



**Mauna Kea**  
**Hawai‘i Register of Historic Places and**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Nomination as a**  
**Traditional Cultural Property and District**

Huliauapa‘a  
Mauna Kea Stewardship & Oversight Authority Meeting  
November 9, 2023

# Huliauapa'a *Transforming Cultural Resource Management in Hawai'i*

- Non-profit organization founded in 2012
  - Mission: Growing Hawai'i's communities through culturally based forms of innovative learning, leadership development, and collaborative networking in wahi kupuna stewardship
  - Vision: Wahi kupuna thriving through Hawaiian self-determination
- Researched and completed nomination on behalf of KAHEA and Mauna Kea Anaina Hou (officially listed nominators)



# Recognizing Historic Properties

- [The Hawai'i Register of Historic Places](#) is “an official list of properties that have been recognized for their significance to the history, architecture, archaeology, or culture of Hawai'i communities” (SHPD 2022)
- [The National Register of Historic Places](#) is “the official list of the Nation’s historic places worthy of preservation” (NPS 2022). The purpose of the NRHP is to recognize, not necessarily protect, historic properties
- HPRB reviews nominations for the Hawaii Register of Historic Places
  - Once the nomination is listed on the HRHP, it can be resubmitted for HPRB consideration and SHPO nomination to the NRHP

## HAWAII REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

**Maintained by:**  
The State Historic Preservation Division



**Nomination Procedure:**  
Anyone can nominate a historic property for entry to the Hawai'i Register



**Determination:**  
Hawai'i Historic Places Review Board shall preside at all hearings. Testimony is allowed.



## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

**Maintained by:**  
U.S. National Park Service

**Nomination Procedure:**  
State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) can nominate a historic property for entry to the National Register

**Determination:**  
Keeper of the National Register determines the eligibility of a property for inclusion on the National Register.

# Determining Eligibility for HRHP and NRHP Listing

1. Ensure that the entity is a “property”
  - a. District, site, building, structure, object
2. Consider the property’s integrity (of condition and relationship)
  - a. Integrity of the relationship between a property and the beliefs or practices that may give it significance
  - b. Integrity of condition of the property
3. Evaluate the property with reference to the National Register criteria for significance



# NRHP Criteria of Significance

## **CRITERION A**

**“ASSOCIATION WITH EVENTS THAT HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE BROAD PATTERNS OF OUR HISTORY”  
(NPS 1995:25-28).**

## **CRITERION B**

**“ASSOCIATION WITH THE LIVES OF PERSONS SIGNIFICANT IN OUR PAST” (NPS 1995:29-31).**

## **CRITERION C**

**“EMBODIMENT OF THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION; REPRESENTATIVE OF THE WORK OF A MASTER; POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUES; OR REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT AND DISTINGUISHABLE ENTITY WHOSE COMPONENTS MAY LACK INDIVIDUAL DISTINCTION” (NPS 1995:32,33).**

## **CRITERION D**

**“HISTORY OF YIELDING, OR POTENTIAL TO YIELD, INFORMATION IMPORTANT IN PREHISTORY OR HISTORY”  
(NPS 1995:34-36).**

# NRHP Criteria of Significance Modified for TCP Guidance

*(National Register Bulletin 38: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties 1998)*

## CRITERION A

“THE WORD “OUR” IN THIS CRITERION MAY BE TAKEN TO REFER TO THE GROUP TO WHICH THE PROPERTY MAY HAVE TRADITIONAL CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, AND THE WORD “HISTORY” MAY BE TAKEN TO INCLUDE TRADITIONAL ORAL HISTORY AS WELL AS RECORDED HISTORY” (PARKER AND KING 1998:11).

## CRITERION B

“THE WORD “PERSONS” CAN BE TAKEN TO REFER BOTH TO PERSONS WHOSE TANGIBLE, HUMAN EXISTENCE IN THE PAST CAN BE INFERRED ON THE BASIS OF HISTORICAL, ETHNOGRAPHIC, OR OTHER RESEARCH, AND TO “PERSONS” SUCH AS GODS AND DEMIGODS WHO FEATURE IN THE TRADITIONS OF A GROUP” (PARKER AND KING 1998:11).

