

PH0692280

DATA SHEET

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

METEU 'L KLECHEM

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Melekeok

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Babelthuaq Island

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF Palau District

STATE

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands 96950

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input 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	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: bridge

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Uchuladokoe Clan % Ubal Tellei

STREET & NUMBER

Melekeok

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Land Management Office

STREET & NUMBER

Koror, Palau District

CITY, TOWN

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands 96950

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

none

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE 1948

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is an octagonal stone of monolithic type and measures approximately seven feet long, two feet thick and one and one half foot wide at its narrowest. It weighs approximately 3000 lbs... Originally it reposed at Delui Boathouse in Koror Island, Palau District as a place signifying gathering of important village men for the purpose of dividing the catch from fishing expeditions.

In 1795 it was transported by canoe carrying the body of Metau to Melekeok--his place of birth--for proper burial. The stone was at Melekeok main pier, Beriber, and only after the war in 1948 was it removed to its present site to be used as a bridge over a creek. This creek empties to Beriber about 100 yards to the east. Meteu 'l Klechem is just about 30 feet from Ongeluluul site.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input 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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			identified with the traditional distribu- tion systems of food

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In the year 1785, Reklai's brother, Metau, was ambushed and killed by Derebai of Koror Island, Palau as a punishment for his attacks on Yapese boats en route to Koror. Metau's body was brought to Delui boat house (Koror) and laid on top of this great stone to await proper ransom from Reklai.

This represented a great buy in which Reklai spent 4 bachel, 9 chelebucheb, 12 kluk and 14 kldait--\$40,000.; \$18,000.; \$1,200; and \$490,000. respectively. The overall total was \$59,690.00. The stone together with Metau's body was brought to Melekeok on a Kabekelfor burial as transactions of this nature were indicative of the placement of the individual in Palauan cultural hierarchy.

The significance of this stone to Palauan culture is keyed to the individual worth of man.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Thomas Tellei, official informant, November 10th., 1975.
- Santos Ngodrii, official informant, October 12, 1975.
- Antonio Polloi, official informant, March 10, 1976.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 100 sq. ft.

UTM REFERENCES

A	5 3	4 6 0 6 ⁴ 0	8 2 7 ⁹⁰ 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
N/A			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Palau District Historic Preservation Committee

Simeon Skilang, Land Resource Specialist & Tech. Advisor:

DATE

May 5, 1976

ORGANIZATION

Land Commission Office

TELEPHONE

332

STREET & NUMBER

Koror, Palau District

STATE

CITY OR TOWN

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, 96950

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL Palau District

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



TITLE Chief, Branch of Resources & Land Use; Div. Lands/Surveys

DATE May 28, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

9/30/76

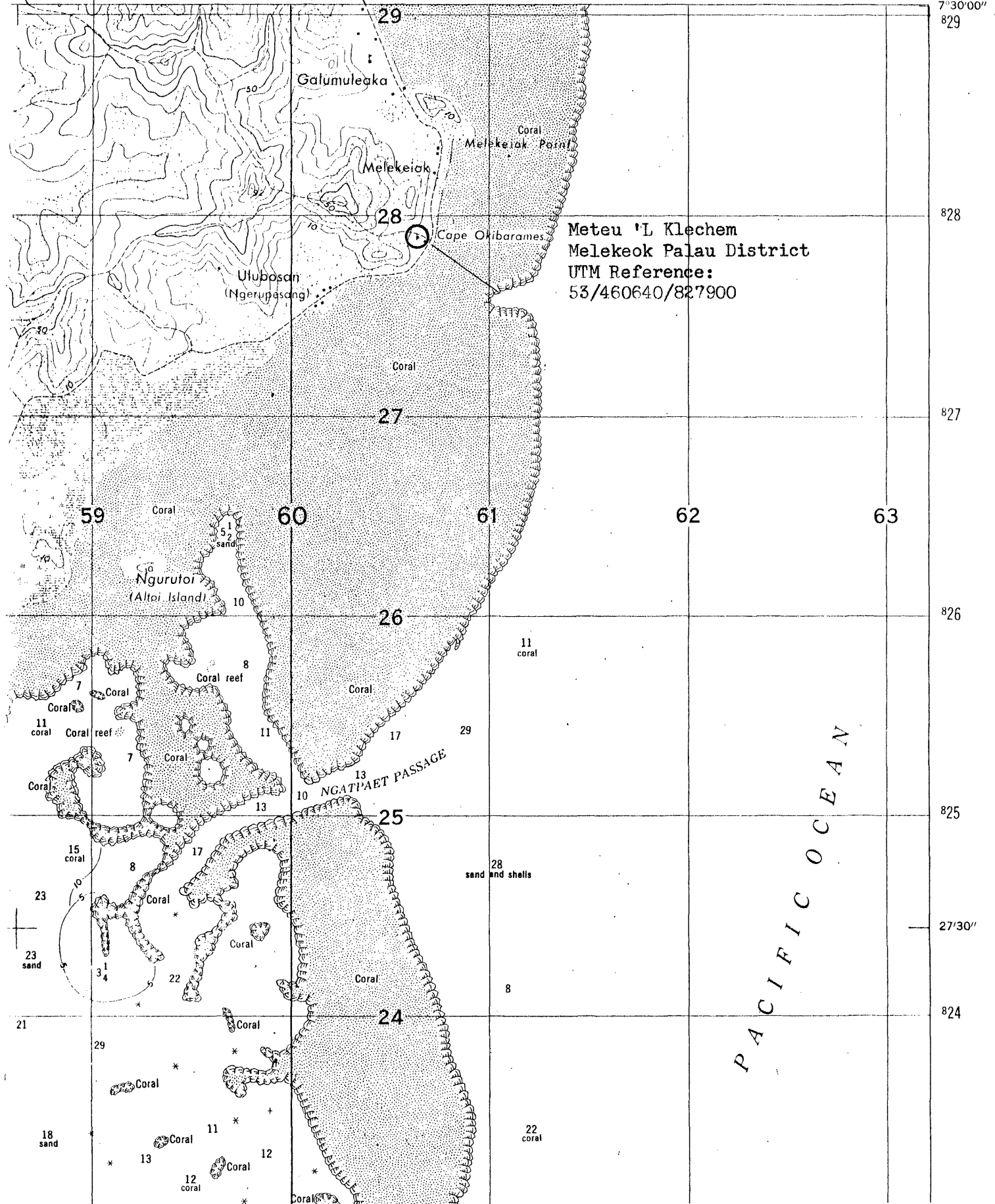
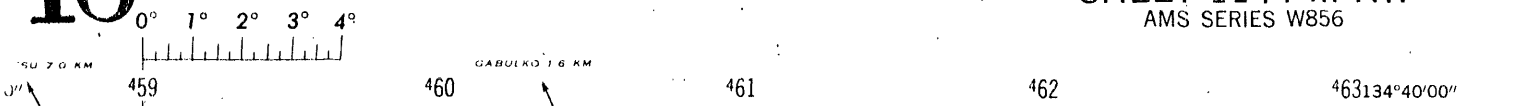
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

9/30/76

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Metu 'L Klechem
Melekeok Palau District
UTM Reference:
53/460640/827900

PACIFIC OCEAN