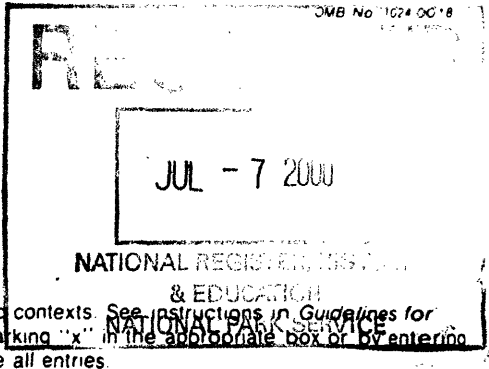


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Multiple Property Documentation Form



This form is for use in documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Maui Public Schools

B. Associated Historic Contexts

History of education on Maui

C. Geographical Data

All schools are located on the island of Maui at TMK's:

- 1-1-08:20 - Keanae
- 2-5-05:04 - Paia
- 3-4-07:01 - Wailuku Elementary
- 3-8-06:08 - Puunene
- 3-8-07:04 - Baldwin
- 1-7-02:15 - Kaupo

See continuation sheet

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Planning and Evaluation.

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

I, hereby, certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Signature of the Keeper of the National Register

Date

E. Statement of Historic Contexts

Discuss each historic context listed in Section B.

The population of the island of Maui grew rapidly in the early years of the twentieth century. This growth in population necessitated an increase in the number of schools. A 1907 article in the Maui News reported that 11 school sites in Maui County needed either new schoolhouses or the addition of teachers' cottages.¹ In 1906 the total enrollment in Maui County was 2578 pupils with 67 teachers.² In 1917 Puunene and Paia schools had the highest enrollments on Maui with 365 and 323 students respectively. The new school in Keanae had 63 students, and the school in Wailuku 280. By 1935, Maui had two school districts, 40 schools, 411 teachers, and 12,465 students.³

While the number of children attending the elementary grades was high, few students completed a high school education. Past the sixth grade, the drop out rate rose for every successive year of schooling. Although high school enrollment increased rapidly from 1920, the necessity of post elementary education was widely debated into the 1930s. The plantations and some members of the school boards discounted the need for more white collar workers. It was felt that those with vocational skills would be more useful for the existing labor force.

While each island had its own school board, the Territory's educational system was centralized. This structure was inherited from the Kingdom and Provisional Government periods. From the earliest periods of instruction, schools in Hawaii were based on American educational models brought to Hawaii by the American missionaries and their wives. Despite the system of centralized education, there was no established course of study in the 1880s; each teacher had to devise their own curriculum.

By the turn of the century English had been established as the language of instruction. Paia School was the first English standard school on Maui. The use of English was a result of two factors. Many of the early teachers in Hawaii came from the United States and only spoke English; therefore, they required its use from their students. The Territorial government also wished to Americanize the diverse population of Hawaii. Many of the plantation workers' children spoke little or no English when they started school. The public school was seen as a means to teach these students the English language and American ideals. A large percentage of the Asian students continued to attend language schools after school where their native language and customs were taught. The foreign language schools received mixed evaluations from United States

¹"Four New Schools and Teachers' Cottages," Maui News, 2 November 1907, 6.

²H.M. Wells, "Maui Schools of Yesterday and the Present," Maui News, 10 October 1922, supplement.

³Katherine Cook, Public Education in Hawaii (Washington, DC: United States Department of the Interior, 1935).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number E Page 1

Office of Education. The reviewers encouraged the learning of a second language, but felt that the additional hours of schooling detracted from the children's abilities and time to concentrate on their classes and homework at the public school.

In 1920 Maui adopted a policy of concrete type construction for its school buildings. Masonry construction for a school building had been specified in 1904 for the Wailuku School. These masonry buildings were far more expensive than the vernacular type wood structures found in rural areas and on the other islands; however, these new school buildings were viewed as being modern and permanent. These masonry schools required substantial monetary investments; in 1920 \$60,000 was budgeted for the construction of the school in Puunene and \$40,000 for the school in Paia.