## CRITERION C

“A PROPERTY IDENTIFIED IN TRADITION...TO BE THE WORK OF A TRADITIONAL MASTER BUILDER OR ARTISAN MAY BE REGARDED AS THE WORK OF A MASTER, EVEN THOUGH THE PRECISE IDENTITY OF THE MASTER MAY NOT BE KNOWN. A PROPERTY MADE UP OF OR CONTAINING ART WORK VALUED BY A GROUP FOR TRADITIONAL CULTURAL REASONS, FOR EXAMPLE A PETROGLYPH...MAY BE VIEWED AS HAVING HIGH ARTISTIC VALUE. A PROPERTY MAY BE REGARDED AS REPRESENTATIVE OF A SIGNIFICANT AND DISTINGUISHABLE ENTITY, EVEN THOUGH IT LACKS INDIVIDUAL DISTINCTION, IF IT REPRESENTS OR IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF A LARGER ENTITY OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL IMPORTANCE” (PARKER AND KING 1998:12).

## CRITERION D

“PROPERTIES THAT HAVE TRADITIONAL CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OFTEN HAVE ALREADY YIELDED, OR HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO YIELD, IMPORTANT INFORMATION THROUGH ETHNOGRAPHIC, ARCHEOLOGICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL, FOLKLORE, OR OTHER STUDIES” (PARKER AND KING 1998:12).

# Criteria for Significance (Hawai‘i)

§13-198-8 Criteria for decisions; considerations. In deciding whether a property should be entered and ordered into the Hawaii register, the review board shall evaluate whether the property meets or possesses, individually or in combination, the following criteria or characteristics:

(1) The quality of significance in Hawaiian history, architecture, archaeology, and culture, which is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects of State and local importance that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

(A) That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to broad patterns of our American or Hawaiian history;

(B) That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

(C) That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic value, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

(D) That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history;

(2) Environmental impact, i.e., whether the preservation of the building, site, structure, district, or object significantly enhances the environmental quality of the State;

(3) The social, cultural, educational, and recreational value of the building, site, structure, district, or object, when preserved, presented, or interpreted, contributes significantly to the understanding and enjoyment of the history and culture of Hawaii, the Pacific area, or the nation. [Eff 6/22/81; am and comp 3/9/89] (Auth: §§6E-5.5, 91-2)

# Types of Historic Properties and/or TCPs

## DISTRICT

A DISTRICT POSSESSES A SIGNIFICANT CONCENTRATION, LINKAGE, OR CONTINUITY OF SITES, BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES, OR OBJECTS UNITED HISTORICALLY OR AESTHETICALLY BY PLAN OR PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT.

## SITE

A SITE IS THE LOCATION OF A SIGNIFICANT EVENT, A PREHISTORIC OR HISTORIC OCCUPATION OR ACTIVITY, OR A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE, WHETHER STANDING, RUINED, OR VANISHED, WHERE THE LOCATION ITSELF POSSESSES HISTORIC, CULTURAL, OR ARCHEOLOGICAL VALUE REGARDLESS OF THE VALUE OF ANY EXISTING STRUCTURE.

## BUILDING

A BUILDING IS CREATED PRINCIPALLY TO SHELTER ANY FORM OF HUMAN ACTIVITY. "BUILDING" MAY ALSO BE USED TO REFER TO A HISTORICALLY AND FUNCTIONALLY RELATED UNIT.

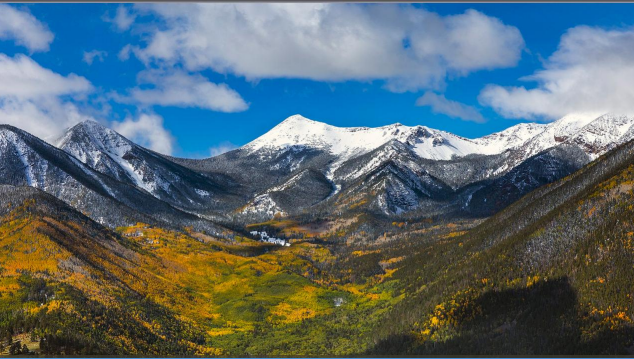
## STRUCTURE

THE TERM "STRUCTURE" IS USED TO DISTINGUISH FROM BUILDINGS THOSE FUNCTIONAL CONSTRUCTIONS MADE USUALLY FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN CREATING HUMAN SHELTER.

