

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
P. O. BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

MAY 9 1995

CHAIRPERSON  
MICHAEL D. WILSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DEPUTY  
GILBERT S. COLOM-AGARAN

RECEIVED

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(OFF. OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY CONTROL)

AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM  
AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
CONSERVATION AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
CONSERVATION AND  
RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
CONVEYANCES  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM  
LAND MANAGEMENT  
STATE PARKS  
WATER AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Gary Gill, Director  
Office of Environmental Quality Control  
Central Pacific Plaza, Suite 400  
220 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Gill:

Enclosed is our Department's agency action determination of Negative Declaration for the construction of a new office complex for the Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Hawaii District, at Hilo, Hawaii. The funds for this construction is pending the approval of our CIP request for this project.

We are submitting this declaration for action as required in Environmental Quality Commission - Environmental Impact State Regulations in compliance to Chapter 343, SLH 1992.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Michael D. Wilson in cursive.

MICHAEL D. WILSON  
Chairperson

Enclosure(s)

cc: Hawaii District

63

1995-06-08-HI-PEA-Hawaii District Division of Forestry & Wildlife Hilo Office Complex JUN 8 1995

DETERMINATION NOTICE OF NEGATIVE DECLARATION

FOR

DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE

HAWAII DISTRICT OFFICE

HILO OFFICE COMPLEX

AT

HILO, HAWAII

TMK: (3) 2-2-27:01

- I. PROPOSING AGENCY: STATE OF HAWAII, DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
- II. APPROVING AGENCY: STATE OF HAWAII, DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, OFFICE OF CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
- III. AGENCIES CONSULTED: STATE OF HAWAII: DIVISION OF WATER AND LAND DEVELOPMENT, DIVISION OF STATE PARKS; DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; COUNTY OF HAWAII: PLANNING DEPT., COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS, HAWAII COUNTY FIRE DEPT.; UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT: U.S. FOREST SERVICE.
- IV. CONSULTANT: OKITA-KUNIMITSU & ASSOCIATES, INC.
- V. SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTION:

The Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) has plans to construct a new office complex at its current office location of 1643 Kilauea Avenue, Hilo, Hawaii, TMK: (3) 2-2-27:01. The new office complex will replace the current structure which has been utilized for 70 years. The two main wooden buildings, which were built in 1924 and 1936, have been seriously weakened by termite infestation. The present office complex is inadequate for the greatly expanded DOFAW staff and programs.

SUMMARY  
FOR  
DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HAWAII DISTRICT  
HILO OFFICE COMPLEX

The Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) has requested State funding for the construction of a new office complex at the current site of 1643 Kilauea Avenue, Hilo, Hawaii, TMK (3) 2-2-27:01. The new office complex will replace the aged and termite infested buildings which were built in 1924 and 1936, as office and nursery operation buildings to accommodate the requirements of the former Division of Forestry.

The new office complex will be composed of an office building having appx. 9,600 sq. ft. of floor space; a pavilion having 1,500 sq. ft. of floor space; and a parking lot having 33 parking stalls. This new complex will provide the necessary shelter to adequately conduct informational and educational activities to the public, and a significantly safer ingress and egress to the new office complex will have been developed. The structure will also provide restroom facilities for the public who visit the Hilo Tree Nursery and Arboretum. There is no feasible alternatives but to construct a new office complex to meet the office space requirements of the present professional, technical, clerical and supervisory staff of 20 personnel; and up to 10 additional positions which are pending and/or necessary to meet DOFAW's expanding program responsibilities, including the management programs of the Natural Area Reserve System and the Trails and Access.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
FOR  
DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HAWAII DISTRICT OFFICE  
HILO OFFICE COMPLEX  
AT  
HILO, HAWAII

I. SCOPE:

This environmental assessment addresses the construction of the new office complex for the Division of Forestry and Wildlife at Hilo, 1643 Kilauea Avenue, Hilo, Hawaii.

A. Project Description:

1. History of the Hawaii District, Division of Forestry and Wildlife Hilo Office Complex

The Hawaii District, DOFAW office complex is comprised of three wooden structures having a total floor space of 3,820 sq. ft. and a parking area to accommodate twenty vehicles. Two buildings were constructed in 1924 and 1936 as office and nursery operations buildings to accommodate the requirements of the former Division of Forestry. The buildings were incrementally renovated to add office space to meet the minimum office requirements for Forestry's expanding staff and the administrative personnel of the Wildlife section after the merger of Wildlife to the Division of Forestry which created DOFAW. The third wooden structure was constructed in 1992 to meet the minimum requirement for DOFAW's increased programs of the Natural Area Reserve System and Trail and Access.

