

PH005 5361

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Hawaii</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Honolulu</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
<b>003</b>	<b>OCT 16 1974</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Kualoa Ahupua'a Historical District**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Kualoa**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Kamehameha Highway**  
**at the Northern end of Kaneohe Bay**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Kaneohe vicinity**      **Congressional District: 2**

STATE <b>Hawaii</b>	CODE <b>15</b>	COUNTY: <b>Honolulu</b>	CODE <b>003</b>
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u><b>Ranch</b></u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Multiple Ownership**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:	CODE:
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Bureau of Conveyances**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**403 Queen Street**

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: <b>Hawaii</b>	CODE: <b>15</b>
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Hawaii Register of Historic Places**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1970 ongoing**     Federal     State     County     Local

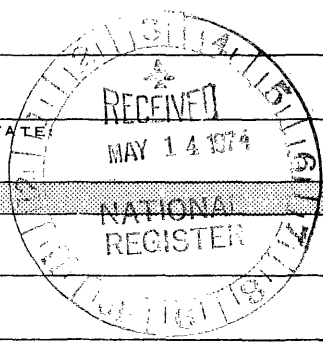
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Hawaii Register of Historic Places**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**465 S. King Street**

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: <b>Hawaii</b>	CODE: <b>15</b>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Description:

Kualoa is an ancient Hawaiian land division (ahupua'a) at the north end of Kaneohe Bay, windward, Oahu. The ahupua'a extends from the coast to the top of the nearly vertical, fluted mountain behind. The coast is almost all sandy beach, with portions being steadily eroded by the sea, and other portions being built up through accretion. Behind the beach area is flat land, covered with low scrub at the south end, and with majestic monkey pod trees at the north end. Most of this flat land, however, was used for a World War II air-drome, although virtually all traces of it have been removed. The vegetation, therefore, is generally that which was generated after the 1940's when the area was returned for use as pasture land. Offshore is a tiny and beautiful island, Mokolii.

The interior of Kualoa ahupua'a is spectacularly beautiful, for it rises swiftly above the flat through a narrow alluvial deposit to the bases of nearly vertical cliffs, covered with the verdure of the wet climate and crenalated from eons of erosion. Native vegetation is found in narrow gullies and ravines, especially groves of kukui, the state tree of Hawaii. The top of the mountain ridge has low, windswept bushes growing along it and the many layers of the lava flows which built the ridge are clearly visible.

The Kamehameha Highway, the only highway link around this island, comes through the area, as shown on the attached map and air photo, and some residential housing has been built along the coast at the north end of Kualoa. Kualoa Ranch still raises cattle and horses in the flat areas, while the seaward portion of Kualoa south of Kamehameha Highway has recently been purchased by the City and County of Honolulu as a new county park. Immediately to the west, in the next land area (Hakipu'u), is Moli'i Fish Pond, a National Register property.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**6. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Precontact

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Two of the most sacred areas on the island of Oahu have traditionally been considered to be the Kukaniloko Birthstones (a National Register property) and the Kualoa ahupua'a.

In Hawaiian tradition, the lands of Kualoa were considered to be the symbol of sovereignty and independence for Oahu, and were closely protected by the Oahu chiefs and priests. This is most clearly seen in the oral history tradition about the succession of Kahahana to the Oahu throne, and the attempt by King Kahekili of Maui to con him out of Kualoa and the "palaoa-pae" (washed up whalebone and ivory along the Oahu coastline):

*"Shortly after his installation, Kahahana called a great council of the Oahu chiefs and the high-priest Kaopulupulu, and laid before them the demands of Kahekili regarding the land of Kualoa and the 'Palaoa-pae.' At first the council was divided, and some thought it was but a fair return for the kindness and protection shown Kahahana from his youth by Kahekili; but the high-priest was strongly opposed to such a measure, and argued that it was a virtual surrender of the sovereignty and independence of Oahu. Kualoa being one of the most sacred places on the island, where stood the sacred drums of Kapahuula and Kaahu-ulapunawai, and also the sacred hill of Kauakahi-a-Kahoowaha; and the surrender of the 'Palaoa-pae' would be a disrespect to the gods; in fact, if Kahekili's demands were complied with, the power of war and of sacrifice would rest with the Maui king and not with Kahahana. He represented strongly, moreover, that if Kahahana had obtained the kingdom by conquest, he might do as he liked, but having been chosen by the Oahu chiefs, it would be wrong in him to cede to another the national emblems of sovereignty and independence. Kahahana and all the chiefs admitted the force of Kaopulupulu's arguments, and submitted to this advice not to comply with the demands of Kahekili."*

