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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 Hawaiian Canoe Malia

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Southeast corner of Kapiolani Blvd and McCully St not for publication

city or town Honolulu vicinity

state Hawaii code HI county Honolulu code 003 zip code 96826

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.)

[Signature] _____
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): _____

[Signature] _____
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

12-17-93

Hawaiian Canoe Malia
Name of Property

Honolulu, HI
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	
0	0	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE
TRANSPORTATION/water-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE
TRANSPORTATION/water-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Hawaiian dugout canoe

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

walls

roof

other WOOD/ log

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.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- Criteria A through G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATIONAL
ETHNIC HERITAGE/Pacific Islander
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1933

Significant Dates

1933

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Yamasaki, James Takeo

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):

- Checkboxes for documentation on file (NPS) including preliminary determination, National Register listing, National Historic Landmark, etc.

Primary location of additional data:

- Checkboxes for primary location of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office, Other State agency, Federal agency, Local government, University, Other.

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 & 8 Page 1

Hawaiian Canoe *Malia*
Honolulu, HI

Description

The *Malia* is a 6-man Hawaiian racing canoe hewn from a single koa (*Acacia koa*) log in 1933. When launched she measured 39'-2", but over time was modified twice. In 1950 she was lengthened to 39'-6", and in 1973 she was lengthened to her present racing measure of 40'-1" (her actual length between perpendiculars is 39'-3½"). Typical of Hawaiian racing canoes she is very sleek, has parallel gunwales, and has her greatest depth abaft the mid-section below the fourth seat—the normal being slightly farther forward—making her resistant to turning. Her hull averages 5/8" thick, her extreme width is 1'-8¼", and her maximum draft is 10". Standard for a koa dugout canoe are the numerous patches in her hull allowing for defects in the original log and repairs during her career.

The *Malia* is powered by paddles, and steered with a paddle. When rigged for racing she has two 8' hau wood (*Hibiscus tiliaceus*) 'iako (outrigger booms) lashed with soft-laid cotton line perpendicular to her hull. The 13'-6" ama or outrigger float is lashed to the outboard ends of the 'iako—parallel to the hull—and is made from wiliwili wood (*Erythrina sandwicensis*), a native Hawaiian leguminous tree.

She is in excellent, working condition and is well preserved—having been stored indoors in form fitting cradles.

Statement of Significance

The Hawaiian canoe *Malia* is historically significant for her considerable contribution to the Polynesian sport of open ocean canoe racing. She is also distinctive as an excellent representative of a Hawaiian dugout racing canoe, even to the point of being "considered by many today to represent the prototype of the modern Hawaiian racing canoe." (Holmes, 124)

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Statement of Significance (continued)

Historical background and significance

The *Malia* was hewn from a koa log (a species of *Acacia* found only in Hawai'i) in Kailua-Kona on the island of Hawai'i in 1933. Her builder, James Takeo Yamasaki, designed her expressly for racing, one of the favorite sports of Hawaiian Royalty, dating back to King Kamehameha V (1863-1872).

She was purchased in 1936 by Dad Center of the Outrigger Canoe Club on O'ahu, but by 1948 became the property of the newly formed Waikiki Surf Club and has remained in their care ever since.

Between 1952 and 1954 the *Malia* won fourteen straight Senior Men's Races, and she has proven a dominant factor in canoe racing since. Her greatest accomplishments were performed in the very popular, highly prestigious, and very difficult 40 mile race from Moloka'i to O'ahu across the Moloka'i channel.

From the beginning of the annual Moloka'i-O'ahu race in 1952, the Waikiki Surf Club, paddling the *Malia*, won first place a total of twelve times, six of which were consecutive, ('53, '55, '58-'63, '66, '69, '72 and '73). To this day, no other single canoe has ever won as often or for such a long continuous stretch. In the 1960 race, *Malia* set a record time of 5 hours 29 minutes that was not surpassed by either a koa or a fiberglass canoe until 1981 when a California club, in the koa canoe *Malama*, beat *Malia's* record by a scant 4 minutes.

The *Malia's* contribution to canoe racing goes well beyond her own accomplishments. In 1959, the first fiberglass mold was made—actually pirated—of the *Malia*. By 1981, *Malia* mold canoes had achieved a remarkably wide distribution, including: Samoa, Australia, Japan, Great Britain, Canada, Illinois, Louisiana, Florida, New York, Hawai'i and California. Today, the majority of fiberglass canoes in both Hawai'i and California are progeny of the *Malia* mold.

Bibliography

Holmes, Tommy. *The Hawaiian Canoe*. Honolulu, Hawai'i: Editions Limited, 1981 & 1993.

The majority of the information was contributed orally by Wally Froiseth, a celebrated canoe paddler and charter member of the Waikiki Surf Club.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The canoe is located in a warehouse at the Southeast corner of Kapiolani Blvd. and McCully St. for conservation and security reasons.

Boundary Justification

Hawaiian canoes are traditionally removed from water and kept in sheds.

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HAWAIIAN CANOE MALIA

UTM References

International 1909 Spheroid

04	620890	2354745
Zone	Easting	Northing