United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Ronald Kamehameha o ka hae _Hawaii von Holt Residence
Other names/site number: _____Weli Weli_____
Name of related multiple property listing:
_____N/A_____
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: Weli Weli Bay Lot 13 Pu'uanahulu Pu'uwa'awa'a Beach lots
City or town: Pu'uanahulu_District of North Kona State: HI County: ___001_____
Not For Publication: [ ] Vicinity: [X]

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property __X_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

_X__national **_X__statewide** **___local**

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A **__X_B** **__X_C** **___D**

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private: [X]

Public – Local [ ]

Public – State [ ]

Public – Federal [ ]

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s) [X]

District [ ]

Site [ ]

Structure [ ]

Object [ ]

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
7	1	buildings
3		sites
		structures
		objects
10	1	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Domestic/Single Family Dwellings

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Domestic/Single Family Dwellings

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Other: 1930s Hawaii Beach Cottage

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials: Lava rock and coral wood concrete, lauhala .

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Ronald Kamehameha o ka hae Hawaii von Holt residence is a 2.7-acre oceanfront property on the West coast of the Big Island. The property consists of mostly lava rock and some beach rock along the shore. There are three connected fish ponds on the property. The property was purchased in 1936 and most of the improvements were completed by 1938. The residence has been in continuous use as a family beach cottage. It has been in the same family since 1936 and has maintained its historic integrity. It was designed by architects Albert Ely Ives and George Hogan. There are seven contributing buildings: the main house, the sleeping house, two water storage tanks, a lauhala hale, and two outhouses. The noncontributing building is a storage building recently built to look like the original buildings.

Narrative Description

The property at Weli Weli bay is located on the West coast of the Big Island. It is within the ahupua'a of Pu'uanahulu and in the moku of Kona.[1]

The oceanfront property is 2.7 acres and is surrounded by lava flows on three sides. A 5' high dry stack rock wall, over 1000' long marks the surveyed property lines to the north, south, and east. A 385' concrete wall to the west is a surveyed property line that protects the property from the ocean. All the walls were built at the time of the property development in 1938.

The property consists of seven contributing buildings and three fishponds. A non-contributing storage building is located just east of the sleeping house and two outhouse bathrooms sit on the other side of the lava hill on the far east side of the property.

There are three interconnected Anchialine[2] fish ponds. They provide a softness to the visual harshness of the surrounding lava. The numerous surrounding coconut trees were planted when the property was being developed. The ponds were restored with the intention of raising Anae, or mullet. The north pond is on the nw corner of the property, closest to the ocean. There is a small island on the west side of the pond. There is a small pond and waterway that connects the north pond with the center pond. The center pond is on the east side of the main house. There is a small deck on the west side of the center pond. The south end of the center pond connects to the south pond which is on the south end of the property. While all the ponds are brackish, the south pond has more fresh water springs keeping the water less salty. The three ponds span from the north property line to the south property line. Ronald built Mākāhās (Sluice gates) between the ponds to control fish movement.

[1] Moku and ahupua'a' are Hawaiian terms that refer to land division. An ahupua'a is a pie shaped portion of lans that runs from the mountain to the ocean. A moku is a larger district consisting of multiple ahupua'as.

[2] An anchialine pool is an enclosed water body or pond with an underground connection to the ocean.

The property has a tropical ambiance with many coconut trees and native Hawaiian plants.

The main house, the sleeping house, and the two water storage tanks are original rock buildings. Each is constructed with solid interior and exterior walls of lava rock and coral. The exterior walls are banded with three feet of black lava rock, topped by three feet of coral, then capped with another three foot band of black lava rock. The interior walls are black lava rock. They all have concrete slab foundations/flooring. The main house and sleeping house have low pitched hip roofs with gray asphalt roofing material and the water storage buildings have flat wood framed roofs covered with gray asphalt roofing material. No original plans are available.

Main House
The main house is 24′ x 54′ (1296 sq/ft)with a three-foot roof overhang and a 3′ concrete walkway that is on all sides of the house. Openings on all four sides allow for natural cooling with the ocean breezes. The west or ocean side has 28′ sliding wooden and glass doors spanning 9′ floor to ceiling. The east or pond side has four 7′ wide and 9′ tall hinged screen and metal grated doors spanning 28′ that reach floor to ceiling. The north and south sides have 16′ of sliding wood-framed windows that are 5′ tall. The interior has no interior walls and the fixtures and furnishing are all original. On the north end are large, oversize beds for sleeping. The wooden frames and cabinets around the beds are original. The long dining table Ronald made from coconut trees from the property is center in the house welcoming many to sit and enjoy. At the south end is the kitchen with its original wooden cabinetry. The ceilings and exterior roof overhangs are white canec[3] panels.

The kitchen windows on the south side overlook the large 30′ by 30′ concrete lanai decorated with smaller coral and lava rock patterns. The lanai is beautifully shaded by trained Hau trees that are supported by white metal pipes. Some of these pipes are used to divert rain water from the roof of the main house to the fresh water tank that is on the southeast corner of the lanai.

Sleeping House
The sleeping house building is 14″ by 36′ (504sq/ft) with a three-foot roof overhang. It has the same rock and coral banded walls and concrete foundation and flooring. It is divided into three rooms with 1x 12 redwood interior walls. There are no doorways/halls between the rooms. The ceilings and overhangs are white canec. There are two

[3] Canec is a building material that was used in the 1930s to the 1960s. It’s a fiberboard that was made out of the remnants from sugar cane processing. Builders used the material for ceilings and interior walls.

built-in wood bunk beds in the south room, one bunkbed in the middle room, and a wooden platform for a king size bed in the north room. Some of the woodwork in the sleeping house has been replaced due to damage but was re-built to look like the original. Each of the three rooms has a hinged louvered entry door that opens to the exterior on the east side and six-foot sliding wood windows on the west. There are six-foot sliding wood windows on the north and south ends of the building as well.

Water Storage Tank Buildings

The two water storage tank buildings are 10′ by 10′ and were designed to hold water for domestic use. The lower tank has the lava and coral banding, sits on a concrete foundation, and has a wood framed and asphalt roofing material. The flat roofs have access panels to check water levels. There is an oversized clam shell sink and a water faucet on the north side of the lower tank. The upper tank, located on a hill overlooking the south pond, stores brackish water which is pumped from the ponds below. It is then gravity fed to the house and the hale for non-potable use. The rock work on the upper tank is mostly black lava and not as precise as the other rock work on the property. The upper tank also sits on a concrete foundation and has the same wood and asphalt flat roof. The lower water storage tank located on the se corner of the concrete patio stores fresh water which is catchment from the rain off of the roof of the main house. Currently, with the addition of solar electricity, this water is pumped into the main house for non-potable use. Drinking water is brought in.

Lauhala Hale

Two lauhala hales were built in 1938. There was one at the north pond and one at the south pond. The hales provided personal space to shower and change clothes. The north hale degraded to the point that it was removed. The south hale stands today. It is a 10′ by 10′ wooden frame structure with lauhala roofing and siding. There is a 24″ window opening on the west side and a 36″ window opening on the north side. The door opening is on the east side overlooking the south pond. It has been re-thatched a couple times using the same method that was used in the original 1938 building. The original hales were thatched by Jack Paolu from Pu′uanahulu. He taught the method to George Kaono a caretaker and friend. Kenneth Emory of the Bishop Museum watched and recorded the thatching process as they were interested in the process of building hales from lauhala. The lauhala was bundled and hauled in from an off-site property. There is not enough on site. It is soaked in the pond for four or five days until it is pliable. The leaves are laid over wooden dowels and lashed to the dowel by Spectra.[4] It is then lashed to the row below it.

[4] Spectra is a marine grade high quality line resistant to UV degradation

Outhouses
There are two outhouses over the hill at the east side of the property close to the property line. They are both 6′ x 3′ wood framed structures. They are open on one 6′ side and sided with vertical bamboo siding on the three other sides. On the open side is a 6′ by 2′ wooden deck for standing on. The roof is a circular metal frame with coconut leaves as roofing material. The center of the roof is connected to a metal pole that sets deep into the lava below to secure the structure to the ground. Below the structure is a handmade hole in the lava that was originally about 8′ deep. They are original (built at the time of development 1938) and still in use today as the property's only bathroom.

Storage Building
The storage building is noncontributing as it was just recently built. In order to maintain the consistency of the property it was built with the same lava and coral banding and a low pitch hip roof.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [ ] A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [x] B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [x] C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- [ ] A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- [ ] B. Removed from its original location
- [ ] C. A birthplace or grave
- [ ] D. A cemetery
- [ ] E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- [ ] F. A commemorative property
- [ ] G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Architecture
Significant Person

Period of Significance

1898 to 1953

Significant Dates
1938

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
Ronald Kamehameha o ka hae Hawaii von Holt

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Albert Ely Ives
George Hogan

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Ronald Kamehameha o ka hae Hawaii von Holt residence has historical significance under Criterion B and C. It is an excellent example of a 1930's Kona Coast beach cottage designed by prominent Hawaii architects, Albert Ely Ives and George Hogan. The period of significance is 1938; the construction date.

