

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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received OCT 11 1985

date entered NOV 25 1985

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic HALEKII-PIHANA HEIAU

and/or common WAILUKU HEIAU COMPLEX

2. Location

street & number HEA PLACE, OFF KUHIO PLACE FROM WAIEHU BEACH RD. not for publication

city, town WAILUKU vicinity of

state HAWAII code county MAUI code

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name STATE OF HAWAII, DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES

street & number 1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET

city, town HONOLULU vicinity of state HAWAII

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES

street & number 1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET

city, town HONOLULU state HAWAII

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

STATEWIDE INVENTORY OF HISTORIC
title PLACES MAUI ISLAND #60-4-592 has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1974 federal state county local

depository for survey records HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

city, town HONOLULU state HAWAII

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<input type="checkbox"/> partially	<input type="checkbox"/> rebuilt	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Halekii Heiau and Pihana Heiau (also known as Piihana) are located on a lithified sand dune ridge on the west side of Iao Stream in Paukukalo-Waiehu, Wailuku, Maui (Fig. 1). The site is about 1/4 mile inland of the coast and overlooks the mouth of Iao Stream and the Wailuku Plain. The site is about 70 feet (20 meters) above the present streambed and covers a 10.2 acre area. The heiau (temples) are about 1/2 mile outside the city of Wailuku.

The two heiau are on the same north-south ridge with Halekii Heiau being approximately 125 meters north of Pihana Heiau. Both heiau have suffered considerable damage during the historic period from natural erosion. The eastern side of the sand dune has been eroded largely by Iao Stream and much of the eastern half of Pihana Heiau has been lost. The area has been used by the Hawaii National Guard which constructed a watertank, pipeline, and dirt road across the surface of Halekii Heiau. The eastern and northeastern portions of Halekii were reconstructed in 1959, preserving much of the site's integrity.

The two heiau are constructed of stacked waterworn basalt boulders collected from Iao Stream. The intact portions of the heiau indicate that the sides of the heiau were stepped or terraced and an ili-ili (waterworn basalt pebbles) paved platform existed on the top of the heiau. Constructed upon the terrace and platform surfaces were a number of features, including depressions, pits, walls, and small enclosures.

The two heiau were first identified by Thrum (1909) in his listing of Hawaiian heiau. Stokes visited the site in 1916, making notes and mapping the two heiau (Fig. 2). Likewise, Walker in 1931 made notes and drawings of the two heiau (Fig. 3). Kenneth Emory of Bishop Museum was in charge of the reconstruction of portions of Halekii in 1959 and another drawing of the heiau was completed. (Fig. 4). This sequence of maps suggests that the major erosion of both heiau had occurred by 1916 with the eastern half of Pihana being eroded by Iao Stream and the western half of Halekii collapsing down the steep slope. Recently (1980s), sand mining on the southern edge of Pihana Heiau has threatened further erosion of the sand dune ridge.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Halekii Heiau and Pihana Heiau represent two prehistoric heiau in the Wailuku area that have suffered from erosion but have been subject to relatively little human disturbance or alteration. The heiau, especially Halekii, retain much of their integrity in terms of construction, form, and visual vantage point. The reconstruction of Halekii in 1959, although not well documented, stabilized the eroding portions on the eastern side of Halekii. The two heiau figure in the religious system of Maui and Hawaii from the prehistoric period until the traditional Hawaiian religious system was abolished in 1819. The heiau were important for the ritual ceremonies prior to the battles that eventually resulted in the uniting of Maui with the other Hawaiian Islands under Kamehameha I. The site is also important for its association with Kahekili, a major figure in Maui's history who is connected with Halekii-Pihana from circa 1765–1790, and with Kamehameha I during his conquering of Maui (1792). The archaeological testing has indicated the presence of subsurface cultural deposits and features associated with the occupation and use of these heiau. Further archaeological work might provide additional information on how the heiau were used, other features associated with heiau use, and structural form. The significance of these heiau today is for ongoing Hawaiian religious practices as inferred from the offerings left at the heiau, and for a park interpretation program that will present information about the Hawaiian religion and the heiau structures. Halekii and Pihana are the only heiau which are still intact and are open to the public in the Kahului-Wailuku area of Maui.

This nomination represents two sites.

9. Major Bibliographical References

EMORY, KENNETH AND ROBERT HOMMON
 1972 ENDANGERED HAWAIIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES WITHIN MAUI COUNTY. BISHOP MUSEUM PUB.