## OBJECT

THE TERM "OBJECT" IS USED TO DISTINGUISH FROM BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES THOSE CONSTRUCTIONS THAT ARE PRIMARILY ARTISTIC IN NATURE OR ARE RELATIVELY SMALL IN SCALE AND SIMPLY CONSTRUCTED, ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE, BY NATURE OR DESIGN, MOVABLE. AN OBJECT IS ASSOCIATED WITH A SPECIFIC SETTING OR ENVIRONMENT.





# Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs)

Traditional cultural properties (TCPs) are defined by the National Park Service (NPS) as places associated with the cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that are both rooted in a community's history and important in maintaining its continued cultural identity (Parker and King 1998:1)

Photos:

Tecate Peak <https://www.peakbagger.com/peak.aspx?pid=16804>

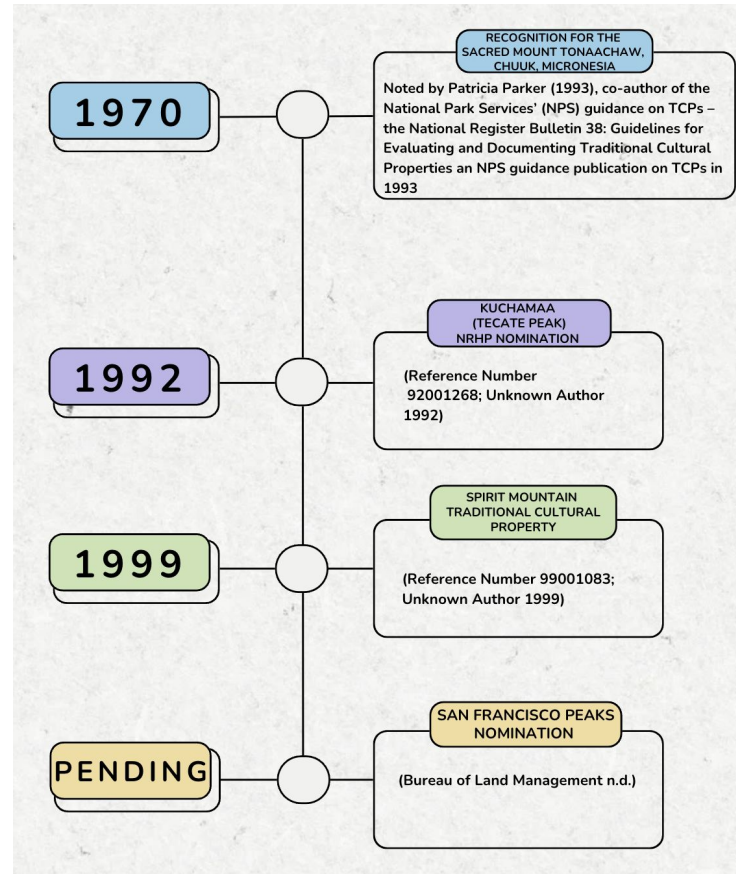
San Francisco Peak

<https://azgs.arizona.edu/photo/san-francisco-peaks-inner-basin>

Spirit Mountain TCP

<https://www.unlv.edu/news/article/my-nevada-5-dramatic-events-shaped-our-land>

# Precedence for Sacred Mountains as NRHP-listed Historic Properties and Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs)



# Mauna Kea as a TCP

## CRITERION A

MAUNA KEA MEETS HRHP AND NRHP CRITERIA "A", BECAUSE MAUNA KEA'S TRADITIONAL CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE IS DERIVED FROM THE ROLE THAT THE MOUNTAIN PLAYS IN THE COSMOLOGY OF HAWAIIANS AND THE ONGOING COMMUNITY'S HISTORICALLY ROOTED BELIEFS, CUSTOMS, AND PRACTICES.

