

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED AUG 1 1979  
DATE ENTERED SEP 13 1979

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 Hanalei Pier

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Hanalei Bay

CITY, TOWN Hanalei VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2

STATE Hawaii CODE 15 COUNTY Kauai CODE 07

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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: recreational

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation

STREET & NUMBER 869 Punchbowl Street

CITY, TOWN Honolulu, VICINITY OF STATE Hawaii

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Bureau of Conveyances

STREET & NUMBER 1151 Punchbowl Street, Kalanimoku Building

CITY, TOWN Honolulu, STATE Hawaii

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Kauai Historical Society Survey

DATE 1979  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kauai Museum

CITY, TOWN Lihue STATE Hawaii

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hanalei Pier is a steel reinforced concrete finger pier which extends from the beach out into Hanalei Bay. It is 340' long and has a 32' 6" x 72' 6" terminus with a shed on it. The concrete deck sits on 14" x 14" square piles with pile caps and knee braces. The span between the piles is fifteen feet on center, except at the terminus where the seven bays are ten feet on center.

The ten foot wide center section of the deck is slightly sunken and contains railway tracks. This area is filled with soil and grown over with grass; however, the tracks remain visible. These tracks were used solely to service the pier and do not connect to any line.

The shed at the end of the pier is a frame structure with a corrugated iron, gable roof. In 1973 this structure was reinforced and reroofed, and is in good condition. This shed was originally built in 1940.

The pier is in bad condition at the present with considerable spalling under the deck, as it has not been used for shipping purposes since the late 1930's. The wooden fenders and metal mooring cleats which once were integral parts of the functioning pier, no longer remain. The pier is still used by fishermen and persons using the beach. The State legislature has just appropriated \$100,000 for the pier's renovation, so its condition should hopefully improve in the not too distant future.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1912, 1922

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Johnson

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hanalei Pier is significant as a good example of a typical finger pier constructed in the 1920's in Hawaii. It is one of approximately a dozen such remaining structures in the state. It is one of the best known piers in the state due to its magnificent setting. Jutting out from the white sand beach into the azure crescent of Hanalei Bay, it presents a picturesque view for tourist and local alike. The pier is prominent in most promotional pictures of this area and has been featured in several movies, the most notable being South Pacific.

The present pier, constructed in 1912 with a wooden deck, replaced an earlier, shorter pier which pre-dated 1892. The structure was used seasonally, primarily to transport rice from Hanalei to Honolulu. Due to the difficulty in maintaining the wooden deck, the State legislature in 1921 appropriated \$25,000 for the construction of a new concrete deck for the 1912 pier. Conney and Morris were awarded the contract and completed the job in late 1922.

With its strong association with the transportation of Hanalei's rice to Honolulu, the pier is historically significant as one of the last remaining vestiges of the rice industry in Hanalei. The Chinese were cultivating rice at Hanalei at least by 1882 and by 1892 Hanalei and Waioli, with 750 acres of land devoted to rice farming, was the largest rice producing area in Hawaii, followed by Mokuleia (738 acres) and Kailua-Waimanalo (400 acres). At this time rice was the number two agricultural product of the Hawaiian kingdom, having developed as a major crop in the 1860's when numerous Chinese farmers left the cane plantations following the expiration of their five-year contracts. Occupying taro patches vacated by a declining Hawaiian population, these farmers found a ready market for their product in Honolulu and California as more and more Chinese immigrated to these areas. At the time of annexation Hawaii was third in rice production in the United States, behind Louisiana and South Carolina. Annexation, however, spelled the downfall of rice production in most areas of Hawaii. The removal of all tariffs boomed the sugar industry and caused agricultural land costs to rise from \$10-20/acre to \$30-35/acre, forcing much rice land to be converted to cane use. Other problems further compounded this drastic rise in land costs. Annexation brought with it Chinese exclusion policies which led

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Original Blueprints on file at the Department of Transportation, Harbors Division.  
 Garden Island, December 5, 1911, p.3 c.3  
Report of Superintendent of Public Works, 1921, 1922, 1923.  
Coulter, John W. and Chun, Chee Kwon, Chinese Rice Farmers in Hawaii, U of H Bulletin,  
 Volume 16, March 1937.  
Annual Report of the Board of Harbor Commissioners, 1917-18, 1932-33, 1934-35.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 1/4 acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A	0 4	4 4 8 4 0 0	2 4 5 6 8 1 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This nomination includes the property on Kauai at TMK 5-5-01-8 and the pier extending out into Hanalei Bay.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Carol Wilcox and Don Hibbard

ORGANIZATION

Kauai Historical Society and State Parks

DATE

April 25, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 621

TELEPHONE

548-6408

CITY OR TOWN

Honolulu,

STATE

Hawaii

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

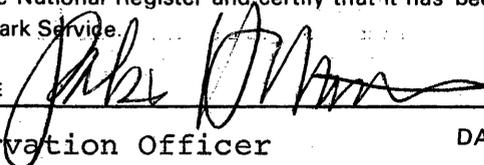
NATIONAL

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE July 27, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

9-13-79

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

9-12-79

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to a decreased market for rice. In a matter of five years Hawaii's Chinese population dropped by 6,000, which was a significant factor in the Honolulu market as the Japanese did not purchase the local rice, preferring to use rice imported from their homeland. Other difficulties confronting the rice farmer included an increased need to fertilize as the well-used lands began to evidence signs of exhaustion and a labor shortage caused by many Chinese leaving their farms in hopes of improving their situations. Due to its isolated location Hanalei escaped certain of these difficulties, especially the rising land costs. However, it could not avoid the impact of the development of the rice industry in California. Between 1912 and 1917 California's rice acreage jumped from 1,400 to 80,000, and by 1920 the state had 162,000 acres under cultivation. By 1919 Hawaii's rice acreage had fallen to 5,801, nearly half of its 1909 acreage of 9,425. A final blow fell on the independent rice growers in 1927 when the rice borer was inadvertently introduced to the islands. This destructive insect caused Hanalei, Huleia, Wailua, and Kapaa farmers to lose between 50-75% of their crops in 1928 and 1929. By 1934 the acreage devoted to rice farming in Hawaii had declined to 1,090. By this time Hanalei was producing over two-thirds of Hawaii's rice, making it the last major rice production center in Hawaii.

The pier is also significant for its associations with transportation history in Hawaii. Since the islands of Hawaii are separated from one another and the rest of the world by the Pacific Ocean, ships and boats have been the major means of transporting goods between the islands and frequently to different areas of the same island. On Kauai, in the early twentieth century, Port Allen was the major port with Nawiliwili and Hanalei serving as local shipping centers. Large-scale development of Nawiliwili harbor commenced in 1926 and with its completion in 1930 Nawiliwili became Kauai's primary harbor. As a result of its expansion, the tonnage handled by Nawiliwili jumped from 3,766 tons in 1929 to 56,439 tons in 1931. Much of this increased tonnage reflected an improved highway system which led to a decreased use of smaller ports on the island. The declining significance of Hanalei pier can be perceived in the rice tonnage handled at Nawiliwili. In 1924 the port handled only 13 tons of rice as compared with 1930's 205, 1931's 242 and 1933's 475. As a result of little use Hanalei pier was abandoned in 1933, marking the end of an era of inter-island transportation.

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From the 1940's until the present the pier has been primarily a recreational resource for the local Kauai people, for fishing, chatting or picnicking. Located adjacent to a beach park, it is a highly scenic attraction to visitor and resident alike.