Significance under Criterion B is for the life of Ronald Kamehameha o ka hae Hawaii von Holt (1898-1953), a prominent cattle rancher and the builder of Weli Weli. Period of significance is his life span 1898 to 1953. Ronald's ancestors are also historically prominent figures in Hawaii's history.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion B

Alexander Ronald Kamehameha o ka hae Hawaii von Holt was born in Honolulu on August 11, 1898, the day before the American flag was raised over the islands. His middle name (o ka hae Hawaii) is historically significant as it translates to "the last child born under the Hawaiian flag[5]".

Ronald was one of five children of Ida Elizabeth Knudsen and Heinrich "Harry" von Holt. Ida Knudsen is a direct descendent of the Captain Francis Sinclair family. The Sinclairs originally emigrated to New Zealand from Scotland in 1839. They settled on the South Island in Pidgeon Bay. Upon the death of Captain Sinclair in 1846, the remaining Sinclair family headed for a new place to live. After several failures, they decided to return to Oahu where they had stopped in their journey to and from New Zealand. They eventually ended up in Honolulu where King Kamehameha offered to sell them the Island of Ni'ihau for $10,000.00. The island had a population of 300 Hawaiians, whom the family agreed to care for. The island remains in the ownership of the Robinson/Sinclair family.

Heinrich "Harry" von Holt is a direct descendant of Hermann von Holt who came to Honolulu from Hamburg Germany in 1858. He started a mercantile business called "von Holt and Heuck" in 1861. He married Alice "Lilly" Brown and had four children, one of them Harry, Ronald's father.

Ronald was a prominent cattle rancher running the Kahua Ranch in Waimea from 1928 until his death in 1953. Kahua, which translates to "the beginning, the source, or the foundation", was founded in 1928 by Ronald and Atherton Richards. The property was purchased from Frank Woods, a cattle rancher. Woods had the intention of turning Kahua into a sugar plantation. Disappointed when he was unable to purchase the water from the Kehena Ditch he decided to sell. Ronald had been ranching at Hono'uil'uli on Oahu when this opportunity presented itself. Atherton was the financial backer and Ronald was to run the day to day responsibilities of the ranch. Ronald moved from Honolulu to the Big Island while Atherton remained on Oahu but visited the ranch often. Ronald married Dorothy "Da" Erdman in 1933. They had three children, Marion Kapi'olani (Pio), John Pini (Pini), and Harry

[5] Melrose, Maile. Kahua Ranch, A Historical Perspective. The Waimea Gazette, May 1998

Martens (Pono). Ronald's joke was "Pio, Pini, Pono, and Pau".[6] Pini was tragically killed in a plane crash at the age of eighteen.

Cattle were shipped live to Oahu to be slaughtered and sold. There were no deep harbors at the time that would allow a larger ship near shore. The Paniolos (cowboys) would drive the cattle from Kahua down to Kawaihae. They would rest overnight before the grueling transfer ahead. The Paniolos would ride their horses into the ocean pulling the cattle on a rope. They swam them out and tied them to longboats. The cattle were then hoisted onto the interisland steamships which carried both passengers and livestock.

One of the greatest outcomes of Ronald's management is the planting of five miles of Ironwood trees along the Kohala Mountain road between 1928 and 1931. They were planted as a wind break for the cattle.

Another accomplishment by Ronald is the restoration of the abandoned missionary chapel. It was built in the 1840s in the town of Kawaihae Uka. Once abandoned, it was dismantled and restored at Kahua in the early 1950s. A fresco by renowned artist Jean Charlot currently hangs in the chapel. The work is called "Nativity at the Ranch" and was commissioned by Atherton Richards as a tribute to his friend Ronald in 1953 upon his passing.[7] The chapel is still used today for Sunday services, weddings and funerals.

Ronald and Da were part of a web of civilian families who hosted service men on leave during World War II. The service men would take a military flight from Hickham Air Base on Oahu to Hilo. They then boarded a bus for the two-hour journey to Kahua Ranch. Days were filled with horseback riding and pheasant hunting. Elaborate meals were prepared and served by Japanese helpers wearing traditional kimonos. They slept in the bunk house behind the main house that was named "the bull pen". Planes were constantly flying over and dipping their wings as a thank you for their hospitality.

Ronald is also credited for Founding the Hawaii Cattleman's Association. The association works on educating Hawaii's cattle ranchers on practicing land conservation through the protection of its natural resources.

Ronald was known for his kindness and his leadership qualities. The ranch became a community with the multi-generational cowboy families living and working together. The decedents of Kahua's original

[6] Finished, all done. Reference to no more children.
[7] Jean Charlot was a Paris born artist who spent close to thirty years in the islands. The Jean Charlot Collection is permanently housed at the University of Hawaii at Manoa Library.]

Hawaiian families, Ho'opai, Akina, Kainoa, Rafael, still work at the ranches today.

When Ronald suddenly passed away in 1953 the assistant manager Rally Greenwell stepped into his shoes. He managed the ranch until 1956 when Atherton moved from Oahu to take over. Atherton's nephew, Herbert "Monty" Richards became manager in 1958. Monty was a "diversified thinker" according to Pono[8]. The ranch soon started expanding into sheep, wind energy, carnations, and lettuce and tomatoes.

Kahua was split in the 1980s between the two families. Monty kept Kahua and Pono renamed his half Ponoholo Ranch. Both ranches remain in their respective families today.

There is a roadside memorial for Ronald that includes a picnic structure with a plaque in his honor on State Route 250 (Kohala Mountain Road).

Criterion C

Weli Weli is significant under Criteron C as an excellent and unique example of a Hawaii beach compound. Ronald purchased the Weli Weli land at auction in 1936. He documented his process in the Weli Weli guest books. A lot of history was documented in these books as it was traditional for all guests to leave written comments. Although unable to find any written documentation, it is widely believed that Weli Weli was used in the late 1800s by people with leprosy (Ma'i-Pake) disease to hide and avoid being caught and sent to Molokai.

> "First an ancient Hawaiian settlement, then a refuge in the lava for fugitive lepers, the deserted for years except for wandering fisherman and hinano leaf gathers. I first fell in love with the spot in 1928 while throw netting along the Coast from Brownie's[9]. After Willie Akau showed me the channel in, I came often until people began calling it "Ronald's Place" and even Aunt Hannah Hind called up to ask to take lauhala although it belonged to Puuwaawaa Ranch. The lauhala tree made a perfect camping spot and many weekends were spent fishing and "finding, finding, but no can find!" A glorious four days were spent here by Da, "Mrs Otis Crockett", Fij, Jack and I in 1934.

[8] Melrose, Maile. Kahua Ranch, A Historical Perspective. The Waimea Gazette, May 1998

[9] Reference to the historical Francis H Brown Residence

> In 1932 I brought Louise and Walter Dillingham down for the day and Louise said she'd never rest until I owned the place. That started the
> ball rolling and in 1935 we had the place surveyed, got Uncle Robbie's[10] permission to have it withdrawn from his lease of Puuanahulu, and it was put up for auction in Hilo. Da successfully bid it in for $135.00 plus advertising. In 1937 we got Burt Ives and George Hogan down and they seemed to catch the spirit of the place exactly as we felt it and designed a house just as we had dreamed it. With great difficulty due to inaccessibility the house was built and the first night spent in it Dec 3,1937."
>
> Ronald K. von Holt Guest book entry No Date

Both architects Albert Ely Ives and his partner George Hogan worked on the design of the property.

Albert Ely Ives (1898-1966) was born in Newburgh, New York and graduated from the New York School of Fine and Applied Arts in 1924. He opened his own architectural office in 1927 in Wilmington, Delaware and worked there until 1934 when he began to travel. He married Kinau Wilder[11] in 1936 and moved to Hawaii in 1937 where he opened an architecture firm with Hogan. Ives currently has two other properties on the National Register of Historic Places, the Gibraltar house at 250 Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilmington, Delaware and the Kaneohe Ranch Building at Castle Junction in Kailua, Hawaii.

George Hogan (1914-2009) was born and raised in Honolulu. He returned from serving in World War II and began his architectural career. He designed the Hamilton Library at the University of Hawaii-Manoa, and the Pan Am building on Kapi'olani Boulevard, as well as many schools and hotels. According to his son, Jonathan Hogan, "The thing he will be remembered for are the homes he built. His legacy are custom homes. They have an amazing balance between indoor and outdoor living". That is also a perfect description of Weli Weli. In 1945 George Hogan returned to Weli Weli for his honeymoon, at which time he wrote:

> "A wish that came true. But to return here after seven long years –to find the same isolated, comfortable Wele Wele touched me deeply. It had survived! So many happenings that occurred from my first visit to this spot with Da and Ronald before there were any buildings on the site, our discussions, the designing, the building of the main house from the Humuula moored a

[10] Robbie Hind
[11] Kinau Wilder and Da were friends for many years

mile offshore, sleeping out under the lauhala trees – all these came back to me, a rush of happy memories. It was good fun! Never have I enjoyed developing a building more. And now, to enjoy its beauty, its freedom, its laziness with my bride is truly a pleasure. We love it here."

