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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*

**NAME**

1. NAME
   - **HISTORIC**
     
     **Kamehameha III's Birthplace**
   - **AND/OR COMMON**
     
     **Kauikeaouli Stone**

2. LOCATION

   - **STREET & NUMBER**
   
   **Keauhou**
   
   **CITY, TOWN**
   
   **Hawaii**
   
   **STATE**

3. CLASSIFICATION

   - **CATEGORY**
   - **OWNERSHIP**
     - _PUBLIC_
     - _PRIVATE_
     - _BOTH_
   
   - **STATUS**
     - _OCCUPIED_
     - _UNOCCUPIED_
     - _WORK IN PROGRESS_
     - _ACCESSIBLE_
     
     - _YES: RESTRICTED_
     - _X: YES: UNRESTRICTED_
     - _NO_

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

   - **NAME**
     
     **Daughters of Hawaii**
   
   - **STREET & NUMBER**
   
   **2913 Pali Highway**
   
   **CITY, TOWN**
   
   **Honolulu**
   
   **STATE**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

   - **COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**
   
   **Hawaii Bureau of Conveyances**
   
   **STREET & NUMBER**
   
   **403 South Queen Street**
   
   **CITY, TOWN**
   
   **Honolulu**
   
   **STATE**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

   - **TITLE**
     
     **State Historic Preservation Office Site #10-37-4383**
   
   - **DATE**
     
     **1973**
   
   - **DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS**
   
     **State Office of Historic Preservation**
   
     **CITY, TOWN**
   
     **Honolulu**
   
     **STATE**

   - **CODE**

     **15**

     **COUNTY**

     **Hawaii**

     **CODE**

     **001**
Originally a pili (grass) house stood in the near vicinity of the Kauikeouli stone. This house was where the birth actually occurred. No remains of the house or house foundations are visible today.

The Kauikeouli Stone is a rounded, dark, volcanic boulder protruding about 24 inches from the ground at its highest point, and about 4 inches at its lowest point. It is about 18 inches across and was originally somewhat saucer-shaped. It is presently capped with a bronze tablet set in a cement base. The tablet bears the inscription: "Kauikeouli Kamehameha III Son of Kamehameha I and Keopulani. Born March 17, 1814 Died December 15, 1854. Ka Moi Lokomaikai"

The stone is situated on a .035 acre parcel of land bounded by a low lava stone and mortar wall on the ocean or makai side and a cliff on the mountain or mauka side. The stone and surrounding land are maintained in good condition by its owner the Daughters of Hawaii.
Kamehameha III also known as Kauikeaouli, was the son of Kamehameha I and high chiefess Keopuolani. He was ruler of the Kingdom of Hawaii for thirty years from 1825-1854. The site of his birth is marked by a boulder, known as the Kaukeaouli Stone. This stone played an important role in the birth of the Monarch.

The precise date of Kaukeaouli's birth is a matter of uncertainty. David Malo believed it was in June or July of 1814. Fornander, armed with evidence from other Hawaiian sources, said it was on August 11, 1813. Stephen Reynolds, basing his information on a journal kept by a Captain Jennings who was supposedly with Kamehameha I at the time of Kaukeaouli's birth, set the date at March 17, 1814. March 17 was the day twice proclaimed as a national holiday in honor of Kamehameha III; first in 1846, then again in 1883. Emme Lyons Doyle, saying she had seen unpublished portions of John Young's journal, quoted Young in the August 24, 1958 Honolulu Advertiser as follows: "Kawaihae, March, 1813. News came by bearer a few days hence of the birth of a child who will be declared kapu as an heir to this kingdom's throne."¹

Fortunately, there seems to be no disagreement as to Keauhou being the place of Kaukeaouli's birth. The mother, Keopuolani, a chiefess of extremely high rank and mana, withdrew to a pili hut south of Keauhou when the time of birth drew near. She was attended by several chiefs, but was particularly concerned that an attendant, Kuakini, should be present. She had chosen him earlier to be the protector and foster-parent of the child, but feared that someone else might intercede.

As it turned out, Kuakini arrive in time, accompanied by David Malo. However, when the baby was born, he appeared to be dead. Kuakini refused to accept the baby

¹ The existence of the unpublished John Young journals cannot be verified.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kamakau, S.M. Ruling Chiefs of Hawaii (Honolulu: The Kamehameha Schools Press), 1961
Malo, David, Hawaiian Antiquities (Honolulu: Bishop Museum), 1951
Peabody, Lucy, "Birth of Kamehameha III" Read before meeting of Daughters of Hawaii, c. 1913. (Handwritten)
Honolulu Star-Bulletin, May 30, 1936 Honolulu Star-Bulletin, June 2, 1936 Interview:

GEOPHYSICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.35 acres (1525 sq. ft.)

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

TMK: 7-8-12: 17

FORM PREPARED BY

Gary T. Cummins Historian, State Parks 1973

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

DATE January 20, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 7-24-78

ATTEST: WATKINS, W. L.

DATE 7-5-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
and left. His cousin, Kaikio'ewa, then stepped in and took the child and gave him to a kahuna, Kapihe, who had accompanied him to Keauhou. The kahuna washed the apparently lifeless infant, then took him out of the hut to a nearby boulder protruding from the earth. He placed Kauikeaouli in a depression in the stone's top, fanned him, sprinkled him with water, and chanted a "chant of the living." Before long the baby began to stir and was soon completely revived. The kahuna named him Keaweawe'ula, or "The Red Trail", for the path by which a god descends from heaven.

Keopuolani gave Kaikio'ewa custody of the child. He took the future Kamehameha III to O'oma where he was cared for until his fifth year.

On March 17, 1914, the Daughters of Hawaii sponsored a ceremony at Keauhou to mark the one hundredth anniversary of Kamehameha III's birth. A bronze tablet was cemented in place on the boulder, now known as the Kauikeaouli Stone, and chants and other activities were carried out. Queen Lilioukalani, Prince Kuhio, and High Chiefess Elizabeth Kekaaniau Pratt and other notables participated in the observance.

In 1925, the Daughters of Hawaii concluded a transaction with the Bishop Estate whereby they received title to a small parcel of land containing the Kauikeaouli Stone and the birthplace site for a sum of $50.00. The area is now maintained as a memorial site.