more than 20,000 books, journals, botanical prints, and archival materials.
- The Botanical Research Center is the fourth master-planned structure constructed upon NTBG's Headquarters campus in Kalāheo, Kauaʻi, Hawaiʻi.
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