## CRITERION B

MAUNA KEA IS ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING UNDER CRITERION B BECAUSE IT IS ASSOCIATED WITH PARAMOUNT GODS WHO ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE CREATION OF THE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE AND FEATURE IN HAWAIIAN CULTURAL TRADITIONS AND PRACTICES AS WELL AS WITH ALI'I WHO RECOGNIZED AND REINFORCED THEIR CONNECTIONS TO THE GODS AND MAUNA KEA.

## CRITERION C

MAUNA KEA IS ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING UNDER CRITERION C THROUGH THE DISTINCTIVE WAYS HAWAIIANS SOURCED AND MANUFACTURED STONE TOOLS, INSTALLED AHU AND TRAILS, AND ESTABLISHED TEMPLES THAT ALL UNIQUELY EXEMPLIFY MASTER CRAFTSMANSHIP IN THEIR TYPE, PERIOD, AND METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION. EQUALLY IMPORTANT ARE THE OPEN SPACES HAWAIIANS ELECTED NOT TO MODIFY.

## CRITERION D

MAUNA KEA IS ELIGIBLE FOR HRHP AND NRHP LISTING UNDER CRITERION D THROUGH ITS ASSOCIATION WITH HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL HISTORY AND CULTURE BECAUSE THE MOUNTAIN YIELDS CRITICAL INFORMATION THAT CONTRIBUTES TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF KĀNAKA 'ŌIWI HISTORY AND PRE-CONTACT HISTORY.

## STATE CRITERIA

THE PRESERVATION OF MAUNA KEA ENHANCES THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OF HAWAII DUE TO ITS ROLE AS A MAJOR WATERSHED AND ITS ROLE IN RECHARGING THE AQUIFER, THE PRESERVATION OF ITS UNIQUE AND DISTINGUISHED VIEWSCAPE, AND ITS STATUS AS A PLACE OF CONTINUED HAWAIIAN CULTURAL PRACTICE AND KNOWLEDGE GENERATION. THE PRESERVATION OF MAUNA KEA AS A PLACE OF CONTINUED HAWAIIAN CULTURAL PRACTICE AND KNOWLEDGE GENERATION CONTRIBUTES SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE UNDERSTANDING AND ENJOYMENT OF THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF HAWAII AND THE PACIFIC FOR NUMEROUS REASONS.

# Mauna Kea as a District

The National Park Service defines a “district” as something that “possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development” (NPS 1995).

## DISTRICT

A DISTRICT POSSESSES A SIGNIFICANT CONCENTRATION, LINKAGE, OR CONTINUITY OF SITES, BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES, OR OBJECTS UNITED HISTORICALLY OR AESTHETICALLY BY PLAN OR PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

THE CONCENTRATION OF SITES, BUILDINGS, AND STRUCTURES WITHIN KEANAKĀKO’I ADZE QUARRY; CONCENTRATION OF PU’U AND OTHER NATURAL FEATURES THAT HAWAIIANS TRADITIONALLY ASCRIBE CULTURAL VALUE AND SIGNIFICANCE TO; AND THE CONCENTRATION AND CONTINUITY OF SITES SUCH AS AHU, HEIAU, AND KUAHU THROUGHOUT MAUNA KEA AT WHICH HAWAIIANS CONTINUE TO PRACTICE TRADITIONAL AND CULTURAL PRACTICES CONTRIBUTE TO THE SIGNIFICANCE OF MAUNA KEA AS A HISTORIC DISTRICT.

