

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received SEP 24 1984

date entered NOV 5 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Managaha

and/or common Managaha Island Historic District

**2. Location**

street & number Managaha Island not for publication

city, town Saipan vicinity of

state C.M. code county code 96950

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Marianas Public Land Corporation

street & number P.O. Box 380

city, town Saipan vicinity of state C.M. 96950

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Marianas Public Land Corporation

street & number P.O. Box 380

city, town Saipan state C.M.

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title See bibliography for details has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Division of Historic Preservation, CNMT Government

city, town Saipan state C.M. 96950

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>July 25, 1983</u>

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### **Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Managaha is a low, sand island located north of Tanapag Harbor channel, approximately three kilometers west of Tanapag Dock. The island, approximately four hectares in area, is nearly round in shape surrounded by a white sand beach. Its highest elevation above sea level is approximately three meters, and it is covered with dense and varried vegetation. Archaeological surveys have located a number of sites, structures and objects within the Managaha Historical District representing two historical periods; (1) The Carolinian immigration period (circa 1818-1870) and (2) The World War II period (1940-44). The sole site from the Carolinian immigration period is the grave of Agrub, a chief from Satawal Island in the Central Carolines, believed to have led one of the first groups of Carolinian settlers to Saipan in the early decades of the nineteenth century. The grave site is commemorated by a concrete monument and is the site of annual ceremonies conducted by Saipanese Carolinians on 18 September. Additionally, the Managaha Historical District also contains numerous plants used by Carolinians in the preparation of traditional medicines. Military sites, all associated with Japan's activities during the Second World War, include a military pier, ruins of a guardhouse, two coastal defense rifles (Armstrong Witworth type) in concrete casements, ruins of barracks and equipment storage building, antiaircraft gun emplacements with shelters and ammunition storage chambers, a search light emplacement and the remains of a U.S. landing craft and two pontoon barges. Currently, the Managaha Historical District is a popular picnic and leisure spot for visitors and local residents alike and several shelters, barbeque pits and restrooms have been constructed on the island for their use. Except for these modest facilities, the Managaha Historical District remains essentially undeveloped.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1945	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		

**Specific dates** 1818-70; 1940-45      **Builder/Architect**

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Managaha Historical District is significant for two reasons. Firstly, it is associated with, and is the burial place of Agrub, the Carolinian chief credited with leading the first group of Carolinian settlers to Saipan in 1818. These settlers, who were fleeing from their storm-damaged homes, were the first permanent population to reside on Saipan since the island was depopulated by the Spanish in the early decades of the eighteenth century. Because of its association with a legendary leader, Managaha is held by the Saipanese Carolinian community to be a culturally significant location. Enhancing the District's significance is the presence of numerous plants and herbs which are utilized in the preparation of traditional Carolinian medicines. Secondly, significance is derived from the numerous remains resulting from Japan's futile attempt to defend Saipan from the rapidly advancing American forces during the Second World War. While some of these remains are of little individual value, when viewed as a whole, they present in miniature, a clear picture of Japan's preparations for the defense of Saipan thus allowing visitors to interpret the dramatic events of World War II in the Pacific Theater.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Fleming, Michael and Michael Thomas

1981 Preliminary Report on the Cultural and Historical Significance of Managaha Island. CNMI Historic Preservation Office, Saipan

(See continuation sheet)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 4 hectares

Quadrangle name 55P

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

### UTM References

A 

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

B 

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

C 

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

D 

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

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary for the Managaha Island Historic District is a line following the shoreline extending out from the high tide line 25 meters. This boundary is (cont.)

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Scott Russell, Deputy Historic Preservation Officer

organization Government of the Northern Mariana Islands date 7-25-83

street & number Lower Base

telephone 9722

city or town Saipan

state C.M. 96950

## 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

*Jesus B. Panzellan*

title Historic Preservation Officer

date

8/24/84

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

*Patricia Andrews*

for Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
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received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References (continued)

Kastor, Hatnat and Vicente Tebit

1981 A Study of Carolinian Medicinal Plants on Managaha Island

CNMI Coastal Resources Management Program, Saipan

Russell, Scott

1976 Managaha Environmental Report

Marianas District Planning Office, Saipan

Vander Tuig, Dennis

1976 Managaha Island Conservation and Recreation Development Plan

Marianas District Planning Office, Saipan

## 10. Verbal boundary description and justification (continued)

necessary in order to include components of the district which are contained in the waters immediately adjacent to the island.

