

Aloha Chair Evans, and Representatives

As an Ewa resident and member of the Kanehili Cultural Hui who has witnessed how HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY operates in Kalaeloa and how poorly they communicate with the community and how evasive they are when information about developments is sought.

I believe this organization clearly needs to be shut down because of lack of community oversight and adherence to State and Federal historic and cultural preservation laws and City planning rules and ordinances. They have a dedicated "Cultural Heritage Park," but really it has been used as an illegal dump site and as an excuse to do widespread damage to other very pristine areas that HCDA plans to turn into industrial areas. The word "front" or "façade" is made for how HCDA operates in Kalaleloa.

Coordination and cooperation with City zoning and planning is severely lacking and HCDA doesn't even follow its own rules. During the Kalaeloa Draft Rules process a couple of years ago they completely rejected every single suggestion made by the attorney from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. These were suggestions that were showing how HCDA's rules would NOT be in compliance with national standards and allowed many variances and loopholes for developers to avoid State and Federal historic and cultural preservation compliance. These comments were all REJECTED by the HCDA director.

Clearly today the results are in- a blatant disregard for historic and cultural preservation and a complete blindness to apparently on-going developer sponsored "vandals" who systematically desecrate historic and cultural sites to reduce and destroy "historic integrity" and "cultural value."

There are many examples in Kalaeloa of extensive damage to valuable infrastructure and historic buildings that has been going on for years. It is being done apparently so that it requires a full replacement and of course that means by Hawaii tax-payers. I could send you a hundred photos of intentional damage done by Kalaeloa developers who want see everything out there flattened for land flips to the highest bidder. The more they can make Kalaeloa a cleared parking lot free of any historic and cultural issues, native plants, etc. the better for the land developers and HCDA insiders.

We now increasingly hear that all HCDA Kalaeloa lands "must be developed to their highest potential (income for HCDA developers.) This means all previously promised open space, cultural and historic sites must be wiped out because the highest developer dollar wants it. It really makes you wonder if anything the State does anymore is about "the future" and "the keiki" or just about how much land development cash can be pocketed RIGHT NOW. The message here is that there REALLY ISN'T a future for anyone unless you are rich and can leave once all of the environment that once made the area a wonderful place to live has all been raped away. HCDA developers just move on to the next target somewhere else and the local residents get stuck with tax bills and a depleted, polluted, unsustainable landscape.

HCDA has been cited for illegal dumping on HCDA's own property by the City building inspector (after it was pointed out to them.) Otherwise the people who are supposed to be enforcing City and State laws have NO IDEA what is going on in Kalaleoa unless HCDA calls them in- and that basically NEVER HAPPENS. And development continues with roads and other infrastructure NOT being done to City spec or State environmental laws in Kalaeloa since no one really watches what is happening.

HCDA's director recently expressed surprise at a community meeting when learning that Hunt Corporation was selling off Kalaleoa land (which they lease from the Navy and has NOT undergone a required Federal Section 106 process) while real estate signs have been up all over Kalaeloa for months offering these properties already for sale. This really begs the question that the Kalaeloa director doesn't even know what is going on in Kalaeloa, which they supposedly "manage." In HCDA's Kalaeloa the "rules" become whatever the developer wants it to be, including with Federal property.

I have spoken with a current (and still largely understaffed) State Historic Preservation Division branch manager and was told that HCDA rarely if ever consults with them on anything, despite many ongoing projects in Kalaeloa in very sensitive cultural and historic areas. Kalaeloa is pretty well known as a "Wild West" place of developer lawlessness. Damage is done by "vandals," often in broad daylight. Powerlines, lightpoles, etc are regularly cut down along main roadways or side streets by "vandals." This is so that new ones must be put in and of course the Hawaii tax-payer always pays for it so who really cares?

It is amazing how the "vandals" and firestarters seem to be able to operate in Kalaleoa in broad daylight during working hours without any police or security noticing anyone doing anything. Only after a great deal of news media coverage have all of the continuous, almost daily fires (and perhaps with the help of the weather) allowed this aspect of Kalaleoa destruction to be at least temporarily curbed.