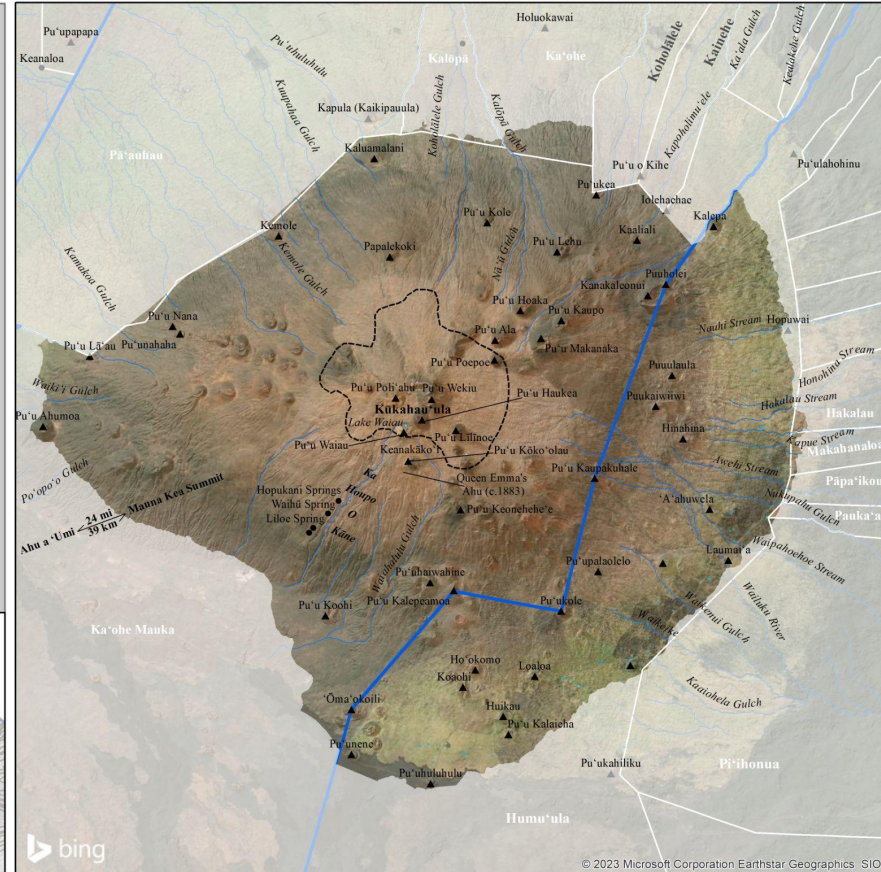
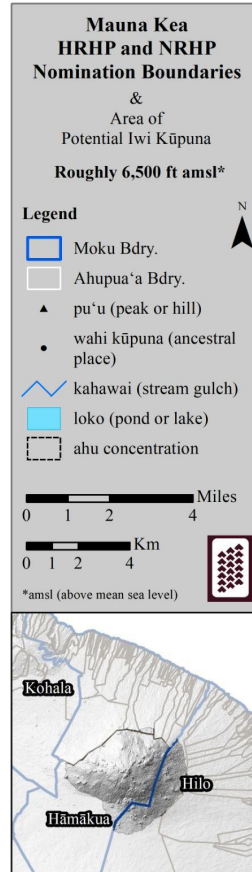
# Mauna Kea HRHP and NRHP Nomination Boundary Justification