(Fornander, 1969, Volume II: Page 218)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Summers, Catherine C.  
Sterling, Elspeth P.  
1962 Sites of Oahu Bishop Museum Press, Book V pp 3-28

Fornander, Abraham  
1969 An Account of the Polynesian Race  
Charles E. Tuttle Company, Rutland, Vermont

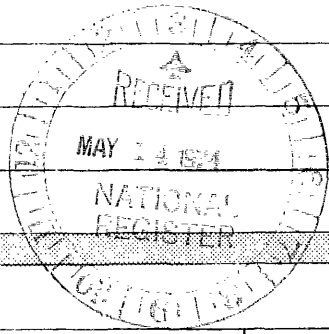
**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	21°	31'	28"	157°	51'	06"			
NE	21°	32'	36"	157°	50'	31"			
SE	21°	30'	55"	157°	49'	30"			
SW	21°	30'	24"	157°	50'	22"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **11,000 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: **T. Stell Newman**

ORGANIZATION: **Hawaii Register of Historic Places** DATE: **Dec. 27, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **465 S. King Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Honolulu** STATE: **Hawaii** CODE: **15**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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 *Sunao Kido*

Title Historic Preservation Officer  
State of Hawaii

Date 5/6/74

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

*A. P. Winters*  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 10/16/74

ATTEST:  
*Donna M. ...*  
Keeper of The National Register

Date 10-11-74

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8. SIGNIFICANCE (Page Two)

Numerous other writers have also reflected the feeling of sacredness for Kualoa. Raphaelson says that Kualoa has always been sacred soil, to which the newborn children of the chiefs were brought to live and be trained in warfare and the ancient traditions of the Hawaiian chiefs. Kamakau referred to Kualoa as being a very sacred place of refuge (puuhonua) in ancient times where people fled for protection if they had broken a tabu. Kualoa was also the place where sacrificial victims for religious rituals were drowned. Many authors say that all canoes passing seaward of Kualoa lowered their sails in acknowledgement of the nature of Kualoa as a sacred residence of chiefs.

Kualoa is also significant in Hawaiian folklore and mythology. Apparently it was considered to be the sacred land of Haloa, the son of Wakea and Papa, the progenitors of the Hawaiian people. One of the most important chiefly genealogies links to Hawaiian cosmogony through Haloa and shows the importance of Haloa, and therefore, of Kualoa.

Kualoa figures in the famous legends of Pele, the Volcano Goddess and her sister, Hiiaka, as well as in the legends of Kamapua'a, the half-man, half-pig of Oahu. Here Pele's sister, Hiiaka, killed a huge mo'o, or dragon, and the small island, Mokoli'i, lying offshore, but part of Kualoa, is his tail. His body became the foothills below the steep Kualoa cliffs. Kamapua'a hid from Pele in a hollow at Kualoa, and later made the holes in the Kualoa mountains.

A shark god story exists about the area at Kualoa Point where the son of the shark god was fed by the people of Kualoa until a stingy chief stopped the feeding and claimed the fish that were usually fed him. The shark god father of the starving son was enraged and created a tidal wave that killed the chief, but the people of Kualoa were saved.

In the 19th Century, an early Western family owned Kualoa and built a major sugar mill there. A few remains of this sugar mill still exist next to the Kamehameha Highway, remnants of this early industry of Oahu which attained so much importance in later times.

Few physical remains still exist at Kualoa, for most were destroyed by the sugar cane or the Army Air Force. There probably still exist remains in the foothills, but no thorough survey has been made to date. In the past however, there would have been village areas, tapa manufacturing areas, religious structures, and ceremonial centers for hula

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8. Significance (Page three)

Kualoa remains significant, even without physical remains of ancient sites, because of its central place in Oahu traditions and the feeling of the sacredness of the land, even by present day Hawaiians. Therefore, on the basis of its place in Hawaiian legend and tradition, we recommend the sacred lands of Kualoa be placed on the Hawaii Register as a valuable district, and nominated to the National Register as a district of state significance.