YENT, MARTHA-1983 HELEKII-PIHANA STATE MONUMENT: ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTERPRETIVE THEMES. MANUN. ON FILE AT DIV. OF STATE PARKS HONOLULU, HAWAII

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 10 ACRES
 Quadrangle name WAILUKU Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A	0 4	7 6 0 7 2 0	2 3 1 4 0 0 0	B	0 4	7 6 0 5 3 0	2 3 1 3 7 3 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	0 4	7 6 0 4 3 0	2 3 1 3 8 3 0	D	0 4	7 6 0 6 3 0	2 3 1 4 0 6 0
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification THE TWO HEIAU WERE CONSTRUCTED ATOP A SAND DUNE RIDGE RUNNING NORTHWEST-SOUTHEAST. THE HISTORIC PROPERTY CORRESPONDS TO THE STATE PARK PROPERTY SOUTHWEST OF THE WATER TANK FOUNDATION AND THE PARKING LOT.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title MARTHA YENT, ARCHAEOLOGIST
 organization DIVISION OF STATE PARKS date APRIL, 1985
 street & number 1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET telephone (808)548-7460
 city or town HONOLULU state HAWAII

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

for State Historic Preservation Officer signature 
 title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date 9/24/85

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

for Yvonne R. Stewart date 11/25/85
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____
 Chief of Registration

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These heiau are important to the history of Maui and the Hawaiian Islands, especially during the period 1750-1819 when Kamehameha I was uniting the islands (Kamakau, 1961). Keopuolani, a kapu (taboo) chiefess of divine rank, descendant of the ruling kings of Maui and Hawaii, and wife of Kamehameha I, mother of Liholiho (Kamehameha II) and Kauikeaouli (Kamehameha III), was born here. Liholiho, after he had been established as heir to Kamehameha's kingdom, recited the prayer rededicating Pihana Heiau to the gods of his father. The body of Kamehameha Nui (an uncle of Kamehameha I), who ruled Maui before his brother Kahekili succeeded him, was laid here before being taken to a final resting place on Molokai. Kahekili himself lived here at times (ca. 1765). And Kekaulike, father of Kahekili, died at Halekii in 1736. Thrum reported being told that Kamehameha I invoked his war god at Pihana Heiau after his defeat of Kalanikupuli's forces in the battle of Iao in 1790.

Some say the heiau were built by the menehune (legendary race of small people who were known for their overnight construction projects) in a single night with rock from Paukukalo beach (Beckwith, 1970:333). Others credit Kahekili with building the heiau. Halekii is thought to be the chief's establishment (hale or house) guarded by images (kii). Thus, Halekii is translated as "house of images". On this platform would be a family heiau for ceremonies to the family gods. Pihana was the major heiau in the area and is translated as "the gathering place of the kings". Historical references refer to Pihana frequently and it appears that Pihana was the more significant of the two heiau. Pihana is reported to be a luakini (sacrificial) heiau after it was rededicated by Kahekili.

The Wailuku Plain to the east and Iao Valley to the south of Halekii and Pihana heiau were terraced for wet taro (Colocasia esculenta) cultivation and these taro fields were irrigated with water diverted from Iao Stream during the period of heiau construction and use. The Wailuku spring was located below Pihana Heiau and the taro grown in this area was for the use of the alii (nobility class) only. Much of the evidence for this agricultural system was destroyed by the 1916 flood and by historic cultivation for sugarcane and pineapple.

Halekii and Pihana Heiau were designated the Wailuku Heiau Complex during the Statewide Inventory of Historic Places in 1974 under site number 592. During 1982-1983, archaeological mapping and testing of Halekii-Pihana State Monument was conducted. Based on this work, the following features and descriptions were outlined (Fig. 5):

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HALEKII HEIAU: Measures 100 meters (north-south) by 50 meters.

- 592-1: Uppermost terrace which steps down 1m from the level platform surface. Terrace averages 2m in width and is part of the reconstruction on the north and east sides of the heiau.
- 592-2: Middle terrace which steps down 75cm and averages 2m in width. Part of the reconstruction on the north and east sides of the heiau.
- 592-3: Lower terrace which steps down 80cm and is underlain by the natural slope of the sand dune. Part of the reconstruction on the north and east sides of the heiau.
- 592-4: Ramp down the eastern face and through terraces 1 through 3. Located about 50m south of the northeastern corner.
- 592-5: Platform built of stacked boulders on sand dune slope below the lower terrace and about 25m south of the northeastern corner. Boulder alignment defines the rectangular shape measuring 10 by 6 meters with a basalt rock fill and level surface.
- 592-6: Platform at base of the ramp on the sand dune slope. Boulder alignment running north-south with slight rock fill. Some erosional disturbance.
- 592-7: L-shaped wall on the north end of the heiau platform. Walls measure 5m and 4m in length, 70cm in height, and 110cm in width. Constructed of stacked basalt boulders and is part of the reconstruction on the platform surface.
- 592-8: Pit feature within feature 7. Depression measures 75cm in diameter and 25cm in depth. The depression is circular and boulder-lined.
- 592-9: East-west stacked basalt wall. Measures 5m in length, 95cm in width, and 70cm in height.
- 592-10: L-shaped wall of stacked basalt boulders. Walls measure 5m and 4m in length, 70cm in width, and 60cm in height. Oriented the opposite of feature 7.

