Form 10-300 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(TYPE all entries – complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON: Punahou School Campus

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 1601 Punahou Street

CITY OR TOWN: Honolulu

STATE: Hawaii

CODE: 15

COUNTY: Honolulu

CODE: 03

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Structure</th>
<th>Object</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

OWNERSHIP

Public

Private

Both

Public Acquisition:

Public Acquisition:

In Process

Being Considered

STATUS

Occupied

Unoccupied

Preservation work

in progress

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

Yes:

Restricted

Unrestricted

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Park</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Industrial</th>
<th>Private Residence</th>
<th>Religious</th>
<th>Other (Specify)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Educational</th>
<th>Military</th>
<th>Religious</th>
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<tr>
<th>Entertainment</th>
<th>Museums</th>
<th>Scientific</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: Punahou School

STREET AND NUMBER: 1601 Punahou Street

CITY OR TOWN: Honolulu

STATE: Hawaii

CODE: 15

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Bureau of Conveyances

STREET AND NUMBER:

Tax Office Annex

CITY OR TOWN: Honolulu

STATE: Hawaii

CODE: 15

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Old School Hall is represented in Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1967

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington

STATE: D. C.
Punahou School today occupies the land between Wilder Avenue, Punahou Street, Manoa Road, the Rocky Hill area and Clement Street. The use of this land as a school dates back to 1842 and the campus is dotted with historical places—the most important being Old School Hall, the Kaahumanu Wall, Punahou Spring, Pauahi Hall and Cooke Hall. These historic structures and places are surrounded by more modern buildings, but the school as attempted to retain its ties with the past.

Old School Hall, recorded in the Historic American Buildings Survey, was built in 1851. It is a simple rectangular stone building with a gable roof measuring 60' 7" by 36' 2". The building has a coral foundation laid directly on the ground and stone walls covered with plaster and painted white. Four concrete stoops lead to exterior doors on the first floor. The second floor is reached by two sets of wooden stairs leading to a wooden porch continuous on the Diamond Head side. (Verandas were built on the ewa side and the makai end of the first floor and both sides and the makai end of the second floor in 1863. They have since been removed.)

The interior floor plan divides both floors into two classrooms with an area between for storage and toilet. Evidence indicates that there was at one time an interior stair at the mauka end of the building (reported to have been removed in 1881).

Punahou Spring is still visible on the campus being the source of water for the lily pond. The Kaahumanu Wall runs the length of the campus from Punahou Street to Clement Street along Wilder Avenue. Pauahi Hall, built in 1898 and extensively renovated on the interior, retains its exterior stone finish and unique architectural structure. Cooke Hall was built in 1908 and served as the school library and art gallery until more recent times. The building, with its openness and interior galleries is now used for student lounges and activities.
**Legends of Punahou**

Kane and Kanaloa came journeying to Oahu from Kuaihelani, one of Kane's twelve heavenly islands. They headed for Manoa Valley and stopped at a place called Keapapa to rest. Kanaloa was thirsty and teased Kane to get some water. This was no challenge to Kane, a powerful and benevolent god. He thrust his staff into the ground and water gushed forth. This became known as Kapunahou—the new spring.

Once, in the distant past, an aged couple lived near the present spring. During a time of drought when they had to walk to Kamoilili to fill calabashes with drinking water (a long walk for old folks), the woman had a dream. In it she was told that water flowed beneath the roots of a nearby hala tree. Her husband had a similar dream the next night. When he pulled up the hala tree (as he was instructed to do in the dream), water oozed out. He dug the place out to form a spring—called Kapunahou. The spring was used to irrigate taro patches.

**Recorded history**

The first recorded landlord (Konohiki) of Kapunahou was Kameeiamoku, one of the twin supporters of Kamehameha I. This was in 1795. The twins were originally Kamehameha's guardians (Kahus) and later supported his rise to power. In recognition of this support, Kamehameha gave Moanalua and Kapunahou to Kameeiamoku. Kameeiamoku died at Lahaina in 1802. Kapunahou passed on to his son, Ulumaheihei. Ulumaheihei was renamed Hoapili by Kamehameha I. Hoapili lived at Kapunahou for some twenty years and when Kamehameha I stayed at Waikiki (1804-1811) he visited Hoapili there. Hoapili gave Kapunahou to his daughter, Liliha. This probably happened when Hoapili moved to Lahaina to become the Governor of Maui. Liliha was married to Boki, the Governor of Oahu. Shortly after this, Kaahumanu, Queen Regent, became an ardent supporter of the missionaries who had arrived in 1820. In 1829, she wished to give Mr. and Mrs. Bingham a gift of land and consulted Hoapili. He suggested Kapunahou (although he had already given it to Liliha). According to A. F. Judd, "Not unnaturally, Liliha demurred the proposal, but Boki consented. And Liliha's resentment could avail nothing against the wish of her father, her husband, and the highest chief of the land." The land was given to the Bingham's, but by missionary rules, it was really given to the mission as a whole.

### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
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<td>157° 50' 0&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>21° 18' 32&quot;</td>
<td>157° 49' 39&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>21° 18' 14&quot;</td>
<td>157° 49' 53&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>21° 18' 22&quot;</td>
<td>157° 50' 07&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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</table>

NAME AND TITLE:

Dorothy Riconda, Historian

ORGANIZATION DATE

Hawaii Register of Historic Places Oct. 4, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:

P. O. Box 621

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

Honolulu Hawaii 15

### 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 [x]
- State [ ]
- Local [ ]

Name

SUNAO KIDO, Chairman

Dept. of Land & Natural Resources

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

Robert Strey

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 8/17/72

ATTEST:

William Shumway

Keeper of The National Register

Date: 8/17/72
In 1849, during the land claims of the Great Mahele, the Sandwich Islands Mission sought a written title to the Punahou lands. This was granted in LCA 387 to the ABCFM April 7, 1849, sec. 2 of Part I.

Kaahumanu took special measures to insure the guardianship of the mission's Punahou lands. In 1830 she had a thatched house built for herself near the spring, and near it she built one for the Binghams. She also had a stone wall erected from Punchbowl to Moiliili to protect the mauka lands from grazing cattle. This protected Punahou (part of this wall still stands along Wilder Avenue). About 2000 men worked on the wall as each chief was responsible for building one fathom of its almost two mile length.

The Binghams remained in Hawaii until 1840. After they left, Punahou was considered as a school area for missionary children. This was accomplished in 1842.

The significance of Punahou School as an historical district is found in its linkage of pre-history Hawaii to the present through royal grant, missionary endeavor and educational excellence. Punahou was the first school taught in English west of the Rocky Mountains. The school has every intention of preserving the integrity of its historical buildings and places, another example, perhaps of its educational and enlightened leadership in Hawaii.