Large areas of military base electrical and telecommunication vaults and buildings have been stripped of copper wire, switching rooms trashed, equipment removed and valuable telephone/power poles (I have been told are worth around \$2000 each) sawed down everywhere. Nothing is ever done about it, over a period of over one and a half years, despite constant "security" patrols. Unless there are some really incompetent druggie thieves who get caught because they cut into live electrical wires and nearly get electrocuted, does any attention result. Amazingly these same people seem to just get away and return again and again. They also inhabit empty historic buildings right next door to developer offices!

Around a year and a half ago HCDA allowed a prospective PV site developer to go into a highly sensitive Hawaiian cultural area in Kalaleoa with a D9 Bulldozer and cut huge swaths of roads over a very large area. Not even straight lines (which is usually always done with a small, rubber tread BobCat for survey work), but wandering, unmitigated massive damage was done to one thousand year old ancient Hawaiian trails, habitation sites and heiau structures. No one at HCDA Kalaeloa questioned this!

Only because of outside complaints to DLNR was this project stopped. To this very day there has never been anything publicly disclosed as to WHO at HCDA authorized this massive and completely insane destruction. It has all been hushed up and likely it seems now the PV site developer paid someone some money so that nothing further was ever said about it. But they are planning MORE like this already!

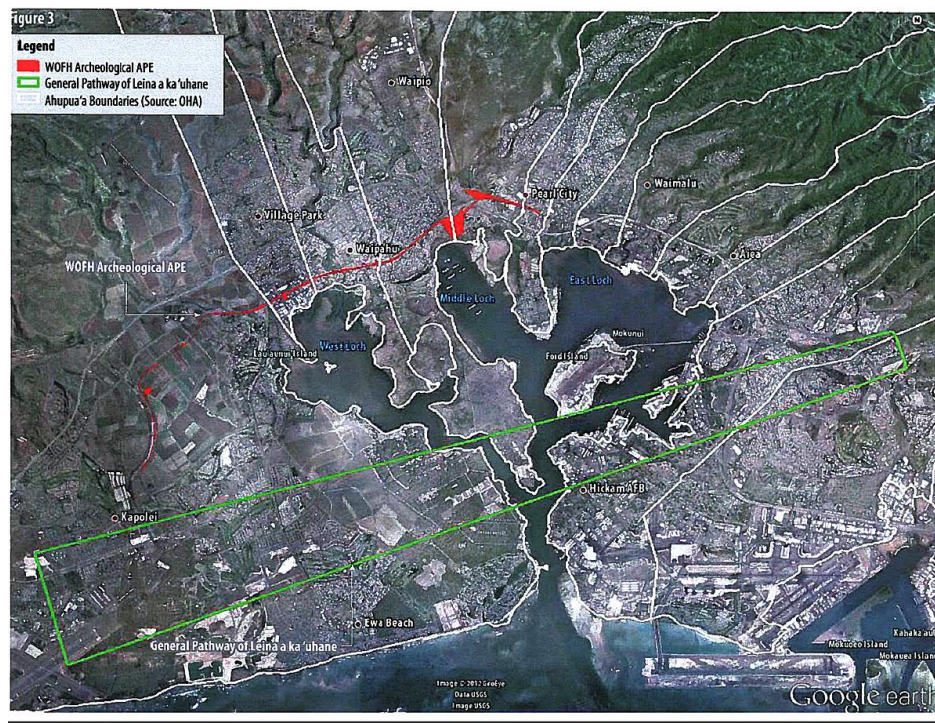
Our Kanehili Cultural Hui was able to photograph the damage many months later when apparently an archaeological contractor (not SHPD which rarely looks at anything in Kalaeloa) was brought in to begin tagging all the site damage. We assume the contractor who did all the damage paid for the survey, but this doesn't address who at HCDA allowed this stupid fiasco to happen in the first place.