School parcels also grew over time. Early schools had one or two acre sites. By the 1920s many schools occupied five to ten acre grounds. Larger parcels were needed with the growth in school population and the expanded school activities, including supervised play and gardening. The land in many case was donated by the sugar companies and, in some cases, the plantations helped to install and maintain the playground apparatus. The growing interests in local schools was the result of growing interest on the part of the plantations in the happiness and well-being of their employees and their children.

Industrial education and school kitchens and cafeterias also made their appearance in the early twentieth century in Maui. By 1922, Maui had five school kitchens (Kamehameha III, Wailuku, Puunene, Paia, and Maui High School). Under the supervision of domestic science teachers, lunches were prepared which were served at a minimal cost to students.

The Maui public school provide a valuable example of the development of educational practices in the county during the first half of the twentieth century. Kanae School represents the small wooden vernacular building found in many rural areas. Wailuku School is the first of the masonry school buildings with aspirations to a higher style of architecture. Puunene and Paia schools are the result of the changing educational philosophies. Both were built after the decision to construct permanent concrete school buildings and sit on large parcels donated by the local sugar companies. Baldwin High School displays the features of changing educational need in the late 1930s. It is a large structure built to accommdate a growing number of students pursuing a high school education. It was also designed with many of the amenities added at a later date to earlier schools, including a cafeteria and a large auditorium.

F. Associated Property Types

I. Name of Property Type Maui Public Schools

II. Description

With the exception of the Keanae School, all of the schools in this nomination are of masonry construction (stone or concrete). Stylistically the schools are varied. Keanae School is of vernacular wood construction. Wailuku School is of an institutional, vaguely classical style popular at the turn of the century. Puunene and Paia schools are of the stripped classical style, and Baldwin High School is unique in its use of Moderne vocabulary. With the exception of Baldwin High School, all of the buildings are individual block-like structures.

III. Significance

Maui public schools are significant for their varied architectural styles and for their role in the history of education on Maui. In contrast to the other islands, by the beginning of the twentieth century Maui undertook a program of masonry school construction. Schools such as those at Paia, Puunene, and the Baldwin High School in Kahului were large scale structures, designed from the start for large and growing student populations. Keanae School is unique in that it is the last remaining two room schoolhouse on Maui.

IV. Registration Requirements

To be eligible for inclusion in this nomination, the schools had to be at least 50 years old and had to maintain their distinctive architectural features. The exteriors of the school buildings have had very few modifications, with the exception of double hung windows being replaced by jalousies and the addition of fire stairs. Interior room configurations have been altered in some cases, but original plans are discernable from moldings, door placement, and the location of ventilating clerestory openings.

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet for additional property types

G. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.

The list of schools to be nominated was developed in consultation with the State Department of Education. All of the schools were visited by the staff of the State Historic Preservation Division for evaluation. All of the schools appeared to meet the criteria for nomination. The schools were sketched and photographed at the time of the site visit. Articles in the back issues of the Maui News were consulted to learn the history of the individual school buildings.

See continuation sheet

H. Major Bibliographical References

Maui News , general articles

Cook, Katherine. Public Education in Hawaii. Washington, DC: United States Department of the Interior, 1935.

Crook, William C. "Early Schools of Maui," Maui News. 10 October 1922: supplemental section.

Wells, H.M. "Maui School of Yesterday and of the Present," Maui News. 10 October 1922: supplemental section.

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional documentation:

- State historic preservation office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency

- Local government
 University
 Other

Specify repository: _____

I. Form Prepared By

name/title Daina Penkiunas / architectural historian
organization State Historic Preservation Division date March 27, 1992
street & number 33 S. King St, 6th floor telephone 808-587-0047
city or town Honolulu state Hawaii zip code 96813