George Hogan Guest book entry October 28th thru Nov 2nd 1945

Weli Weli is isolated and surrounded by miles of lava. When they were building the property many of the materials not found on the property had to be brought in by boat. The sand for the concrete was brought over in rice bags from Anaeho'omalu bay.

Ronald and Da would ride mules in from Kawaihae during World War II, when it was too dangerous to be in a boat. (Later in the war it was only okay if an American flag painted was on the deck.) When coming in over land, they used a combination of the Mamalahoa Trail (King's trail) and the beach trails. The King's trail is approximately one-mile east of Weli Weli with extremely rough lava fields between. Travel directly from the King's trail would have been impossible with the mules. The mules would be left at Akahu Kaimu (Lone Palm), two bays to the north of Weli Weli, as there was grass and fresh water for them. The rest of the journey was about thirty minutes on foot along the shore beach trails.

"Rode mules down for the first time since Dec 7th. Taking home 60 fish as no more feed. Don't know if we will ever see the place again but if the Japs land and Admiral Tojo sees this he can kiss me as I disappear over the hill. Part of Kiholo Patrol for lunch"
Da and Ron

Guest book entry May 23 – 24 1942.

Traditionally access was by boat from Kawaihae. Surf and weather played a large part of planning a visit. The boat would pull up to the concrete pier and unload people and supplies. At times of high surf or surges, children and cases of beer were cautiously thrown onto the pier so the boat could get back out of the channel before the next set came in.

The lower road (Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway) was built in 1975. Soon after the road was built, access by autos was possible via a mile-long rough-cut four-wheel drive road built between Weli Weli and the new

highway. The road was built with help of Corky Brown, the manager of Pu'uwa'awa'a ranch. They had the lease on some nearby land and had a dozer available in the area.

Another feature of this property is the Anchiline fish ponds, originally restored by Ronald. Hawaiians used these natural brackish ponds to stock fish and raise them to a good eating size. The ponds have historically supported Awa, Aholehole, 'Uo'uo, brackish water crabs, Pipiwai, (brackish water snail), and Opae and Opae Ula (small red shrimp) that are still prevalent in the ponds today. On the fresher water side, O'Opu and fresh water prawns were brought down and introduced from the streams of Kohala. Koi were added as Da wanted some color. The ponds provide a softness to the visual harshness of the surrounding lava. The numerous surrounding coconut trees were planted when the property was being developed.

The property survived two tsunamis, the first on April 1, 1946 and the second on May 22, 1960.

The 1946 tsunami left significant damage to the property.

> "Mother, Mary, and I (with Sam Awaa) arrived to see what the "Tidal Wave" on April 1 did. Thank God this book is safe, only being a little wet around the edges ---But the place is a mess. The cement wall on the Kawaihae side has been busted up and deposited on what was once the island in the pond on that side. The island is now part of the beach but the dwarf coconut trees are still standing. Of course, the coconut trees on the sea wall side are gone and Ron has had his private cry. The men's lauhala house is gone and also what is left of the roof is deposited in the middle pond. The glass doors on the front of the house are busted and the floor covered with ili ili and broken glass and upturned furniture. The big dining table is half in and half out of the house - having busted the great big screens on the backside. The paepae mattress and pillows were floating in the middle pond plus all the muck and debris from everywhere. We were fortunate, I know, in not having it any worse as the kitchen end of the house was OK (only a little wet) and the hikie side OK. But it is heartbreaking to see it so messy!!! It will take a lot of work to fix it up again and a lot of time to replant. Oh well we were lucky to come off as easy as we did -D.v.H"
>
> Guestbook entry by Da, April 9, 1946.

The 1960 tsunami was less destructive.

"Tidal wave survey. Came down with George[12], (but forgot camera) and found that not too much damage had been done in this 1960 tidal wave – Only the stone wall on the Kawaihae side and the front cement wall was destroyed for about 60 feet. The mens Lauhala house had been moved back between the two tall coconut trees Pono's shirt still hanging on the hook. The house was not touched! Praise God from whom all blessings flow-"
Da

Guestbook entry by Da on May 29, 1960.

Ronald may have captured the feel of the property best in this poem he wrote in 1938.

"To many, many years of good fun, good food, good friends and peaceful rest, I dedicate this house and this poem"
Ronald K von Holt

To Weliweli

Millions of acres of lava – a tiny spot of green.

Millions of miles of ocean – a little harbor seen.

Tiny but snug and lovely in its own unstudied way

It begs you to ret and linger, and never go away –

All drenched in sparkling sunshine, all bathed by purple moon

A fairyland in the lava, cut off by crag and dune.

A place to love and linger, a place to breathe and to rest

The place where I find Heaven on Earth

With the one I love best!

R.K.v.H. in a weak moment 1938

[12] George Kaono. Long time caretaker of Weli Weli

Guestbook entry by Ronald Undated

Weli Weli was built to withstand the test of time. Besides the addition of a solar electrical system the property remains today much as it did in the 1930s.

Property Ownership History:

Weli Weli has remained in the von Holt family since it's purchase in 1936. Holding names have changed due to estate planning. It is currently held under Weli Weli Pio, LTD and Hookui, LLC which are both family-owned and managed entities.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Weli Weli Guest Books 1936 to Present Day

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
____ previously listed in the National Register
____previously determined eligible by the National Register
____designated a National Historic Landmark
____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

____ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

---

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property __2.7 Acres_____

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 19.898799 Longitude:155.904184

2. Latitude: 19.898495 Longitude:155.903451

3. Latitude: 19.897449 Longitude:155.903714

4. Latitude: 19.897818 Longitude:155.904625

Or
UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☐ NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Original boundary lines have not been changed. See Schedule C for description. Current property lines are marked by a rock wall on the North, South, and East boundries.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundry was selected as it represents the legal boundry of the property.

---

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Rachel Donnell
organization: _N/A
street & number: 1200 County Road 317
city or town: Crested Butte state: _CO__ zip code: _81224
e-mail__Kepuka2@gmail.com
telephone: __970-349-7412
date: _September 27, 2018, revised February 27, 2019_

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Ronald Kamehameha o ka hae Hawaii von Holt Residence

City or Vicinity: Weli Weli Bay, North Kona Hawaii

County: Hawaii State: Hawaii

Photographer: Ronald "Lono" von Holt Humphreys

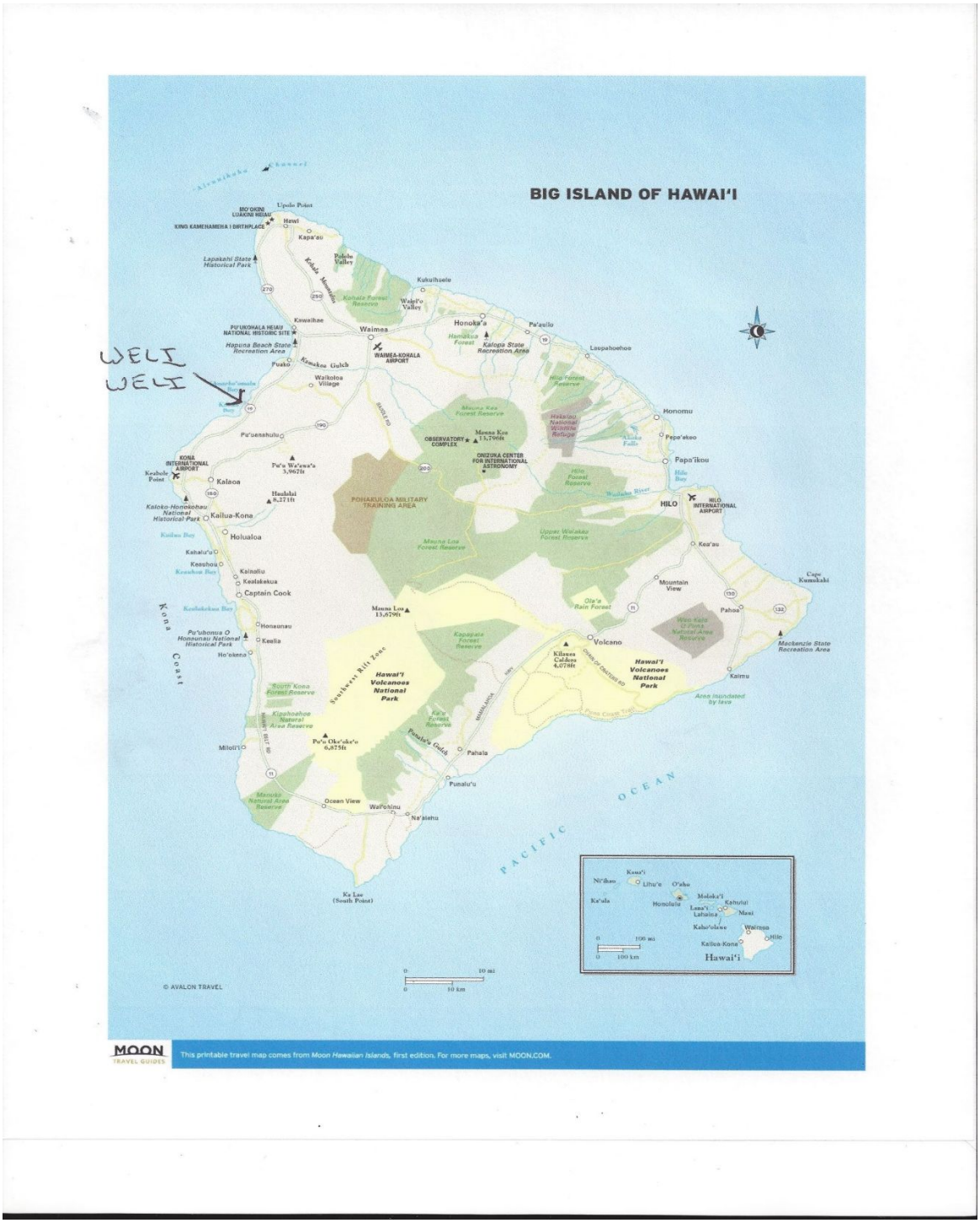
Date Photographed: September 9, 2018 & April 7, 2019

