

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: Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 5900 Kamehameha V Hwy.

City or town: Kaunakakai State: HI County: Maui

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

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

___ national ___ statewide ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D

<p>_____ Signature of certifying official/Title:</p>	<p>_____ Date</p>
<p>_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory
Name of Property

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

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:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory
 Name of Property

Maui, Hawaii
 County and State

Structure
 Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Religion: Chapel and Rectory

Funerary: Cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Religion: Chapel and Rectory

Funerary: Cemetery

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

Name of Property

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Gothic Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Wood

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

Saint Joseph chapel, ^{e e}~~c~~emetery and rectory is a site located in Kamalo, on the topside of the island of Molokai and situated on less than 2 acres of land next to the only road to the east end of the island, approximately 10.5 miles east of the main village of Kaunakakai along the southeastern shoreline of Molokai. Since the chapel's construction in 1876, the grounds have been used for worship, burying the dead, as a residence for the priest and sisters, and as a shrine for visitors. Since its construction in 1876, it has been in continuous use. Built by Father Joseph Damien de Veuster, SS.CC., a priest of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (SS.CC.) who served in the Kingdom of Hawaii from 1864 through 1889, and local volunteer labor, with materials donated by the Sacred Hearts Order AND donors, the chapel was built in the Gothic Revival style popular at the time to serve the local area as a house of worship. The cemetery was probably in use from the time the chapel was built, although it also may have been a burial ground before that time. The rectory was built sometime in the early to mid 20th century. Most of the chapel is original, dating from the timex of Father Damien, with the original altar, tabernacle and altar railing used by Father Damien still standing.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery & Rectory	
Name of Property	Rectory
Maui, Hawaii	
County and State	
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)	

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 4

Some repair work has been done on the roof and electrical system of the chapel, but most of the structure is original. The rectory has had improvements inside such as floors and bathrooms, but the outside remains mostly intact from the original. The cemetery has over a hundred marked graves with the earliest marked grave being at the beginning of the 20th century, around 1907-1909 and probably many unmarked graves. There are rock walls, probably dating from well before the construction of the chapel, on the east and west boundaries of the property. The property is actually two lots, the larger one comprised of the chapel, cemetery and rectory and a smaller undeveloped lot further within the property. The chapel has dimensions of 50 feet by 25 feet with a pointed roof and a bell tower. The bell is presumed to be original. Stone footings support the floor of the chapel keeping it raised above the ground. Two wooden posts inside the chapel help support the bell tower. The roof is shingled. The chapel is constructed of wood. There a FEW CEMENT STEPS leading up into the chapel. The door is original. The windows are glass but may not be original. A windstorm around 2010 blew part of the steeple down. It was reconstructed without the original steeple. The rectory was built sometime in the early to mid 20th century as a house for the priests or religious sisters stationed on topside Molokai. It is 3 bedroom, two bath, cottage-style house similar to many of the houses on Molokai. The cemetery is maintained by family and friends of those buried there. Some local and non-local illustrious persons are buried there such as: Hope Lugosi, 5th and last wife of Hollywood actor Bela Lugosi; Kailiohe Kameekua, a 115 year old local woman who knew FATHER Damien and whose story is in a book written about her; the mother of Joseph Kiyonaga, the CIA Director in Central America during the Contra crisis in the 1970's; Irish immigrants who settled on Molokai in the late 1800's and early 1900's and who knew Father Damien; and many locally-known persons important in the development of Molokai, both Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian. It is believed that over 50 unmarked graves are in the cemetery, according to a team of University of Hawaii forensic and anthropology scients and students. The setting of the grounds is quite peaceful, rustic and stunningly beautiful. Two ranches, still active, lie on either side of the property. To the south lies the Pacific Ocean and to the north lies the highest mountains on Molokai. The area is sparsely populated and can get hot. There is a small parking area in front of the chapel and a dirt road leading to the back of the rectory. The area is known for being very windy with the tradewinds often blowing all day and night.

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory
Name of Property

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

Narrative Description

See previous two pages.

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

Name of Property

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.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory
Name of Property

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Religion

Period of Significance

1876 - present

Significant Dates

1876

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Father Damien de Veuster, ss.cc.

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Father Damien de Veuster, ss.cc.

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory
Name of Property

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

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 Saint Joseph chapel, cemetery and rectory are historically significant for their importance in the life of the local population of Hawaiians, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Anglo and other ethnic populations as well as being associated with Father Damien, a world-renowned Saint in the Catholic Church, and known worldwide for his work with leprosy victims. The site is the most-visited historical site now on Molokai, now even more so than Kalaupapa, where the leper settlement was located. The chapel itself, along with the Our Lady of Seven Sorrows chapel, about 4.5 miles east of Kamalo, are the only places in the world, outside of the Damien Shrine in Belgium, where the actual altars and tabernacles used by Father Damien still exist. Services are still held in the chapel on a monthly basis.