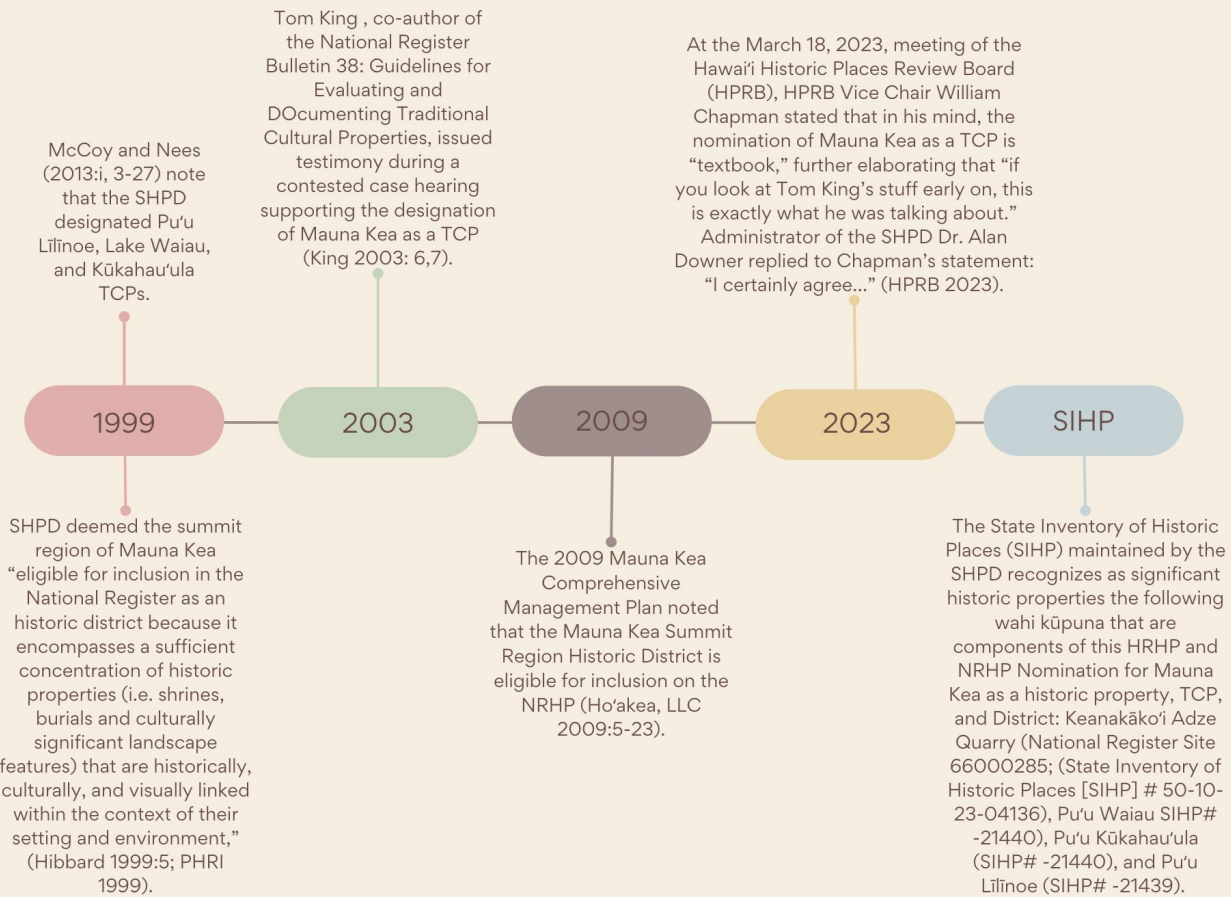
“In defining boundaries, the traditional uses to which the property is put must be carefully considered” (Parker and King 1998:18,19)

For the purposes of the nomination, the boundary is public lands within roughly 6,500 amsl.

➤ Makes cultural sense because it encompasses the wao akua and a large portion of the ‘āina mauna – both spaces where traditional cultural practices occur, and important cultural resources are found that make Mauna Kea significant to Kānaka ‘Ōiwi

➤ Does not diminish the integrity of the relationship between Kānaka ‘Ōiwi and the contiguous landscape of Mauna Kea, nor is the integrity of condition of Mauna Kea in its entirety diminished





# Previous Official State of Hawai’i Recognitions of Mauna Kea and components of Mauna Kea as a TCP

# Effects of Listing for State & County Agencies Under State & Federal Law

**Table 1. State and/or County Agency Kuleana\* Regarding Historic Properties and Heritage Listed on the State Inventory of Historic Places, and Hawai'i and National Registers of Historic Places/**

\*Precise rights, benefits, and responsibilities are determined by a constellation of contextual factors beyond the purview of this information sheet. Consult a legal counsel and historic preservation specialist to understand all laws, rules, and regulations applicable in specific places and circumstances