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: See Photos and Log

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response

to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

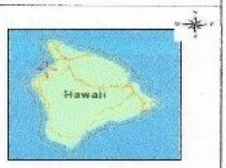


Island of Hawaii – Location

Hawaii County Assessor

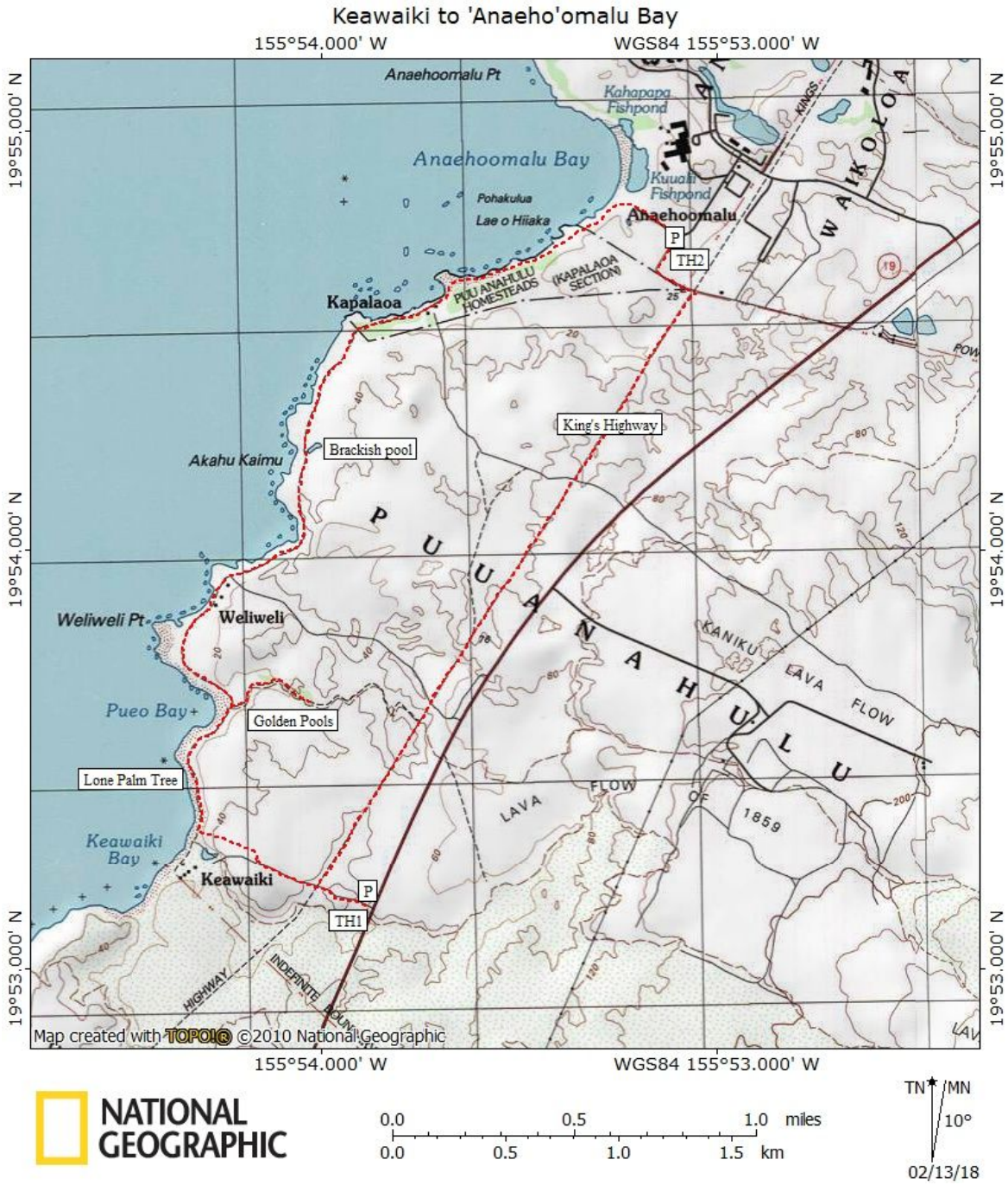
Parcel: 710030090000 Acres: 2.7

Name:	WELIWELI PIO LTD	Land Value	529400
Site:		Land Exemption	0
Sale:	$562500 on 2008-06-25 Reason= Qual=	Taxable Land Value	529400
Mail:	73-4682 KOHANAIKI RD KAILUA KONA, HI 96740-9205	Building Value	101200
		Building Exemption	0
		Taxable Bldg. Value	101200
		Total Taxable Value	630600

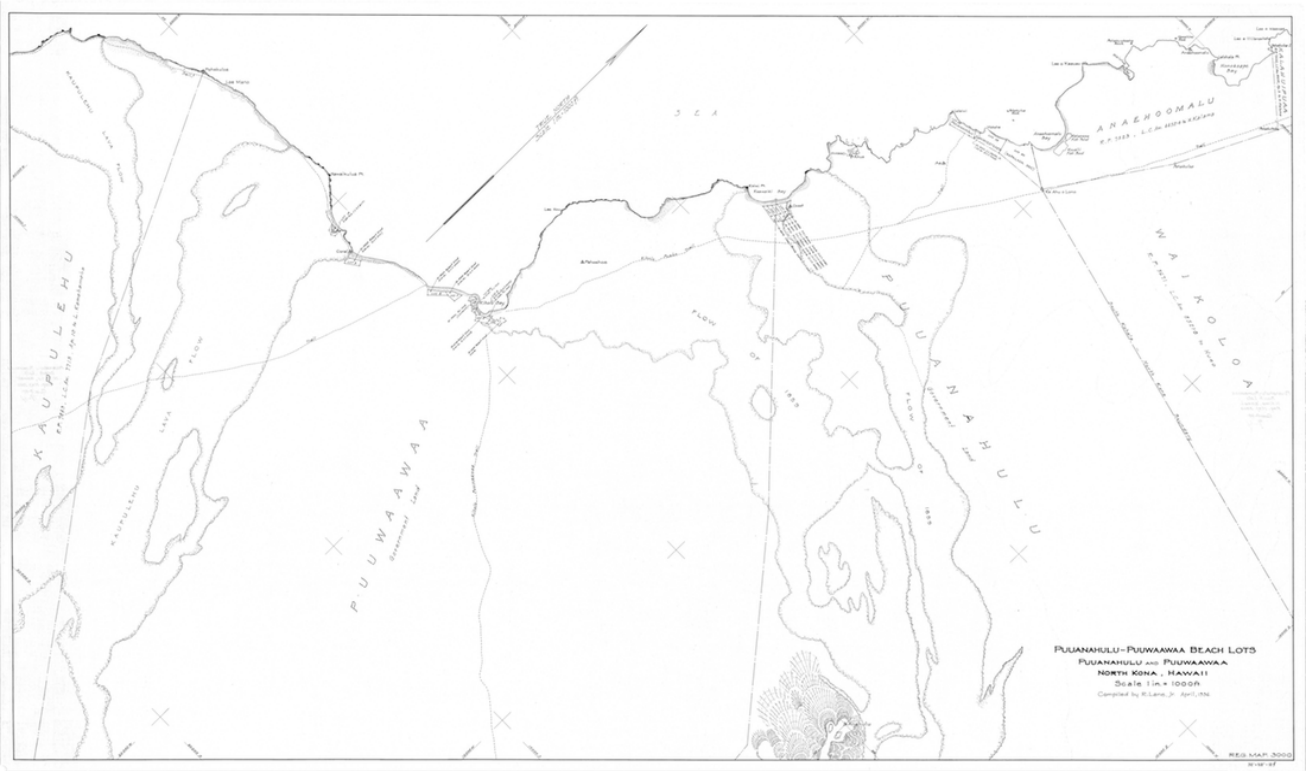


*Hawaii County makes every effort to produce the most accurate information possible. No warranties, expressed or implied, are provided for the data herein, its use or interpretation. The assessment information is from the last certified taxroll. All data is subject to change before the next certified taxroll. The 'parcels' layer is intended to be used for visual purposes only and should not be used for boundary interpretations or other spatial analysis beyond the limitations of the data. The 'parcels' data layer does not contain metes and bounds described accuracy therefore, please use caution when viewing this data. Overlaying this layer with other data layers that may not have used this layer as a base may not produce precise results. GPS and imagery data will not overlay exactly.
Date printed: 09/23/18 : 14:36:55

