Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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	NAME COMMON:							
		h Dikes						
Spanish Dikes AND/OR HISTORIC:								
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2. L	OCATION							
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	CITY OR TOWN:							
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3. C	CLASSIFICATION		1 33	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		10100		
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	(Check One)	OWNE	KONIP		STATUS	TO THE PUBL	IC	
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1	Object	☐ Both	XX Being	Considered	Preservation wo	rk Unrestricted	1	
					in progress			
	PRESENT USE (Check One or	More as Appropriate)						
ļ	☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☐ Park ☐ Transportation ☐ Comment							
		11					-	
	☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious ☐ UNUSEQ ☐ Entertainment ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific						-	
	OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME:							
	Pedro	S.N. Camacho						
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CONDITION		(Check One)							
	☐ Excellent	X Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed			
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	☐ Alter	red	✓ Unaltered	1	Moved Moved	√ Original Site			

The Spanish Dikes are located in the eastern end of the Agana Swamp ca. 900 m NE of Agana Springs on USGS Agana Quadrangle Map (1968). They may be reached by driving S on Highway 4 from Leary Junction 1.2 miles to a paved road on the E side of the highway leading to Agana Springs. Drive this road 0.8 miles past the springs. At this point, the paved road goes S to Afami and a dirt road goes NE. Drive the latter 0.2 miles where a badly marked road swings E. Follow this end, ca 500 m. A trail lead E to the swamp, then N to the dikes ca. 50 m.

The dikes are in two segments separated by low hills. The first segment 70 m long and angled. The easternmost half is oriented 70° E of N while the western half is 80° E of N. This segment is 1.0 m wide and between 0.3 m (at the landward end) and 1.0 m (the central area) in height. Two heavy buttresses, 3.3 m in width, occur ca. 10 m from each end and the central opening possibly for a sluice gate acts as a buttress as well. The second segment, 25 m to the NE around a low hill, is 22.5 m in length and is oriented 50 E of N. It is similar in construction to the first segment. It differs in that the carved sluice gate channels are well preserved in the central section. Both segments are made from faced limestone blocks cemented together.

The dikes are located in a badly overgrown swampy region. Vegetation consists of Cocos sp., water hyacinths (Elchornia crassipes) and large reeds completely cover the dikes and adjacent land area making them difficult

to locate.



ERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	X 19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known)		
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
[X] Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
Agriculture	Invention	Science	
🙀 Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

When the dikes were constructed is uncertain, Governor Villalobos (1831-1837) referred to an existing dike with a stone bridge for crossing the river, and by 1873 political prisoners from the Philippines (deportados) were planting rice in the paddy created by the dikes. However, the project to make the Agana Swamp a productive rice-growing area through the use of these dikes failed because the swamp did not drain properly.

The dikes are significant for several reasons. First, their construction by the Spanish and remarkable preservation is evidence of Spanish construction techniques. Second, the construction of the dikes specifically to create a rice growing area in the swamp illustrates a centuries old problem of Guam-shortage of food. Both the Spanish and American governors wrestled with this problem and it remains largely unsolved. Third, the use of political prisoners from the Philippines as forced laborers in the paddy created by the dikes, underscores Guam's use as a penal colony by the Spanish in the late 19th century. Finally, the dikes are unique and well preserved. Every effort should be made to prevent further deterioration.



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	89-665), I hereb	y nominat	e this	property for	inclusion		Nationa	1 Register	`.				
	in the	National	Register	and c	ertify that it	has been	-		1010	,	1	Management Co.		
	evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set								attuarlance					
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	level of significance of this nomination is:								Director, Office of Archeology and Distorte Preservation					
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