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

Located along the southeast coast of the Hawaiian Island of Molokai, the fifth largest of the five major islands in the Hawaiian Island archipelago, the site is located near a wharf, now in ruins, located in Kamalo, which was used in the past by the local population for incoming and outgoing goods and supplies. The island of Molokai is considered the most Hawaiian of the major Hawaiian islands. It was said that it was the training ground of "kaHUNAS" (masters of a trade or work) and warriors alike. The spiritual power or "mana" that Molokai held in the history of Hawaii is renowned. It is believed that Tahitian Polynesian peoples came to Molokai millenia ago and conquered the local ancient Hawaiians. Molokai has always been remote and isolated. Most of the early inhabitants of Molokai lived on the east end of the island.

The only way in the past for people to come and go from the island was by boat. Since the start of air service in Hawaii, the island is currently served by one airline. In the near past, it was served by a ferry and two other airlines.

The island economy has always been agricultural although attempts have been made to make Molokai a destination for visitors. It continues to be a low-income economy, however, the poorest of the major Hawaiian islands.

Missionary efforts have been made on the island since the first Christian missionaries (presumably) arrived in Hawaii in 1820.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery & Rectory	
Name of Property	Rectory
Maui, Hawaii	
County and State	
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)	

Section number 8 Page 8

The first Christian church on Molokai was built in 1832 near where Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Catholic now is in Kaluaaha. Catholic missionary priests were visiting Molokai from Oahu and Maui since the early 1840's and possibly even before then. The first resident Catholic priest on the island was Father Joseph Damien de Veuster, ss.cc., a Sacred Hearts priest, who in 1873, was assigned after volunteering, to the government of Hawaii leper settlement on the Kalaupapa peninsula on the north shore of Molokai and who served the entire island from 1873-1889. ~~Leper~~ Lepers were first sent to Molokai in 1866.

It is recorded in a Hawaiian Catholic Bishop's Journal that even back in 1851, a chapel was being built on topside Molokai as well as on the Kalaupapa peninsula. These chapels no longer exist. Father Damien helped to complete St. Philomena's church at the leper settlement in 1873 and went on to build six more chapels, two on the peninsula and four topside. St. Joseph chapel was built in 1876 in Kamalo to serve the faithful in that area. Two years earlier, Our Lady of Seven Sorrows was built by Father Damien topside on the east end of the island in Kaluaha, in 1874. And, in the same year, or a year or two later, 1876-1880, Father Damien built St. Ann in Halawa (east end) and St. John the Evangelist in Moanui (east end).

St. Joseph chapel, cemetery and rectory continue to serve the faithful on Molokai with monthly services, a sacred ground to bury their dead, and a residence for their religious leaders.

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory
Name of Property

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

- Bishop Louis Maigret, ss.cc. Journal, 1837-1877, Sacred Hearts Archives, Honolulu
"Pioneers of the Faith: History of the Catholic Mission in Hawaii 1827-1940)", Schoofs, ss.cc., Honolulu, 1978
"History of the Catholic Mission in the Hawaiian Islands", Yzendorn, ss.cc., Honolulu, 1927
"Letters of Father Damien", X Sacred Hearts, Rome, 2017

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 (Maui County)
 University
 Other

Name of repository: Sacred Hearts Archives and Diocese of Honolulu Archives

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property < 2 acres

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

Name of Property

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 21.051569 | Longitude: 156.873239 |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Zone: 4Q | Easting: 720993.65 | Northing: 2329328.71 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

The north boundary extends around 125 ft. along the southern edge of HI Hwy. 450 with a short rock wall extending about 30 ft. westward from the east boundary. The east boundary is a rock wall for 225 ft. of the 350 ft. boundary and extends south from the north rock wall. The south boundary extends about 350 ft. as a wire fence. The west boundary is a wire fence for 150 ft. on the southern end and a rock wall of 150 ft. on the northern end.

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory
Name of Property

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

It is ~~not~~ believed that the rock wall boundaries existed before the chapel was built to prevent cattle from entering the property and the wire fences were constructed much later to do the same.

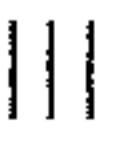
11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Father Brian Guerrini, ss.cc./Outgoing Pastor/Administrator
organization: St. Damien of Molokai Parish & Missions
street & number: 115 Ala Malama Ave.
city or town: Kaunakakai state: Hawaii zip code: 96748
e-mail frbrianvince@gmail.com
telephone: 808-319-1941 or 909-593-4544
date: October 16, 2022

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.)