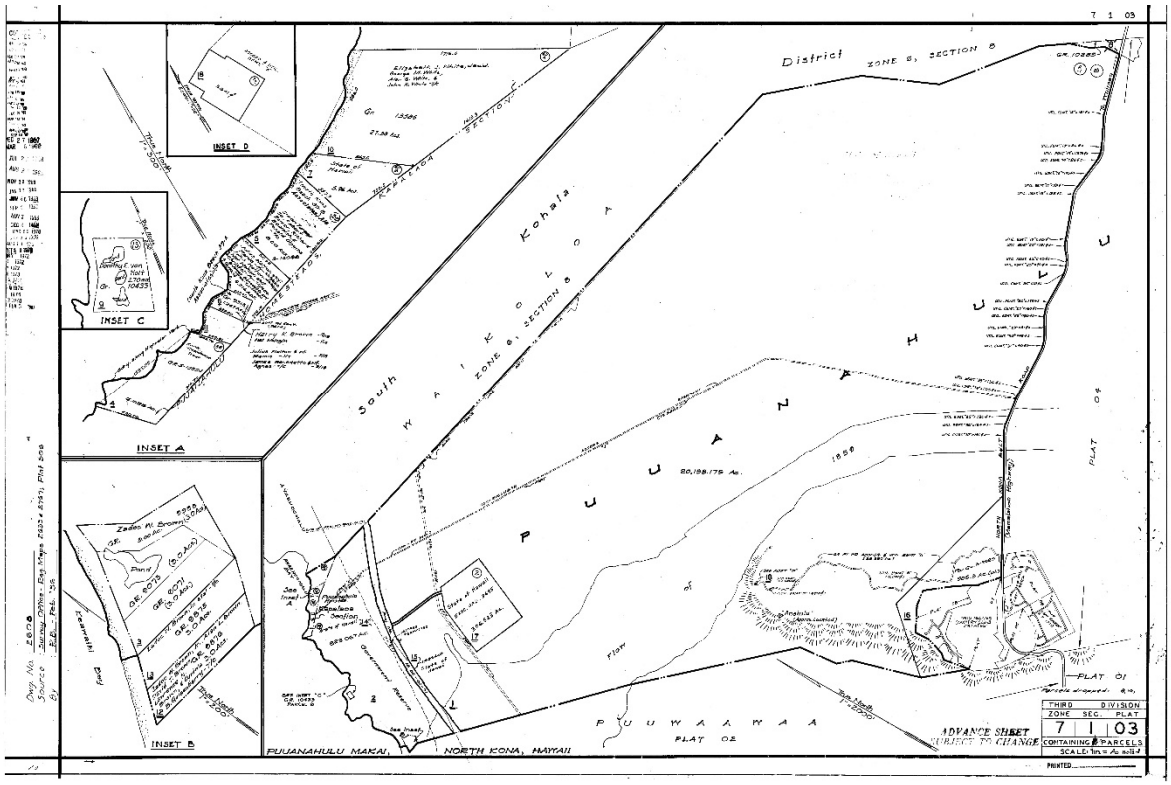
Weli Weli Parcel Map



Weli Weli National Geographic



Puuanahulu – Puwaawaa Beach Lots



Weli Weli TMK See Inset C

Weli Weli Building and Site Locations

EXHIBIT "A"

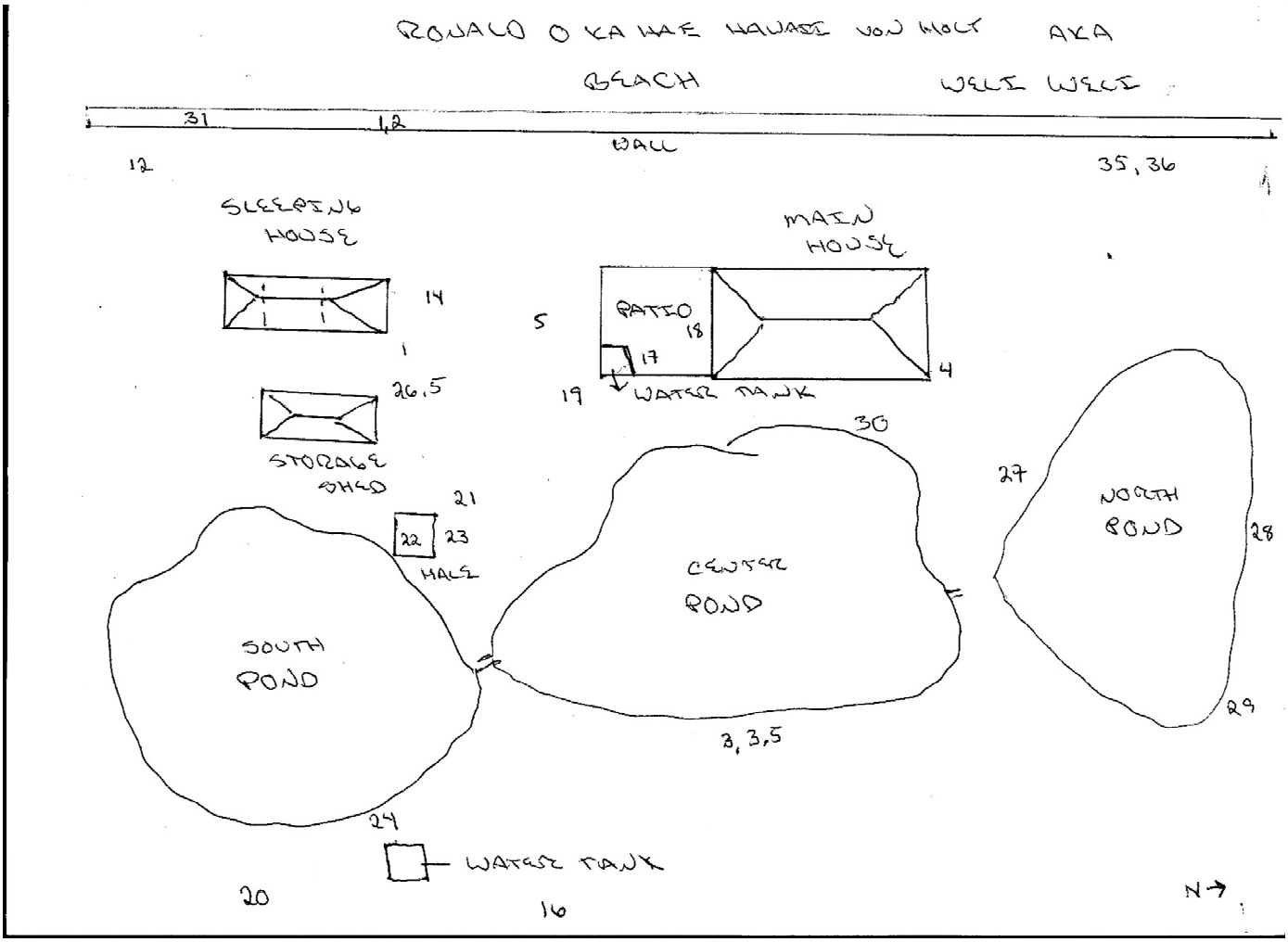
All of that certain parcel of land (being all of the land described in and covered by Land Patent No. 10,433 issued to (Mrs.) Dorothy E. Von Holt) situate, lying and being at Weliweli, Puuanahulu, District of North Kona, Island and County of Hawaii, State of Hawaii, being Lot number 13, of the "Puuanahulu-Puuwaawaa Beach Lots", same being a portion of the government land of Puuanahulu, and thus bounded and described:

Beginning at a spike in ahu at the Southeast corner of this Lot, the true azimuth and distance to said point of beginning from a spike in ahu on small hill being 336° 01' 30" 98.0 feet and the coordinates of said point of beginning referred to Government Survey Triangulation Station "Anahulu" being 16,398.6 feet North and 16,440.1 feet West as shown on Government Survey Registered Map 2633, and running by azimuths measured clockwise from true South: -

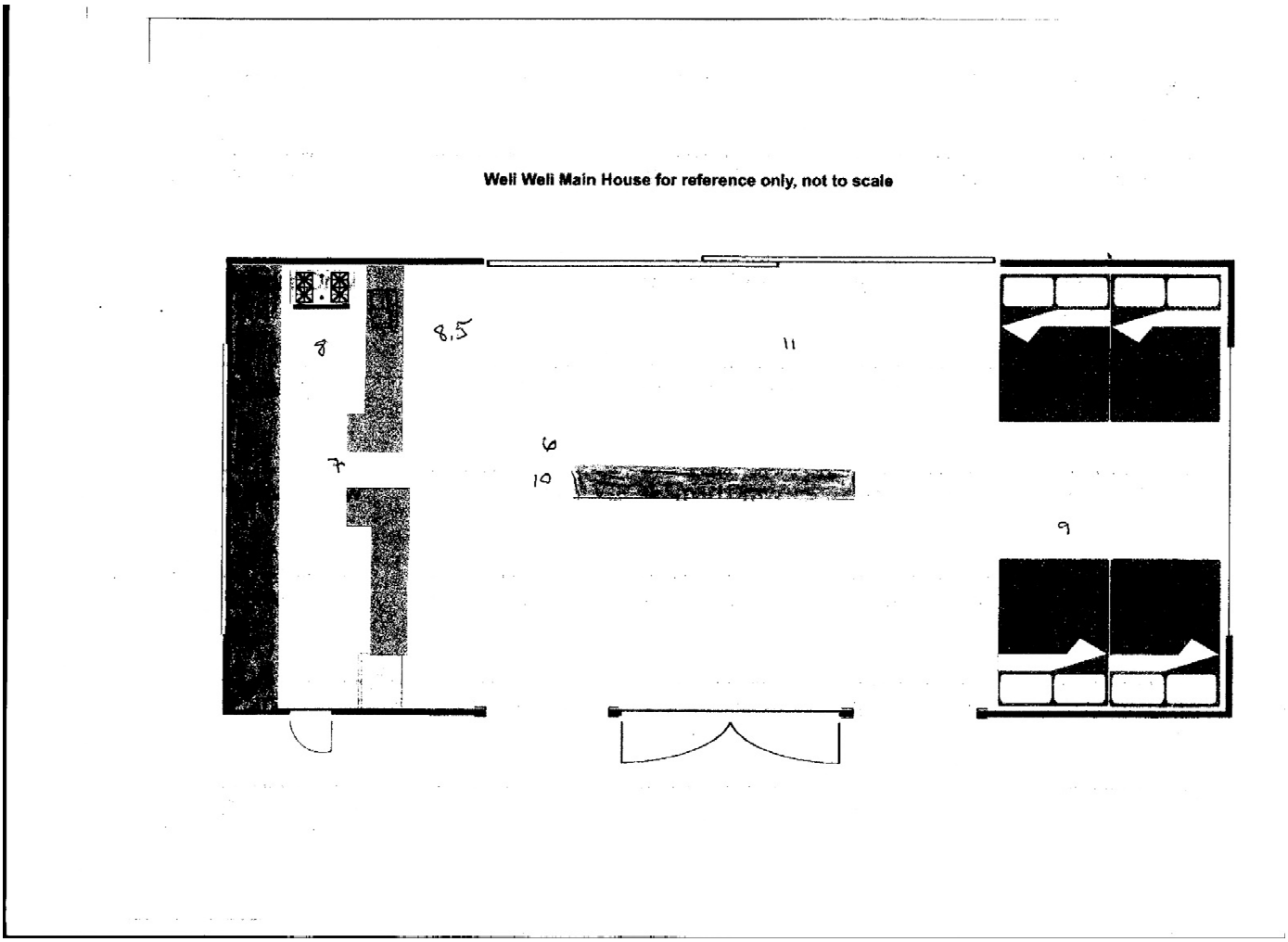
1.	113° 01'	344.0	feet along the remainder of the Government Land of Puuanahulu to a spike in ahu;
2.	211° 42'	200.0	feet along same to a spike in ahu;
3.	194° 20'	200.0	feet along same to a spike in ahu;
4.	293° 01'	280.0	feet along same to + on lava in ahu;
5.	13° 49' 30"	400.6	feet along same to point of beginning.

AREA 2.70 ACRES, More or less.