2. Project's Environment:

The Hawaii District, DOFAW office complex is a part of the district's baseyard facilities which is shared with the Division of State Parks, Division of Land and Water Development and the U.S. Forest Service. The parcel of land (TMK 2-2-27:01) contains 19 acres of state-owned land. DOFAW's Hilo Tree Nursery and Arboretum is also located on this parcel of land. The tree nursery is used to propagate tree seedlings for DOFAW's tree planting programs, to include threaten and endangered plants, and for Arbor Day tree seedlings distribution.

Tree seedlings are also grown for other local, state and federal government agencies' beautification plantings. The nursery and arboretum are utilized for educational purposes. Arrangement for tours and/or demonstrations on tree seedling propagation methods will be provided by appointment only. The arboretum is a popular sightseeing attraction for tourists who visit the island. The district's fire suppression equipment, vehicles and supplies are kept at the baseyard, and the district's auto and other mechanical repairs shops as well as the carpenter shop are also part of the baseyard facilities.

The proposed new office complex will be built on the present site which is now being occupied by the current office complex. The Kilauea Avenue entrance to the current office area will be relocated to Kawili Street. The relocation of the access will remedy the current hazardous traffic condition which now exist at the Kilauea Avenue and Kawili Street intersection when entering or exiting DOFAW's office complex.

The new office complex will be composed of an office building having about 9,600 sq. ft. of floor space, a pavilion having 1,500 sq. ft. of floor space and a parking lot having 33 parking stalls. The new office complex will provide the necessary shelter to conduct information and education activities during the frequently rainy weather at Hilo. It will provide adequate rest room facilities for the public who visit the Hilo Tree Nursery and Arboretum.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT FROM PROPOSED PROJECT:

1. Biota

The construction site has been used for an office complex for more than seventy years. The entire present office complex will be demolished, including the landscape, upon the completion of the proposed new office complex. Several of the current landscape plants will be salvaged for landscaping the new office complex. Native plant and exotic plant species, which require minimum maintenance, will be used for landscaping the new office complex grounds.

2. Unavoidable Adverse Effects

Short term unavoidable adverse effects will be the noise, movement of large equipment and trucks and traffic interruption when relocating the entrance to the office complex. The demolition of the old office buildings may sadden some residents who have lived and visited the facilities for many years, however, after the completion of the proposed project, the residents and tourists who visit the new office complex will appreciate the new and modern facilities.

3. Long Range Effects

Nearby residences may notice an increase in vehicle traffic and people noise from the increase use of the new facilities. Vandalism of State property may increase because of the presence of a new office complex. The commitment of funds for this project will ensure that the Hawaii District office for DOFAW will be located at this site for a long, long time.

4. Relationship of Project to Management's Goals

The new office complex will meet the office space requirements of the present professional, technical, clerical and supervisory staff of 20 personnel; and up to 10 additional positions which are pending and/or necessary to meet DOFAW's expanding program responsibilities, including the Natural Area Reserve System and Trail and Access management. The new office building will provide library, meeting and training, mapping and drafting, employee break room, office supply storage and secured professional and communications equipment storage facilities which are presently lacking. The expansion and alteration of the office parking lot, and the relocation of the driveway away from the intersection of Kilauea Avenue and Kawili Street, will provide additional parking for DOFAW and U.S. Forest Service personnel and clientele, and provide for significantly safer ingress and egress to DOFAW's new office complex.

II. ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT:

A. Alternative Sites

There are other areas of state-owned lands that can be used for constructing the new Hawaii District, DOFAW's administration office but not for the proposed office complex because the nursery and arboretum exist on this parcel of land. The existing office complex has ample space to accommodate the construction of the proposed project, and the site is an excellent location for the proposed project when considering the nursery, arboretum and baseyard facilities. This is the very reason why the present location was selected for the administration office 70 years ago - nothing significantly has changed since then except the increased staffing, addition of other management programs and the deterioration of the two main wooden office building by termites.

B. No Action

A "no action" plan cannot be accepted because the present office facility does not have library, meeting and training, mapping and drafting, equipment and supply storage, and employee break room facilities. Men and women employee restrooms with one toilet each is shared with the public, causing a serious problem when accommodating schools and other large groups touring the arboretum, as well as compromising the sanitation considerations for the employees. When considering DOFAW's greatly expanded program responsibilities and inherent requirement for increased staffing, there are no feasible alternatives but the construction of a new facility.

III. IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES:

Capital, labor, vehicle and equipment cost and most of the construction materials will be irretrievable commitments for this proposed project. The existing office complex will be irretrievable after having been demolished. Should this project not be implemented, there will be irretrievable lost of capital which was used for transportation, consultant and labor.

