

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Pu'u o Mahuka Heiau

AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Koolauloa District, N. side Oahu, off State Route 83
on Pupukea Homestead Rd. (835)

CITY, TOWN V.C. Waimea
STATE Hawaii
VICINITY OF
COUNTY Honolulu
CODE
CODE
CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Hawaiian cultural

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Division of State Parks, Department of Land and Natural Resources,
State of Hawaii (additional owners on continuation sheet)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Honolulu STATE Hawaii
VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Bureau of Conveyances

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Honolulu STATE Hawaii

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings

DATE 1962
 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Historic Sites Survey Division, HCRS

CITY, TOWN Washington STATE D. C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Pu'u o mahuka heiau (HASS-50-OA-F1-1) is situated on a high bluff 300 feet above the sea, overlooking Waimea Bay. About 570' x 170' in size, this is the largest heiau on O'ahu and is of the low-walled court platform type temple.¹ Three adjoining enclosures form what seems to be the heiau proper with two smaller enclosures on the sea side lower on the bluff at the edge of the pali (cliff), one directly in front of the other. These two average about 25' by 35' with low surrounding stone walls. The lower enclosure of the heiau proper is small and is said by Thrum to be of more modern construction "to commemorate a kahuna's (priest's) successful wager with an alii (royal person), but it is no part of it (the heiau)." Together the two larger enclosures are 520 feet in length. The lower contains a maze of small, low stone walls; the upper enclosure contains smaller terraces and platforms. It is thought probable that the bodies of Captain George Vancouver's men were sacrificed at this heiau. They were killed by the natives in May 1792 when attempting to procure water for the Daedalus at the mouth of the Waimea River.

According to Stokes the upper terrace was once paved with large stone slabs which were reported in 1962 (Schumacher) to have been torn up and piled along the edge.

The heiau has not been restored and is relatively intact in a ruined condition. Most of the brush has been cleared from within and immediately around the heiau and the grounds are maintained as a small park. Schumacher reported minor repairs made in 1960. The small amount of vegetation growing within the walls is not so profuse to prevent grasping the features. A road, partly paved, leads to the park. A paved parking area lies adjacent to the heiau on the north side. The park is surrounded by privately owned ranch land but the appearance of the vegetation suggests that no cattle are grazing at the present time.

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1. A detailed description of the heiau is contained in (McAllister) although this is based on investigations done in the early 1930's. Unfortunately, little substantial research has been done since and the general outlines are drawn from early studies. McAllister includes a ground plan of the heiau, a copy of which is included with this inventory. His description is still essentially correct, although repeated visits to the site indicate that rocks and rock features are frequently modified by unknown visitors acting on their own.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14

UTM REFERENCES

A	0,4	5,9,7	1,8,0	2,3	9,4	0,4,0	B	0,4	5,9,7	0,2,0	2,3	9,3	7,0,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			
C	0,4	5,9,6	5,8,0	2,3	9,3	9,5,0	D						

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Benjamin Levy, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey Division

DATE

August 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

TELEPHONE

523-5464

CITY OR TOWN

Washington,

STATE

D. C.

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

9/8/83

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Pu'u o Mahuka Heiau

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 1

Thomas G. Thrum, "Tales from the Hawaiian Annual for 1907," 14
J.F.G. Stokes, "Report on Heiaus" (1919, Ms. in Bishop Museum)
J. Gilbert McAllister, "Archaeology of Oahu", Bernice P. Bishop Museum Bulletin
104 (Honolulu, 1933), 9, 13, 147-150, including a plan of heiau
Sunset Discovery Book, "Hawaii-A guide to all the Islands", (Memlo Park,
Calif., 1961), 28
Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Feb. 14, 1960
Paul J. F. Schumacher, "National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings" form
entitled "Pu'u o Mahuka."

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 1

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of Pu'u o mahuka heiau is shown in red on the copy of the enclosed Tax Map Key entitled:

Enlarged section of Tax Map Key--Zone 5, Sec. 9, Plat 05 for O'ahu, current as of August 1978. Source: Tax Map Bureau, State of Hawaii. The boundary includes the current parcel 68 known as the Puu-o-mahuka Heiau Site of 4.00 acres and additional private lands encompassed by a line beginning at the west corner of the heiau site and running westerly along the north boundary of parcel 21 to the Waimea benchmark, thence returning east along the bed of Kalahopele Gulch for a distance of about 1800 feet; thence in a straight line, wouth-southwesterly to the north boundary of parcel 21; thence westerly to the point of origin.

Justification: The boundary encompasses the heiau itself and the small park area surrounding it. In addition it incorporates 2 small enclosures said to be related to the heiau proper. Additionally it incorporates the bluff itself on which the heiau is located.