

## SITE

Lihikai Historic Residence

## SITE LOCATION

Honolulu, Hawaii

## VISTA® PRODUCT USED

Crystal Elegance V58

## Preserved And Protected

Lihikai is the largest privately owned residence ever constructed in Hawaii. It was built in the 1920s by Hawaii's second Territorial Governor George Carter and his wife Helen on an 11 acre site as an indestructible fortress that was to last forever. Their previous home had fallen prey to termites.

Completed in 1929, the house remained in the Carter family until 1945, when it passed through many owners and eventually became a nursing home. The current owners David and Valeree Dressel purchased the house in 1980 determined to return it to the original magnificence. In the 35 years after the departure of the Carters the building had fallen on hard times and was decidedly run down.

It has taken 20 years of dedication, hard work, and investment to bring back the glories of past time. But as David Dressel puts it "With the exception of the furniture, the Carters could walk in here, look around and say "Yes, this is our house". Exquisite furniture and works of art now enhance the 40 rooms and 30,000 square foot living area. Many are irreplaceable and priceless. With spacious "view" windows and the brilliant and unrelenting Hawaiian sun, there is a constant need for protection from the damaging solar rays. This was at first met by covering furnishings and art during the day with drop cloths and cardboard, which hardly added to the carefully crafted aesthetics!

Frustration and word of mouth led David Dressel to a solar control expert, the local Vista® dealer who quickly explained that it was the sun's ultraviolet light and infrared rays that were combining to cause the fading of the



furnishings, draperies, artwork, paneling, and floors. Moreover this could be thwarted with the installation of appropriate window film. Vista® Crystal Elegance was chosen for its ability to almost totally (99.9%) prevent ultraviolet rays from penetrating the window-glass and its ability to reduce the sun's heat (infra-red) that enters the house through the glass by 26%. The film is a micro-thin laminate of ultraviolet-treated polyester, metallic particles, and ultraviolet-absorbing adhesives which when professionally installed on the inside of window glass is undetectable and will not interfere with viewing. Crystal Elegance is finished with a clear distortion-free scratch-resistant surface that is easily maintained.

It was installed promptly, without interrupting the normal daily house activities, to provide the protection needed and enable the drop cloths and cardboard to disappear! Now the Dressels can enjoy their house all day and yet feel secure in the knowledge that their valuable possessions are safeguarded. Vista® Crystal Elegance film will be on guard for many years to come. The film carries a lifetime residential warranty.



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The nature of certain delicate fabrics and dyes will lead to premature fading regardless of the application of any window film protective treatment.

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**VISTA®**   
WINDOW FILM

CASE HISTORY