

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 21 1976
DATE ENTERED SEP 30 1976

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

ODALMELECH

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Ngermelech, Melekeok Municipality

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Babelthuap I.

VICINITY OF Palau Islands

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands 96940

COUNTY

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

X SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

X OBJECT

IN PROCESS

X YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. Kitalong Secharuleong

STREET & NUMBER

Ngermelech Melekeok Municipality

CITY, TOWN

Palau District, TTPI

STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Melekeok Municipality

STREET & NUMBER

Ngerams, Babelthuap Island

CITY, TOWN

Palau Islands, TTPI

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Ichiro Dingelius, Acting Land Commissioner

DATE

January 20, 1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Palau District Land Commission Office

CITY, TOWN

Koror, Palau District TTPI

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

About thirty to forty feet from the sandy beach in the center of Melekeok Municipality is the home of Mr. Secharuleong. In front of this house, along the main and only road of Melekeok, is a traditional Palauan stone platform. On this platform stands the Odalmelech monolith symbolizing an ancient god and five other such symbolic monoliths. Since this is privately owned the whole area to the shoreline is maintained respectfully clean. The platform at one time contained six important carved basaltic stones, but now "Mengachui" has been removed.

The original collection of Melekeok Monoliths:

PALAUAN NAME:	ENGLISH TRANSLATION:	SIZE:	
		(height)	(diameter)
Odalmelech	Face of God Melech	8.6'	3.7'
Iwaiuch	Sargeant at Arms	8.9'	3.7'
Orrengschais	One Who Hears & Informs	4'	2'
Btanch	Upstanding	3.4'	2'
Mengachui	Maneater	4'	2'
Obadebusch	Trumpeter - Public Informant	3.3'	2.12'

The general condition of these monoliths is good and hardly altered by time and weathering.

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 checked="" 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	unknown	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	unknown
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance is based on the importance of these monoliths in Palauan folk history and legend.

The legend has it that Odalmelech was the god of this village of Ngermelech, the present Malekeok Municipality. The other monoliths (names on the previous page) were his councilmen. One afternoon, Odalmelech told his (monolith) cohorts that he intended to lay huge stone work ("Belura delngobel") the ground of the village. They started bringing in big reef stones. They began at the northeast side of the village (presently behind the schoolyard). Stone work can still be seen at the back of the school. Dawn was approaching and Odalmelech, seeing that they could not finish work in time was very angry. He called his monolith crew together and told them of the shame of being caught working in the morning sun. So he then ordered the crew to carve the monoliths, including himself, and set them in their respective places. After this was done he took all his crew and disappeared.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. The Archaeology of Palau Islands, Douglass Osborne, 1966.
2. Mr. K. Secharuleong (Melekeok) -- official informant, 1975.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

UTM REFERENCES

A	5 3	4 6 0	4 2 0	8 2 8 8 8 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	
C					D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Simeon Skilang, Land Resources Specialist, Land Commission Office & Technical Advisor
 ORGANIZATION Palau District Historic Preservation Committee DATE _____

