**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:** Menehune Fishpond
   **AND/OR HISTORIC:** Alekoko Fishpond

2. **LOCATION**

   **STREET AND NUMBER:** Below Hulemalu Road in a bend of the Huleia River
   **CITY OR TOWN:** Hawaii
   **STATE:** Hawaii
   **CODE:** 15
   **COUNTY:** Kauai
   **CODE:** 007

3. **CLASSIFICATION**

   **CATEGORY**
   (Check One)
   - District
   - Site
   - Building
   - Structure
   - Object

   **OWNERSHIP**
   (Check One)
   - Public
   - Private
   - Both

   **STATUS**
   (Check One)
   - Occupied
   - Unoccupied
   - Preservation work in progress
   - Public Acquisition:
   - In Process
   - Being Considered

   **ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC**
   (Check Yes or No)
   - Yes: Restricted
   - No

4. **OWNER OF PROPERTY**

   **OWNER’S NAME:** Kanoa Estate
   **STREET AND NUMBER:** C/O R. Eugene Platt, Bishop Trust Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 2390
   **CITY OR TOWN:** Honolulu
   **STATE:** Hawaii
   **CODE:** 15

5. **LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

   **COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:**
   Bureau of Conveyances, Department of Land and Natural Resources
   **STREET AND NUMBER:** 425 Queen Street
   **CITY OR TOWN:** Honolulu
   **STATE:** Hawaii
   **CODE:** 15

6. **REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

   **TITLE OF SURVEY:** Staewide Inventory by Hawaii Register of Historic Places
   **DATE OF SURVEY:** ongoing
   **DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:**
   Hawaii Register of Historic Places, Division of State Parks
   **STREET AND NUMBER:** 465 South King Street
   **CITY OR TOWN:** Honolulu
   **STATE:** Hawaii
   **CODE:** 15
Menehune Fishpond is located near the mouth of the Huleia River on the southeast coast of the "garden isle" of Kauai. This ancient fishpond, also known as Alekoko Pond, consists primarily of a stone faced dirt wall that runs for over 900 yards and cuts off a large bend in the river for use as a fishpond. There is 50 yards of shallow swamp land between the west end of the wall and the shore. A dirt wall runs for 145 yards whereupon the stone facing starts on the river side of the wall. The dirt wall is 5 feet above the water level, 4 feet wide on top and the dirt slants up on both sides. The facing wall begins with a single row of stones and then becomes of double thickness as it gets further out into the river and the current starts to become effective. The stones also become larger until the double layer is 2 feet thick. The stone facing on the outside is five feet high in most places and is quite perpendicular. The stones are very carefully fitted together; the stone facing runs for about two-thirds of the total length of the wall.

In the 1940's, after a tidal wave, the wall was repaired by the man who had the lease at the time. He put bags of cement in the weak spots and now longish "rocks" are visible where the bags deteriorated and the cement hardened.

Today the lush vegetation on the wall and banks of the pond and the calm blue waters of the Huleia River combine to make Menehune Fishpond an impressive sight, an ideal picture of Polynesia. It is an important historical reminder of the past and a contemporary source of pride for the people of Kauai.
Menehune Fishpond is the most significant fishpond on Kauai, both in Hawaiian legends and folklore and in the eyes of Kauai's people today. It is so old that its construction is attributed to the Menehunes, a mythical people inhabiting Hawaii before the Hawaiians arrived. Its antiquity makes it undoubtedly the oldest fishpond on Kauai and therefore it has an extremely high research potential. Additionally, it is the best example of an inland fishpond in the entire state. Close to the major urban center on Kauai, the pond has high public visibility because of a road that runs along the slopes of the hill behind the fishpond. The setting is beautiful and lush with tropical vegetation and a winding river, making it an idyllic area for a historical park.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

BENNETT, WENDELL CLARK
1971 New York, Kraus Reprint Co.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>21° 57' 09&quot;</td>
<td>159° 22' 46&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>21° 57' 16&quot;</td>
<td>159° 22' 25&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>21° 57' 04&quot;</td>
<td>159° 22' 17&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>21° 57' 04&quot;</td>
<td>159° 22' 40&quot;</td>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: ca. 5 acres

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

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<td>21° 57' 09&quot;</td>
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LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

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<thead>
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<th>STATE</th>
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11. FORM PREPARED BY

B. Jean Martin, Archaeologist

ORGANIZATION
Hawaii Register of Historic Places

STREET AND NUMBER: 465 South King Street

CITY OR TOWN: Honolulu

12. STATE LIASION 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 □ State □ Local □

Name: Luanne Eise
t
Title: Chairman and Member

Date: March 3, 1972

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

Robert F. Willey
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 3/14/73

ATTEST:

Keeper of the National Register

Date: 3/14/73