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NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Waihee Church

other names/site number Waihee Protestant Church

2. Location

street & number Kahekili Highway not for publication

city or town Waihee vicinity

state Hawaii code HI county Maui code 009 zip code 96793

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kirk W. Shue march 16, 1994
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

for
Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

Entered in the National Register Date of Action 4.21.94

Waihee Church

Maui, Hawaii

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION / religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION / religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation lava block

walls lava block

roof asphalt shingles

other wood siding

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Religion

Period of Significance

1848-1858

Significant Dates

1848

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Waihee Church
Name of Property

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References Old Hawaiian Datum, International 1909 Spheroid
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

0	4
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7	5	8	4	3	5
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2	3	1	6	8	2	5
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Zone Easting Northing

3

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Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Daina Penkiunas, Architectural Historian
organization State Historic Preservation Division date February 24, 1992
street & number 33 S. King Street, 6th floor telephone 808-587-0047
city or town Honolulu state HI zip code 96813

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Waihee Protestant Church c/o Alama Ayers
street & number Rt 1, Box 119 telephone _____
city or town Wailuku state HI zip code 96793

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Waihee Church is located on a small parcel heavily planted with trees and flowers in the plantation town of Waihee. The construction of the present stone church was begun in 1848 and completed in 1858. The interior and exterior of the church are plastered.

The church measures 66 feet by 30 feet and is twelve feet in height. The church is built of lava block laid with coral lime mortar. The transitional area between the stone walls and the roof gable is covered with horizontal wood siding. The roof of the church is framed in wood and currently covered with asphalt shingles; the original roof was of wood shingles.

The interior is a single open space with a small raised chancel area. The front elevation has a single door; the side elevations have four windows and double wood doors. There are two windows on either side of the doors and all openings are regularly spaced. The rear elevation has two windows. The floor is of wood plank laid over wood framing. The ceiling is also of wood planking.

The structure has suffered significantly from storms, floods, and termites. The church originally had a wood framed bell tower, built up in three stages and topped with a steeple. The tower was located over the chancel end of the church. Due to water and termite damage, the bell tower was removed in 1987. In 1988 the windows and doors were replaced, although the sills continue to show signs of damage. The windows are currently six over six double hung sashes and are probably similar to the original windows. The church has also suffered the loss of its original koa furniture. The heavy and massive furniture was stolen about 1980 and never recovered. At present, the Waihee Church is in need of major repair. The building shows continuing signs of water and termite damage. The roof is in need of immediate replacement and the walls need to be replastered to protect the stone and mortar.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

The Waihee Church is significant for its architecture and its role in the religious history of Hawaii. The church was founded as a mission station of the mother church in Wailuku. About 1830 Mr. Jonathan S. Green, a missionary architect, built a thatch and pole meeting house on the present site. In 1832 Mr. Green was joined by Mr. Rueben Tinker and together they made plans for the establishment of a permanent church in Waiheee. Records indicate that between 100 and 300 Hawaiians attended the early meetings.

In 1848 the stone walls of the present church were begun. The dimensions established by the missionary architects were 66 feet in length, 30 feet in width and 12 feet in height. In 1852 the walls must have been at their full height because church records indicate that the building was rethatched that year. In January 1858, the building was substantially complete, but without a floor. However, in the May 1858 Wailuku station report, W. P. Alexander wrote: "We have added a board floor to the stone meeting house of Waihee, and also doors and windows, so that it is now a comfortable house of worship." (Manuscript in Hawaii Mission Children's Society)

On August 11, 1868, the Waihee Protestant Church was formally established as a branch of the Kaahumanu Church of Wailuku and the Reverend L. W. Papalimu was seated as the first licensed minister of the church. The church then had a succession of ministers some serving as little as one year, others as long as twenty. Since 1967 the church has been without a pastor.

In 1930 the church was devastated by a flash flood cascading from the mountains at the back of the church property. Members say that about three feet of water entered the church. While the thick masonry walls kept the church building intact, most of the church records were destroyed.

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

The construction and plan of the Waihee Church closely resemble those of the other stone churches built by the missionaries on the islands of Maui, Oahu, Kauai, Hawaii, and Molokai. Typically, the labor for the churches was supplied by the local population served by the church. The materials were either gathered by the church members, donated by a chief or wealthy individual, or in some case purchased in part by the missionary board. Mortar was made by gathering and burning coral.

The architectural style is a vernacular adaptation of the fine meeting houses of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries found throughout New England. Because the majority of missionaries came from and were schooled in New England, they brought with them the preconceived idea of the church form and character. In Hawaii it was translated into available materials -- lava block and heavy timbers -- and built in a simple and utilitarian style. The presence of the three tier tower and steeple on the Waihee church indicated the building's aspiration toward higher style buildings.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9, 10 Page 1

9. Bibliography:

"Waihee Church Starts Restoration," Historic Hawaii News (January/ February 1977).
Architectural report by Ormond Kelley / Edmond Akiona Architects, Inc.
Children's Mission Society files
Howard Morris, "The Waihee Protestant Church"

10. Verbal Boundary Description:

This nomination includes all of the property owned by the Waihee Protestant Church in 1992 located at TMK: 3-2-07:23.

Boundary Justification:

This is the property historically associated with the Waihee Church.