| Historic Properties                 | Kuleana   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <p>Generally</p> <p>SIHP-listed</p> | <p>Provide the SHPD opportunity to comment on proposed changes or alterations to historic properties before they occur</p> <p>The State shall hold known burial sites located on lands or under waters owned or controlled by the State in trust for preservation or proper disposition by the lineal or cultural descendants.</p> <p>The State shall not transfer any historic property or aviation artifact under its jurisdiction without the concurrence of the department and shall not transfer any burial site under its jurisdiction without consulting the appropriate island burial council. [L 1976, c 104, pt of §2; am L 1985, c 124, §1; am L 1990, c 306, §6; am L 1996, c 97, §6] (HRS) §6E-7]</p>  |
| <p>HRHP-listed</p>                  | <p>Provide the SHPD opportunity to comment on proposed changes or alterations to historic properties before they occur</p> <p>The State Historic Preservation Division must be given the opportunity to review and comment on any permits that affect properties that are listed on the Register of Historic Places (HRS 6E-10). SHPD must also be given the opportunity to review and comment on any non-residential property that is over 50 years old, whether or not it is listed on the register (HRS 6E-42). However, single-family detached dwelling units and townhouses are excluded from the SHPD review if they are not listed on the historic register (HRS 42.2).</p> <p>Federal undertakings (projects with federal funding, personnel, agency involvement, etc.) trigger a Section 106 historic preservation compliance review under the NHPA.</p>   |
| <p>NRHP-listed</p>                  | <p>Federal undertakings (projects with federal funding, personnel, agency involvement, etc.) trigger a Section 106 historic preservation compliance review under the NHPA.</p> <p>The National Trust for Historic Preservation (2022b) notes Section 106 of the NHPA “requires federal agencies to consider the impact of their actions on properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register. If an individual or entity owns land that is located in the environs of such property, then any activities conducted on that land will be subject to review if those activities are federally funded, federally licensed, or otherwise involve some form of federal undertaking. On the other hand, National Register listings can be helpful to property owners seeking to prevent actions that would adversely affect their properties. National Register property owners can seek federal agency review under Section 106 to address the impact of proposed actions that could have a negative impact on their properties, such as a highway expansion or construction of a cell tower.</p> <p>Also keep in mind that the National Register can be used to identify properties for protection under a state or local preservation program. National Register and National Register-eligible listings may trigger review under a state environmental or preservation statute that operates in manner similar to a Section 106 review. It can also serve as the basis for regulation under a local preservation ordinance.”</p> |

# Benefits of Listing Under State & Federal Law

- Previously established knowledge
- Planning and Management
- Cultural Impact Assessments (CIAs)





# Additional Resources

## ➤ Legislation

- [Hawai'i Revised Statues \(HRS\) Chapter 6E](#)
- [Hawai'i Administrative Rules \(HAR\) §13-198 - The Hawaii and National Registers of Historic Places Programs](#)
- [Federal Code of Regulations Regarding the National Register](#)

## ➤ Resources

- [Historic Hawai'i Foundation's "Facts and Myths About Historic Designation"](#)
- [The NPS' FAQs re: NRHP listing](#)

# References

## Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)

- 2023 “Title 36 - Parks, Forests, and Public Property, Part 60 - National Register of Historic Places.” Online resource. <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-36/chapter-I/part-60?toc=1>. Accessed on 11-01-23.

## Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) §13-198-8

- 1989 Hawaii Historic Places Review Board. Department of Land and Natural Resources - State Historic Preservation Division. Online resource. <https://files.hawaii.gov/dlnr/shpd/rules/198.pdf>. Accessed 11-02-23.

## Hibbard, Don

- 1999 “Request for Historic Preservation (Chapter 6E, HRS) and National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106) Review - W.M. Keck Observatory Outrigger Telescope Project in the Mauna Kea Science Reserve, Ka’ohe, Hamakua, Hawaii Island TMK: 4-4-15:09.” May 3, 1999 Letter. State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources Historic Preservation Division. Correspondence Log No. 23155, Document No. 9903PM07. On file at the State Historic Preservation Division, Kapolei.

## Ho’akea, LLC dba Ku’iwalu

- 2009 *Mauna Kea Comprehensive Management Plan UH Management Areas*. University of Hawai’i. Online resource. <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/occl/files/2020/12/2009-Comprehensive-Management-Plan-April.pdf>. Accessed on 11-02-23.

## King, Thomas F.

- 2003 “Declaration of Thomas F King, Ph.D.” Exhibits A-B in Office of Hawaiian Affairs vs. NASA and University of Hawaii Institute for Astronomy.

## McCoy, Patrick and Richard C. Nees

- 2013 *Final Report Archaeological Inventory Survey of the Mauna Kea Ice Age Natural Area Reserve, Ka’ohe Ahupua’a, Hāmākua District, Island of Hawai’i TMK: (3)4-4-015:10,11*. Prepared for Department of Land and Natural Resources, Honolulu.

## National Park Service (NPS)

- 1995 *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. U.S. Department of the Interior. National Park Service Cultural Resources.

## Parker, Patricia, and Thomas King

- 1998 *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties*. National Register Bulletin. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National Register, History and Education, National Register of Historic Places.

**He mau nīnau?**