Open in Map Viewer Classic >

Molokai Topo Map

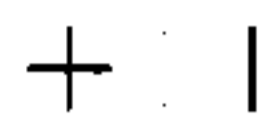
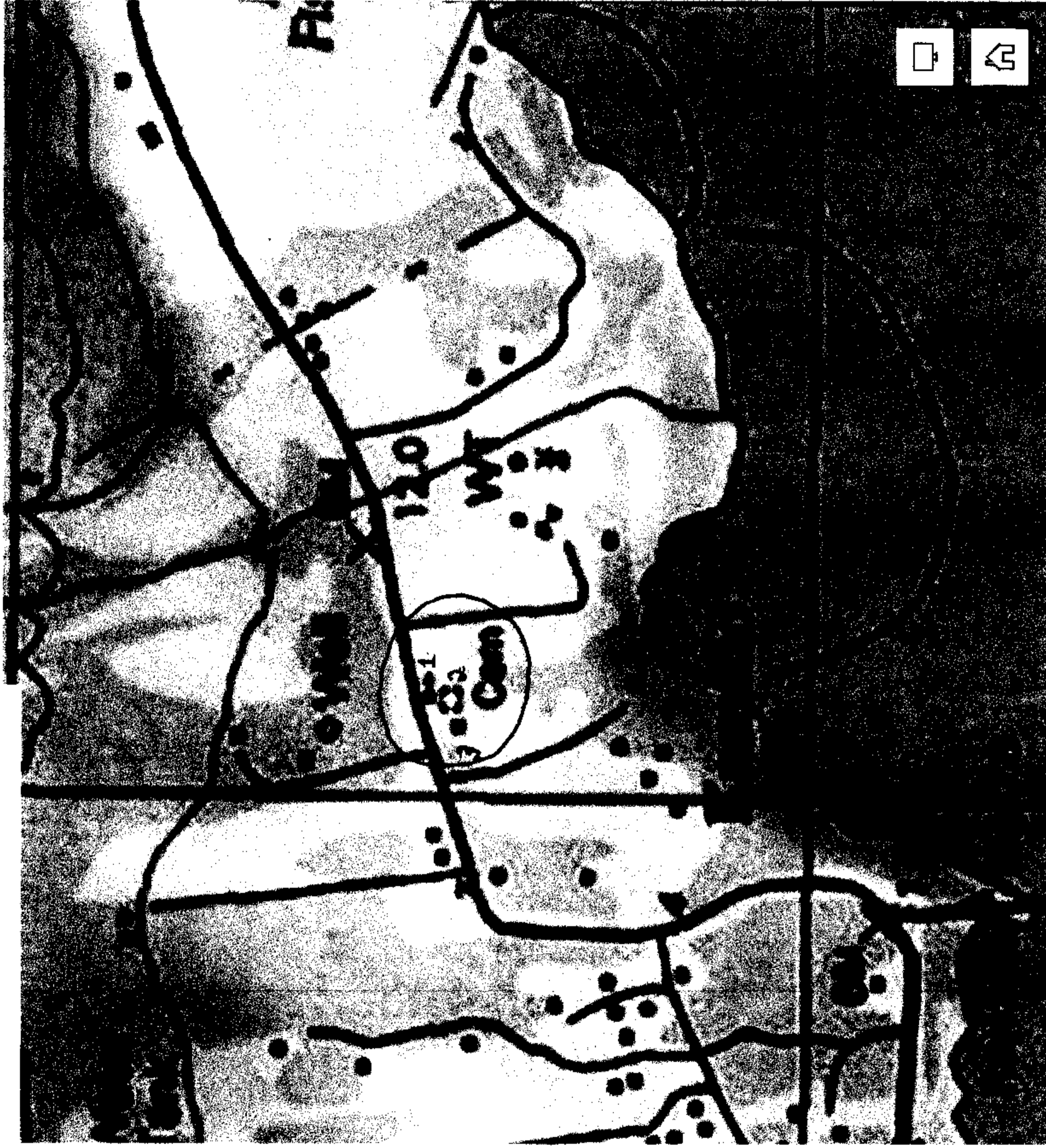


Legend

USA Topo Maps

USA Topo Maps

- 1 - Chapel
- 2 - Cemetery
- 3 - Rectory



Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory

Maui, Hawaii

Name of Property

County and State

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: Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory

City or Vicinity: Kamalo

County: Maui State: Hawaii

Photographer: Fr. Brian Guerrini, ss.cc.

Date Photographed: September, 2020

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

1 of 3.

Looking southeast from the highway at the chapel and northern part of the cemetery.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.



1 of 3

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory

Maui, Hawaii

Name of Property

County and State

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.

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City or Vicinity: Kamalo

County: Maui State: Hawaii

Photographer: Fr. Brian Guerrini, ss.cc.

Date Photographed: September, 2020

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

1 of 3
2

Looking northeast from the northern part of the cemetery at the chapel.

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Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory
Name of Property

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

Photographs

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City or Vicinity: Kamalo

County: Maui State: Hawaii

Photographer: Fr. Brian Guerrini, ss.cc.

Date Photographed: September, 2020

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

1 of 3.
3

Looking north-northeast from the central part of the cemetery at the chapel and cemetery.

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Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory

Maui, Hawaii
County and State

Name of Property

Photographs

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Name of Property: Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory

City or Vicinity: Kamalo

County: Maui State: Hawaii

Photographer: Fr. Brian Guerrini, ss.cc.

Date Photographed: September, 2020

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

1 of 2.

Looking south southeast at rectory

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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1 of 2

Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory

Maui, Hawaii

Name of Property

County and State

Photographs

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Name of Property: Saint Joseph Chapel, Cemetery and Rectory

City or Vicinity: Kamalo

County: Maui

State: Hawaii

Photographer: Fr. Brian Guerrini, ss.cc.

Date Photographed: September, 2020

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

of 2

2

Looking north northeast at the rectory, cemetery and chapel

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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