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- 592-11: East-west stacked basalt wall. Measures 5m in length, 110cm in width, and 80cm in height. Pit feature on west end of wall measures 125cm in diameter and 50cm in depth. Depression is circular and rock-lined.
- 592-12: Pit feature on south side of feature 10 wall. Circular, rock-lined depression measures 115cm in diameter and 55cm in depth.
- 592-13: Platform constructed on uppermost terrace and level with heiau platform. Platform measures 6 by 2 meters and is 1m above the level of terrace 1.
- 592-14: Second platform adjacent to feature 13 platform. Rectangular in shape, measuring 5 by 2 meters and about 40cm in height.
- 592-15: Rectangular rock pile or possible platform. Measures 3 by 2 meters and 40cm in height. Located at the western edge of the stone surface on the platform surface.
- 592-16: Rectangular rock pile or possible platform. Measures 2 by 2 meters and 30cm in height. East-west stacked basalt wall runs off the east side of the pile. Wall measures 6m in length, 90cm in width, and 70cm in height.
- 592-17: East-west stacked basalt wall. Measures 6m in length, 85cm in width, and 60cm in height.
- 592-18: Rectangular rock pile or possible platform. Measures 2 by 2 meters and 25cm in height. Located at the western edge of the stone surface.
- 592-19: Ovoid depression within heiau platform surface. Depression measures 2.4m in diameter and 60cm in depth. Depression is rock-lined.
- 592-20: Large ovoid depression within heiau platform surface. Measures about 8 by 4 meters with curved corners and is within the larger enclosure which measures 2.4m in diameter and 65cm in depth.
- 592-21: Stacked basalt wall running roughly north-south on southern heiau platform surface. Wall measures 10m in length and 40cm in height.

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592-22: Platform constructed on the uppermost terrace and to the south of the ramp. Platform measures 5 by 2 meters and is about 70cm above the terrace surface.

592-23: Rectangular enclosure adjacent to ramp and feature 22. Measures about 4 by 2 meters and 70cm in depth from the heiau platform.

592-24: Triangular rock pile or possible platform. Measures about 6 by 2 meters and only 40cm in height.

592-25: L-shaped stacked basalt wall. Walls measure 3m and 2m in length, 90cm in width, and 45cm in height.

592-26: Rock mound measuring 2.5m in length. Slopes down to the south at this point.

592-27: Circular, rock-lined depression in heiau platform. Measures 130cm in diameter and 70cm in depth.

592-28: Uppermost terrace in southwestern corner. Steps down about 50cm.

592-29: Middle terrace in southwestern corner. Steps down about 80cm.

592-30: Lower terrace in southwestern corner. Steps down to the sand dune slope.

592-31: Roughly circular, rock-lined pit on the southwestern portion of the heiau platform surface. Measures 3.4m in diameter and about 30cm in depth. May represent a military feature.

PIHANA HEIAU: Measures 90 meters (north-south) by 80 meters.

592-32: Rock mound that may be from road clearing or may be a collapsed feature. Runs east-west on the south side of the dirt road for a length of about 30m. Rock-lined, circular pit on east end of rock mound that measures 2.2m in diameter and 50cm in depth.

592-33: Rectangular rock pile or possible platform that measures 23 by 6 meters. Retaining wall on the north face measures 30cm in height. Irregular southern edge with some collapse. Boulder fill and a semi-level surface.

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- 592-34: U-shaped feature on southern edge of feature 33. Open on the southern (mauka) side and measures 1.5m in diameter and 30cm in height.
- 592-35: Boulder paving on surface and slope of the northern edge of the heiau. The paved surface measures about 13 by 2 meters and the slope measures about 3m in height.
- 592-36: Boulder alignment oriented north-south on southern edge of heiau. Boulder feature measures 1m in width and 50cm in height. Slopes down to the south of the alignment which may represent the southern edge of the heiau.
- 592-37: Low, circular alignment of boulders measuring 95cm in diameter and 30-40cm in height. At the southern end of the heiau.
- 592-38: Circular pit feature measuring 3m in diameter on southern end of heiau complex.
- 592-39: Fenceposts on southern end of complex. Mapped as future reference points to evaluate the erosion of the sand dune.