By the way, Kanehili is the ancient Hawaiian name for this area, not "Kalaeloa." Kalaeloa was just another land developer created name, like "Hoopili" is for Honouliuli and "East Kapolei" is for Ewa. It makes it a lot more easy and convenient to bulldoze historic and cultural areas when they can't be remembered and linked to the past cultural history. At least DHHL did some native Hawaiian research when they named their nearby home development projects Kaupe'a and Kanehili. These are the true local area cultural names according to Hawaiian oral history. Ewa's history is still largely ignored.

HCDA's Kalaeloa is a Wild West area where developers make the rules they want. HCDA needs to be SHUT DOWN with by House Bill 1864 in the hope that some zoning and planning law and order can be established in this HCDA developer free fire zone. This is NOT what the local community wants!

John Bond, President, Kanehili Cultural Hui

BELOW: The HART Federal EIS has designated this Kanehili area as a National Register Eligible site for historic and cultural protection under State and Federal laws. It was the original intention of the community at the time of the Barbers Point Naval Base closure that significant historic and cultural sites would be forever protected for future generations to enjoy and not become just another paved over area like everything else in West Oahu.



HART EIS designated Leina a ka Uhane – Wahi Pana in 2012

However this is the HCDA Kalaeloa agenda, to cover over everything with development and use a process of continuous land degradation and pollution with truckloads of unchecked dump materials, including very dangerous substances known to cause genetic mutations and cancer. At the Kalaeloa shore the public is swimming in this chemical pollution and eating the remaining contaminated coastal food resources that haven't yet been killed off. And they say this is about the "Keiki and the future"?

Please pass House Bill 1864 and end this historic and cultural destruction!

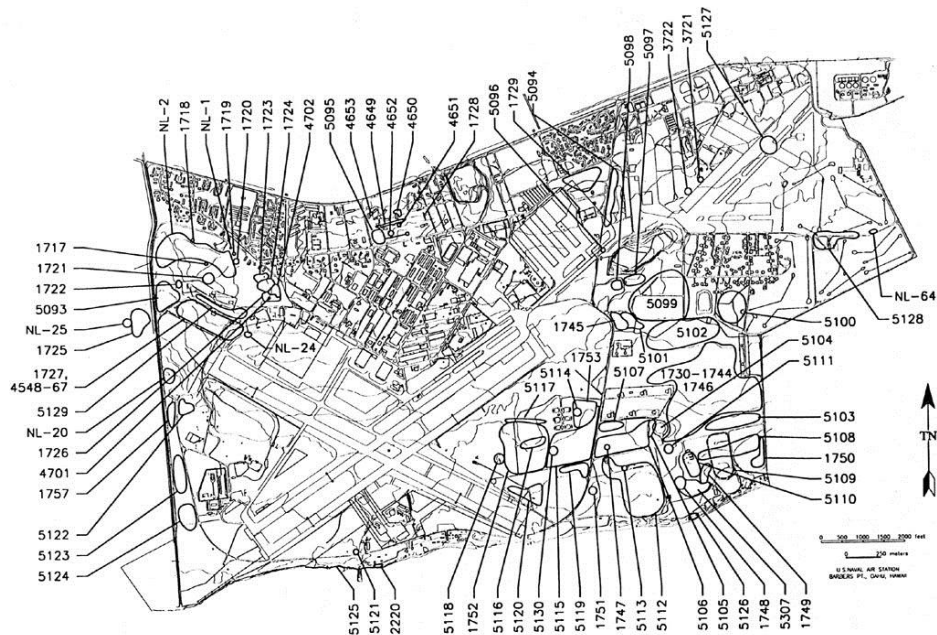


Figure 28. Archaeological and historical sites of NAS Barbers Point.



Large areas within former Naval Air Station Barbers Point in 1997 were NEVER adequately surveyed for important native Hawaiian cultural sites. Much more information has now become available showing how very incomplete and random these past archeological surveys really were just to meet deadlines.