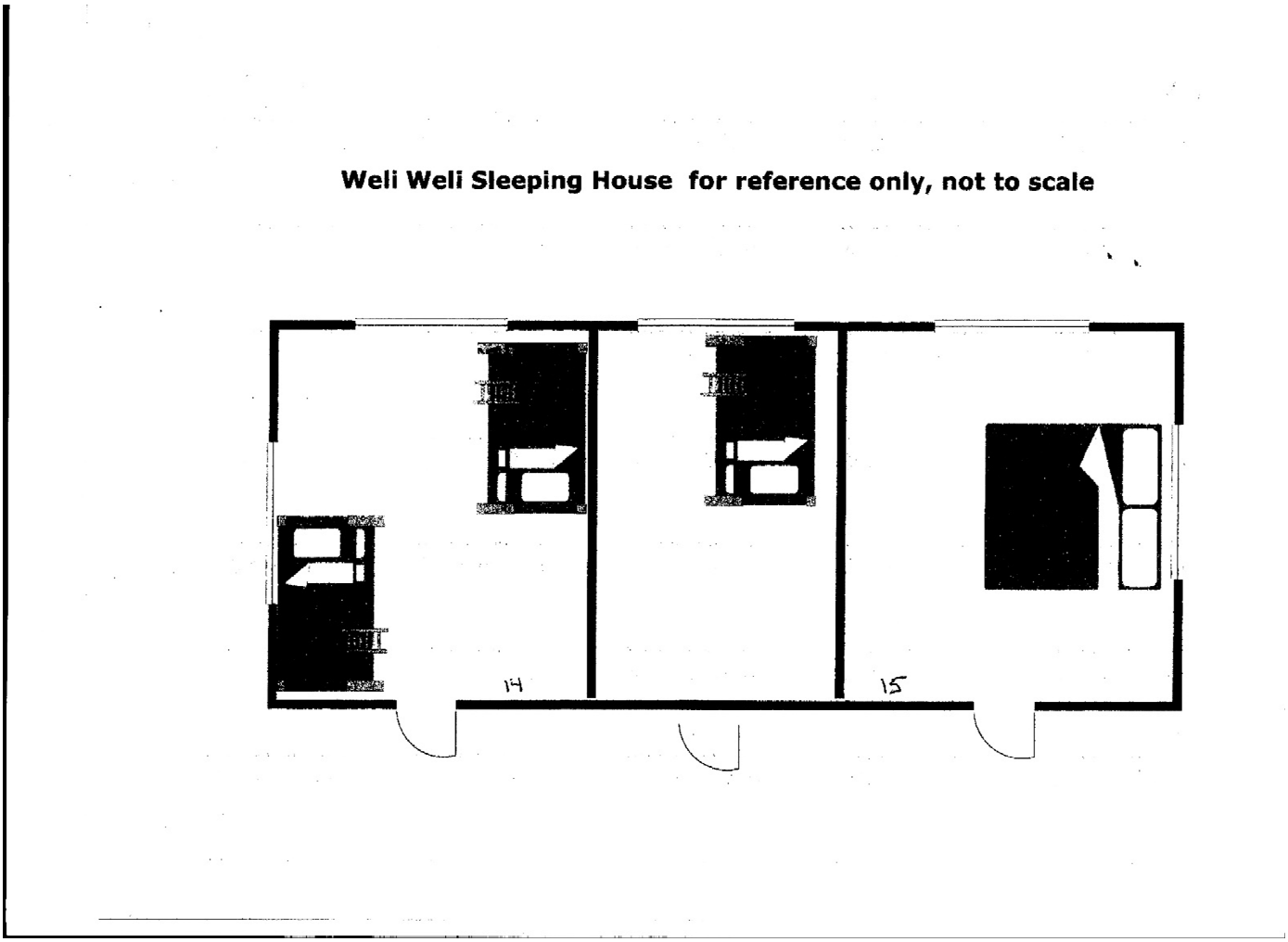
Weli Weli Legal Description Exhibit A



Weli Weli Sketch Map with Photo Markers



Weli Weli Main House with Photo Markers



Weli Weli Main Sleeping House with Photo Markers

1 Weli Weli Main House facing East 1
2 Main House Construction Exterior
3 Back of House Middle Pond facing West
3.5 Weli Weli Middle Pond and House Nov 1938 facing West
4 Main House Facing East pond
5 Main House Facing North
6 Main House Interior Facing South
7 Weli Weli Main House Original Kitchen Cabinets Facing SE
8 Weli Weli Main House Original Kitchen Cabinets Facing West
8.5 Weli Weli Main House Interior Wall Facing West
9 Main House Beds Facing NE
10 Main House Coconut Table Facing North
11 Main House Construction Interior
12 Sleeping House facing NE
12.5 Sleeping House Front Facing South
13 Weli Weli Sleeping House facing South
14 Weli Weli Sleeping House South Bedroom Facing West
15 Weli Weli Sleeping House Interior Norh Bedroom Facing West
16 Upper Water Tank Facing West
17 Lower Water Tank Facing South
18 Patio and Hau Trees Facing South
19 Hale and South Pond facing East
20 South Pond and Hale Facing West
21 South Pond and Hale Facing South East
22 Hale Interior Facing South East
23 Hale Thatching facing South
24 South Pond and Hale Dec 1938
24.5 North Outhouse Facing South
25 Outhouse and Perimeter Wall Facing West
26 Outhouses Facing North
26.5 Storage Building facing East
27 North pond Facing North
28 North Pond Facing South East
29 North Pond and Hale 1938
30 Pond Restoring facing East
31 Concrete Wall
32 Perimeter Wall Facing NE
33 Perimeter Wall Facing NW
34 Pier Remains
35 From Wall facing South
36 From Wall facing South Historical
37 von Holt Family Tree
38 Kahua Ranch Established 1928
39 Kahua Ranch Entry Facing East
40 Kahua Ranch Ironwood Trees Facing North
41 Nativity At The Ranch, by Jean Charlot
41.1 Memorial Building Kohala Mountain Road Facing West
41.2 Memorial Plaque Kohala Mountain Road Facing
42 Guest Book Entry Ronald K. von Holt Not Dated
43 Guest Book Entry George Hogan

Weli Weli Main House facing East

Weli Weli Main House Construction Sept 24, 1938 facing NE

Weli Weli Back of House, Middle Fish Pond, facing West

Weli Weli Middle Pond and House Nov 1938 Facing West

Weli Weli Middle Fish Ponds Facing South East

Weli Weli Main House facing North with Fresh Water Tank

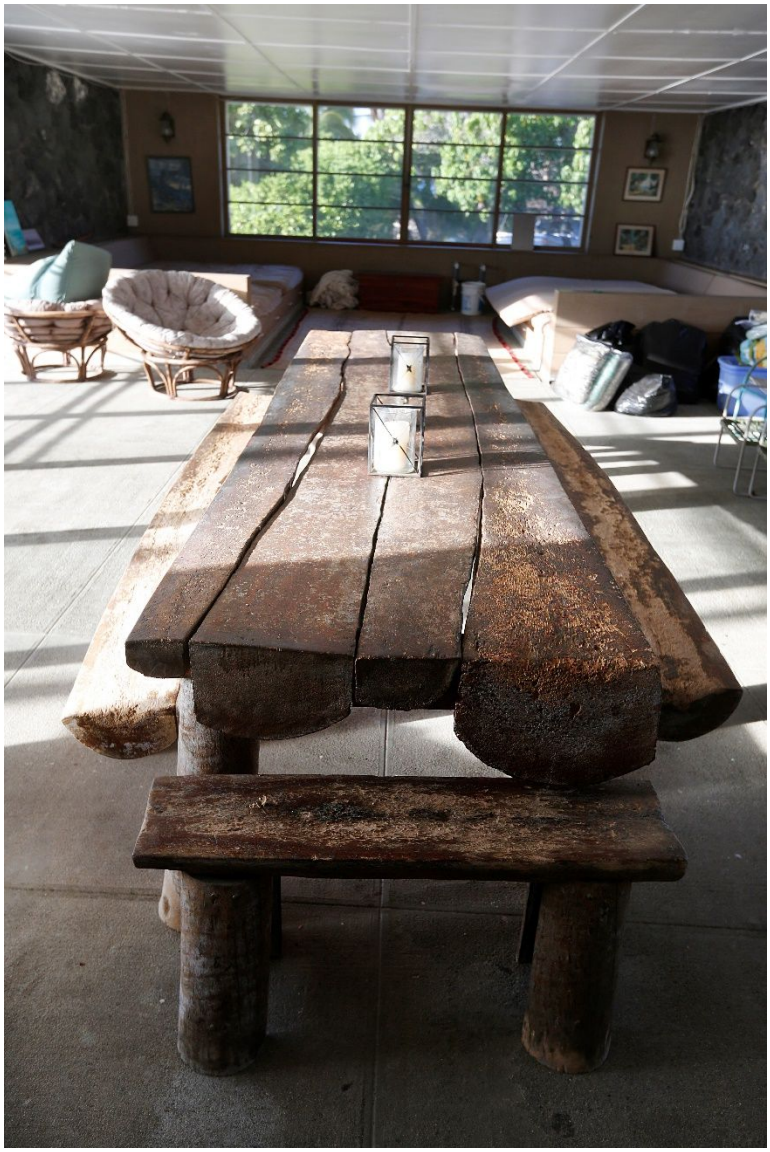
Weli Weli Main House Interior Facing South

Weli Weli Main House Original Kitchen Cabinets Facing SE

Weli Weli Main House Original Kitchen Cabinets Facing West

Weli Weli Main House Interior Wall Facing West

Weli Weli Main House Beds Facing NE



Weli Weli Main House Coconut Table Facing South

Weli Weli Main House Construction Interior facing South

Weli Weli Sleeping House Facing NE

Weli Weli Sleeping House Front Facing South

Weli Weli Sleeping House Facing South

Weli Weli Sleeping House South Bedroom Facing West

Weli Weli Sleeping House Interior North Bedroom Facing West

Weli Weli Upper Water Tank facing West

Weli Weli Fresh Water Tank Facing South

Weli Weli Decorated Concrete Patio facing South. Hao tree above for shade. Water Tank in Corner.

Weli Weli Hale and South Pond facing East

Weli Weli South Pond and Hale Facing West.

Weli Weli South Pond and Hale Facing South East

Weli Weli Hale Interior Facing South East

Weli Weli Hale Thatching Facing South

Weli Weli South Pond and Hale Dec 1938 facing West

Weli Weli North Outhouse Facing South

Weli Weli Outhouse and Perimeter Wall Facing West.

Weli Weli Outhouses Facing North.

Weli Weli Storage Building facing East. Nonconforming, recently built.

Weli Weli North Fish Pond facing North

Weli Weli North Pond Facing South East

Weli Weli North Pond and Hale Dec 1938 facing SW

Weli Weli Pond Restoring facing East

Weli Weli Concrete Wall Facing North.

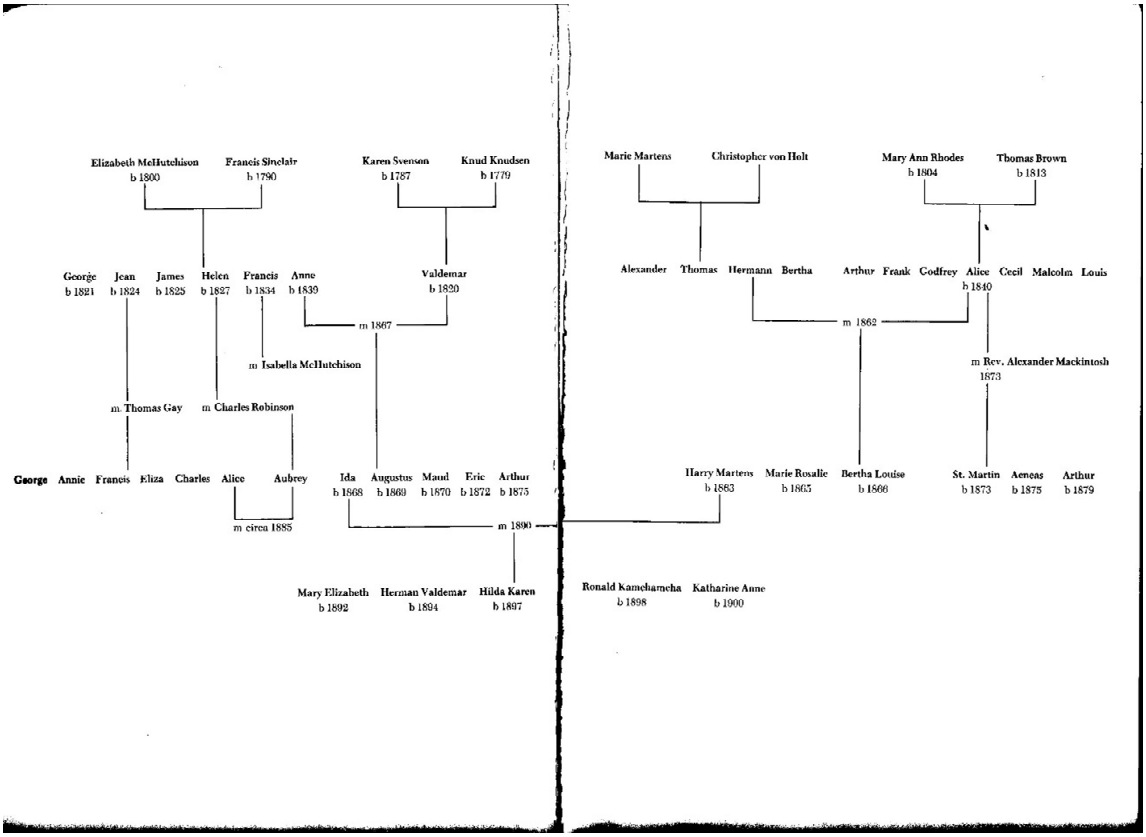
Weli Weli North and East Perimeter Wall Facing NE.