STREET & NUMBER
Koror, Palau District

TELEPHONE _____

CITY OR TOWN
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands 96940

STATE _____

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

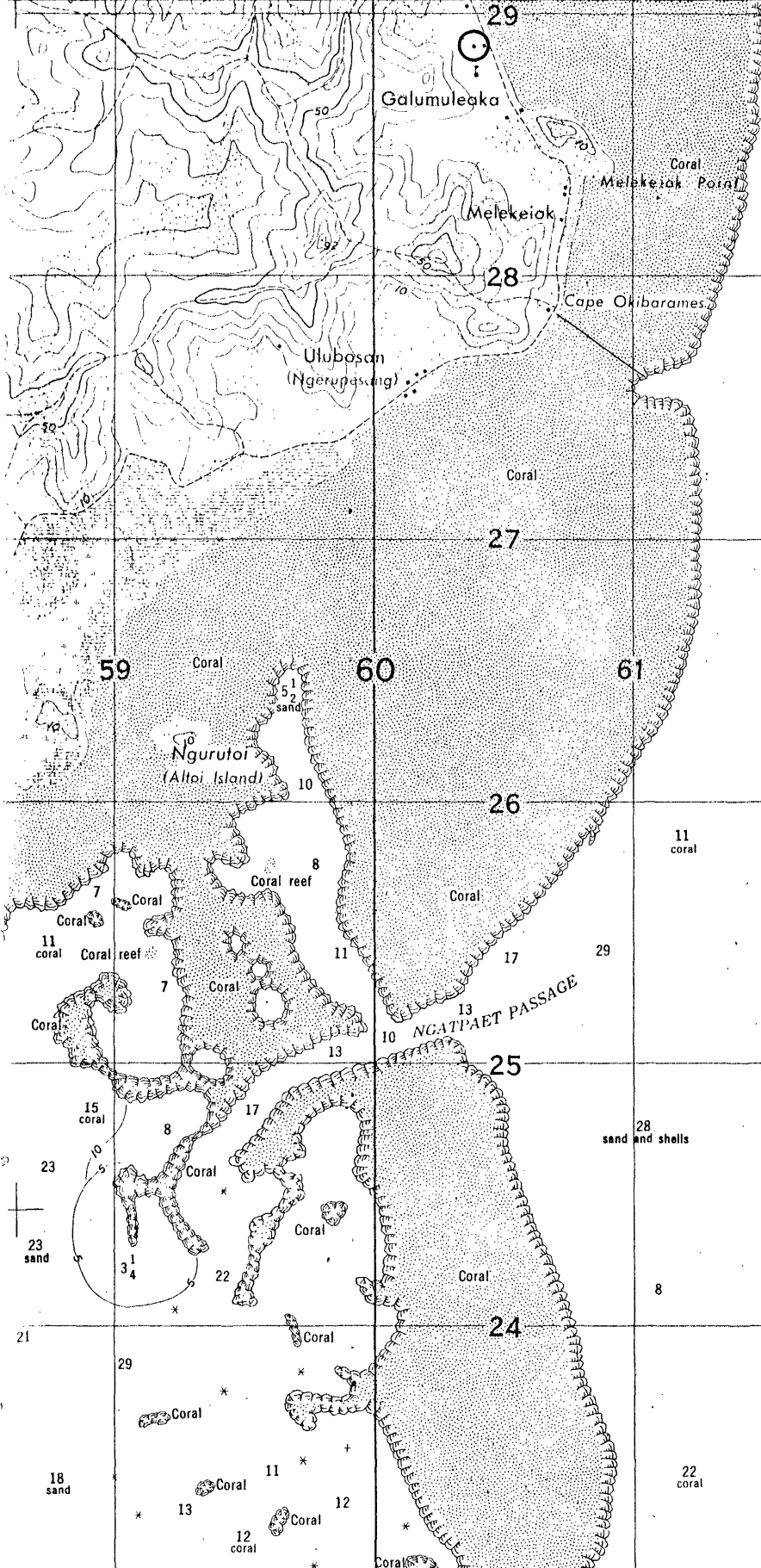
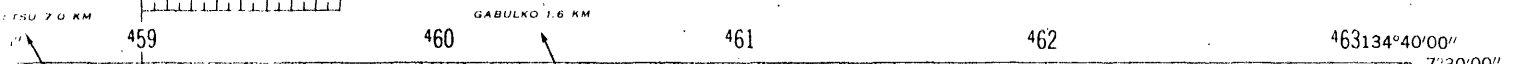
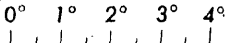
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL _____ STATE _____ LOCAL X

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 Neil K. Chase *Neil K. Chase*
 TITLE Chief, Branch of Resources and Land Use, Div. of Lands and Surveys, TTPI 96950 DATE _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
Acting Director <i>Pat C. Wilson</i> DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE <u>8/17/76</u>
ATTEST <i>Charles Abungit</i> KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <u>8-17-76</u>



Odalmelech
Melekeok, Palau
UTM Reference:
53/460420/828880

PACIFIC OCEAN