Kanehili Cultural Hui has found there are large areas of unidentified Hawaiian trails, habitations and cultural areas that have never been adequately surveyed in what is really ancient Kanehili and which only in April 2012 was it established that this area is a major Oahu wahi pana called the Leina a ka 'Uhane.





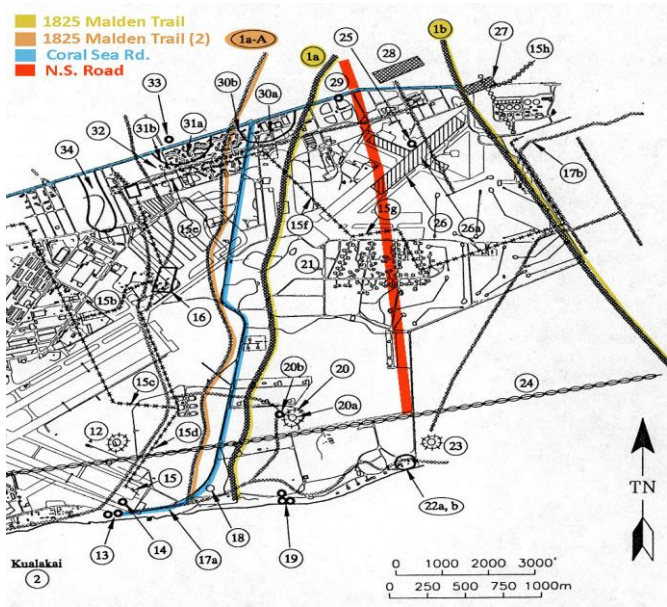
Table 7 presents the Leina a ka 'uhane as a single sacred and storied place, identifying the applicable ahupua'a, theme, National Register criteria, and integrity of relationship and condition.

Table 7. Leina a ka 'Uhane with Associated Theme and National Register Eligibility Criteria.

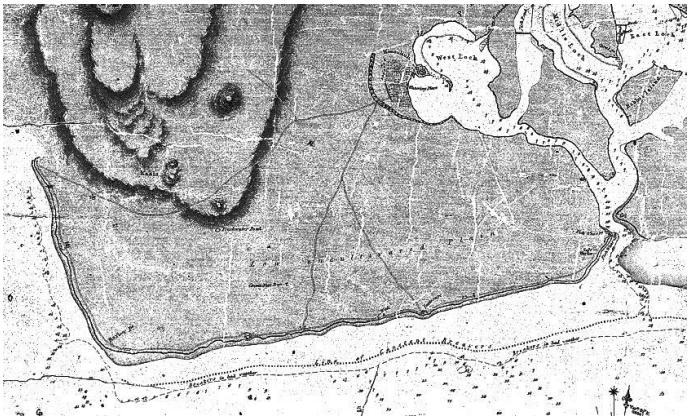
Wahi Pana	Ahupua'a	Theme	National Register A	National Register B	Integrity of Relationships	Integrity of Condition
Leina a ka 'uhane	Hālawā, Moanalua, Waiau, Waimano, Pu'uloa, Honouliuli	2	Associated with pattern of events – Leaping off place to the spirit world	Associated with the akua Kānehili, Leiolono, and Milu	TBD	TBD

In our opinion, each of the 26 individually identified wahi pana, as well as the Leina a ka 'uhane, likely has integrity of relationship. Wahi pana are sacred and storied places on the land and our archival research and informant interviews suggest that these storied places are important to the retention and or transmittal of knowledge and beliefs about the land and history of the Hawaiian People on O'ahu.

HART EIS 2012 study by Kumupono LLC and SRI, Inc. shows National Register Eligibility for Kanehili Leina



Navy BRAC of NASBP by Tuggles (IARII) shows Kanehili Trails and important sites HCDA wants destroyed.



British Royal Navy 1825 Malden Trails map shows ancient Hawaiian Trails in Kanehili, Honouliuli.

