

STATE: **Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands**
 COUNTY:
Tinian Island M. I.
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE
DEC 19 1974

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
House of Taga
 AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
San Jose Village
 CITY OR TOWN: **Tinian Island** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: **N/A**
 STATE: **TTPI** CODE: **075** COUNTY: **Mariana Islands** CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: **Saipan, Mariana Islands** STATE: **TTPI** CODE: **075**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Attorney General, Office of the High Commissioner
 STREET AND NUMBER:
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
 CITY OR TOWN: **Saipan, Mariana Islands** STATE: **TTPI** CODE: **075**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Micronesian Parks
 DATE OF SURVEY: **1972** Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
U.S. Department of the Interior, Hawaii National Park Service
 STREET AND NUMBER:
677 Ala Moana Boulevard Suite 512
 CITY OR TOWN: **Honolulu** STATE: **Hawaii** CODE: **075**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **TTPI**
 COUNTY: **Mariana Islands**
 DISTRICT:
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The largest and most remarkable of the latte sites in the Marianas, the "House of Taga" consists of 12 pillar and capstones each measuring 15 feet in length. Presently, only two pillars remains standing, the rest have fallen and separated from their capstones.

Originally, there was a complex of some 18 structures of which the present structure the largest and most centrally located. Seventeen of these structures were destroyed during the urban expansion of Tinian Twon prior to the end of World War II.

The pillars and capstones are coral limestones apparently quarried on Tinian. They are presently considerably weathered and pock marked with a thin overburden of moss and grass.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The latte complex on Tinian is according to rumor the home off the great Chief Taga who led a unifying campaign which resulted in his assuming the monarchy of the entire Marianas Chamorro population. Legend goes on to state that he was a man of great statue, and hence, the huge size of the "House of Taga."

All latte sites have yielded considerable amounts of pottery, stone tools, and skeleton remains, but the greatest significance of this latte structure lies in its size and in its potential link with the leader of the original Chamorro unity.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

NO OFF
17

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		14° 58' 06"	145° 37' 23"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 5

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
None	075		
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Thomas B. Sheehan, District Planner

ORGANIZATION: Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands DATE: December 3, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: Office of the District Administrator

CITY OR TOWN: Saipan, Mariana Islands STATE: TTPI CODE: 075

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Neil K. Chase

Title: Chief, Resources & Land Use

Date: December 3, 1974

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

A. P. W. Clausen
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/19/74

ATTEST:

Wm. J. ...
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 12-18-74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

THE SCALES BELOW ARE USABLE FOR THIS PHOTO REDUCTION.

500 0 500 1000 2000 Meters

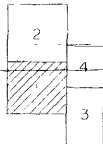


1 0 1 Mile



TINIAN ISLAND (SHEET 1 OF 14)
SCALE 1:10,000 (1:10 METERS)
1,000 METER GRID INTERVAL
MAPPED BY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY 1969.

SHEET INDEX



Long. 145° 37' 23"

Lat. 14° 56' 06"