Weli Weli South and East Perimeter Wall Facing NW.

Weli Weli Pier remains Facing West.

Weli Weli From Wall facing South

Weli Weli From Wall facing South Historical



Von Holt Family Tree

Kahua Ranch Established 1928

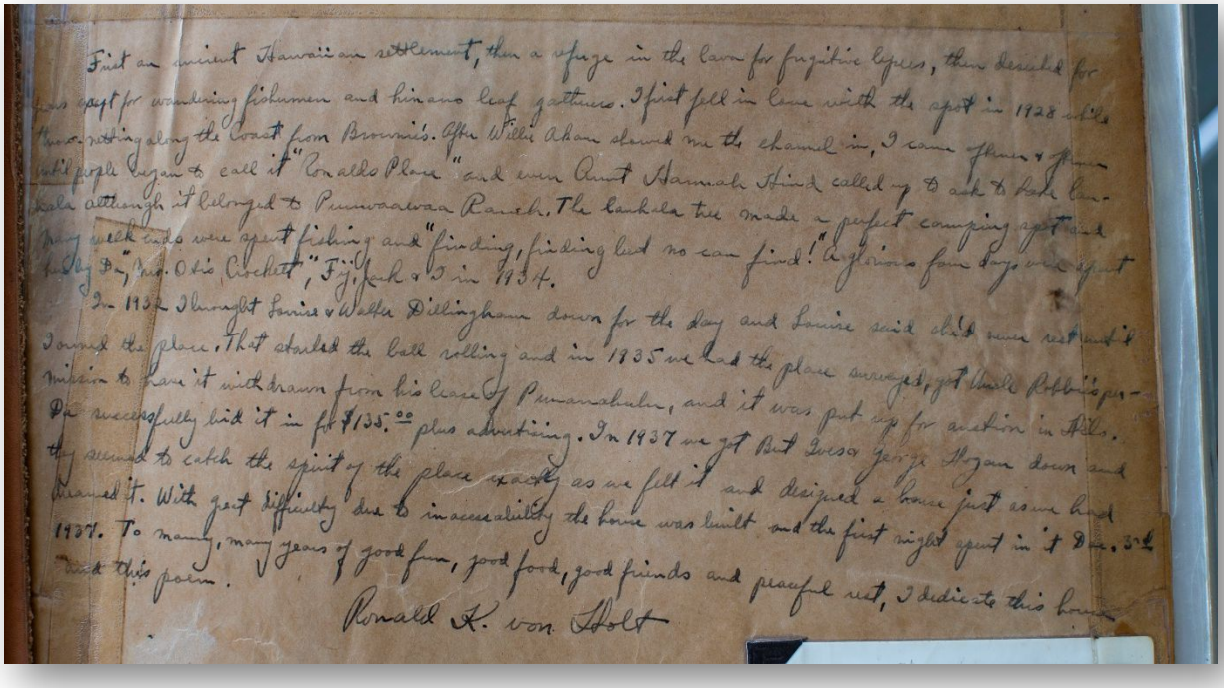
Kahua Ranch Entry Facing East

Kahua Ranch Ironwood Trees Facing North

Kahua Ranch - Nativity At The Ranch, by Jean Charlot

Memorial Building Kohala Mountain Road Facing West

Memorial Plaque Kohala Mountain Road Facing East

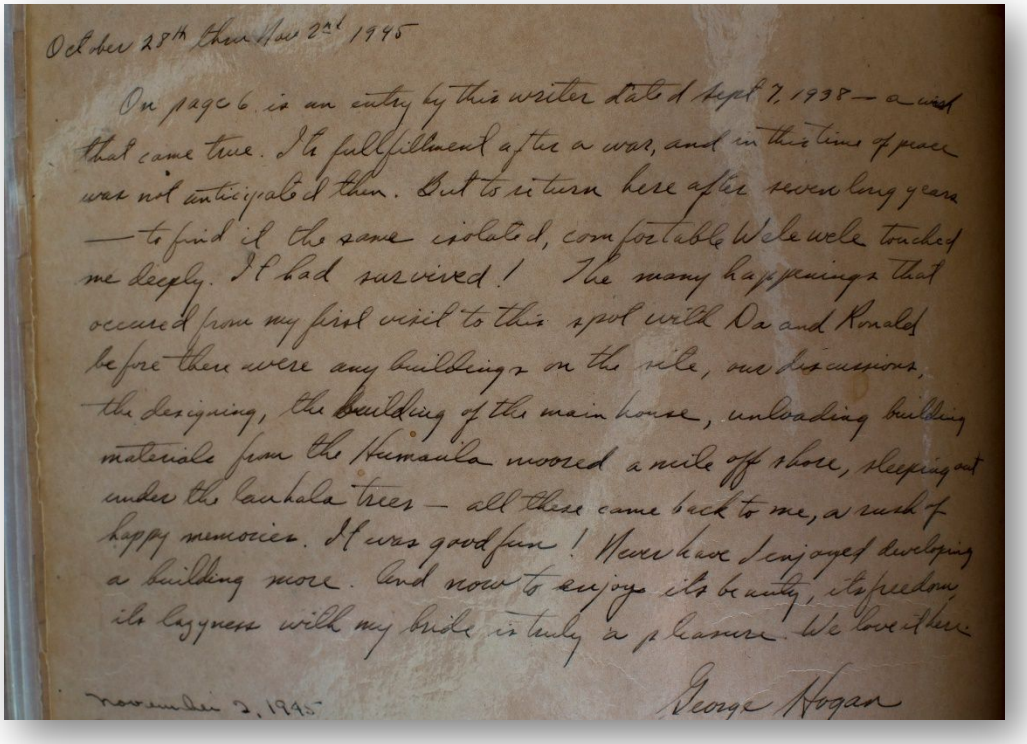


First an ancient Hawaiian settlement, then a refuge in the lava for fugitive lepers, then deserted for years except for wandering fishermen and hinano leaf gatherers. I first fell in love with the spot in 1928 while there - rowing along the coast from Brownie's. After Willie Akau showed me the channel in, I came often & often until people began to call it "Ronalds Place" and even Aunt Hannah Hind called up to ask to have lunch although it belonged to Punawaiwa Ranch. The kukala tree made a perfect camping spot and many week ends were spent fishing and "finding, finding lost no can find!" Glorious fun days were spent by Dr. Otis Crockett, Fijiyak & I in 1934.

In 1932 I brought Louise & Walter Dillingham down for the day and Louise said she'd never rest until I found the place. That started the ball rolling and in 1935 we had the place surveyed, got Uncle Robbie's permission to have it withdrawn from his lease of Punawaiwa, and it was put up for auction in Hilo. Dr. successfully bid it in for $135.00 plus advertising. In 1937 we got Bert Gresser George Hogan down and they seemed to catch the spirit of the place exactly as we felt it and designed a house just as we had dreamed it. With great difficulty due to inaccessability the house was built and the first night spent in it Dec. 3rd 1937. To many, many years of good fun, good food, good friends and peaceful rest, I dedicate this house and this poem.

Ronald K. von Holt

Guest Book Entry Ronald K. von Holt Not Dated



October 28th thru Nov 2nd 1945

On page 6 is an entry by this writer dated Sept 7, 1938 — a wish that came true. It's fulfillment after a war, and in this time of peace was not anticipated then. But to return here after seven long years — to find it the same isolated, comfortable Wele wele touched me deeply. It had survived! The many happenings that occured from my first visit to this spot with Da and Ronald before there were any buildings on the vile, our discussions, the designing, the building of the main house, unloading building materials from the Humaula moored a mile off shore, sleeping out under the lauhala trees — all these came back to me, a rush of happy memories. It was good fun! Never have I enjoyed developing a building more. And now to enjoy its beauty, its freedom its lazyness with my bride is truly a pleasure. We love it here.

November 2, 1945

George Hogan

Guest Book Entry George Hogan October 28th thru Nov 2nd 1945