IV. SIGNIFICANCE OF PROJECT'S IMPACT:

The proposed project will provide adequate office facilities on State owned land under the jurisdiction of DOFAW, within the existing Hawaii District office, baseyard, district nursery and arboretum complex in an ideally situated area in Hilo. The new office complex will have library for the storage and use of reports, records, professional publications and other office documents in an orderly and readily retrievable manner. Space will be available for computers, copiers, fax machine, base radio and other office equipment to be conveniently located. A meeting room for staff meetings, meetings with clients and committees, and personnel training sessions will be provided. Secured storage of radios, professional forestry and wildlife instruments and equipment, and other office equipment and supplies in a controlled environment protected from moisture and dust will be provided. The requirements for employee break room and restrooms will be met. The office staff will have an adequate and pleasant office environment conducive to the performance of their duties. The expansion and alteration of the parking lot and the relocation of the driveway away from the intersection of Kilauea Avenue and Kawili Street will provide additional parking for DOFAW and U.S. Forest Service personnel and clientele. A significantly safer ingress and egress to the new office complex will have been developed. The pavilion having approximately 1,500 sq. ft. floor space with restrooms will provide the necessary shelter to conduct information and education activities for the public. It will provide adequate restrooms facilities for the visiting public.

V. REASON FOR FILING A NON-IMPACT STATEMENT:

The construction of the proposed project is not expected to have a significant negative impact on the environment. The proposed project will replace an already existing complex which has served 70 years of useful service. Due to an increase in services that need to be provided, and the deteriorating condition of the two main wooden structures, Hawaii District, DOFAW's office complex has to be replaced with the proposed project.



**OEOG BULLETIN PUBLICATION FORM**

**TITLE OF PROJECT:** Hawaii District Division of Forestry & Wildlife  
Hilo Office Complex

**LOCATION: ISLAND:** Hawaii **DISTRICT:** 2nd: South Hilo

**TAX MAP KEY:** (3) 2-2-27:1

**PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:**

**Type of Action:** AGENCY  APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicable State or Federal Statute:**

Chapter 343, HRS  Chapter 205A, HRS \_\_\_\_\_ NEPA (Federal Actions Only)

**Type of Document:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Draft Environmental Assessment (Negative Declaration anticipated)	_____ Draft EIS	_____ NEPA NOP
_____ Final Environmental Assessment (Negative Declaration)	_____ Final EIS	_____ NEPA Draft EIS
_____ Final Environmental Assessment (EIS Preparation Notice)	_____ NEPA FONSI	_____ NEPA Final EIS

**Type of Revision (if applicable):**

\_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_ Supplemental \_\_\_\_\_ Addendum \_\_\_\_\_ Other (please explain)

*Prior to general distribution, please submit to OEOG: 4 copies of the Draft EA, Final EA (Negative Declaration or EIS Preparation Notice), 4 copies of the Draft EIS or Final EIS (For Draft and Final EIS an additional copy is mailed to OEOG.)*

**PROPOSING AGENCY OR APPLICANT SHOULD SUBMIT COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS TO THE APPROVING AGENCY OR ACCEPTING AUTHORITY PRIOR TO SUBMITTING COPIES TO OEOG.**

**APPROVING AGENCY OR**

**ACCEPTING AUTHORITY:** DLNR-Office of Conservation & Environmental Affairs (OCEA)

**ADDRESS:** 1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**CONTACT:** Roger Evans **PHONE:** 587-0377

**PROPOSING AGENCY OR**

**APPLICANT:** DLNR-Division of Forestry & Wildlife (DOFAW)

**ADDRESS:** Hawaii District Office  
P.O. Box 4849  
Hilo, HI 96720

**CONTACT:** Howard Horiuchi **PHONE:** 933-4221

**CONSULTANT:** Okita, Kunimitsu and Associates, Inc.

**ADDRESS:** 1585 Kapiolani Blvd.  
Suite 1340  
Honolulu, HI 96814

**CONTACT:** Emile Alano **PHONE:** 944-6565

**COMMENT PERIOD END DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONDITIONS WHICH TRIGGERED THE EIS LAW: PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO THE PROPOSED ACTION.**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use of State or County lands or funds<br>HRS 343-5(a)(1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Use of lands in the Weikiki Special District<br>HRS 343-5(a)(5)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Conservation District Lands<br>HRS 343-5(a)(2)               | <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment to a County General Plan<br>HRS 343-5(a)(6)                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Shoreline Setback Area<br>HRS 343-5(a)(3)                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Reclassification of Conservation Lands<br>HRS 343-5(a)(7)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Historic Site or District<br>HRS 343-5(a)(4)                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction or modification of helicopter facilities<br>HRS 343-5(a)(8) |

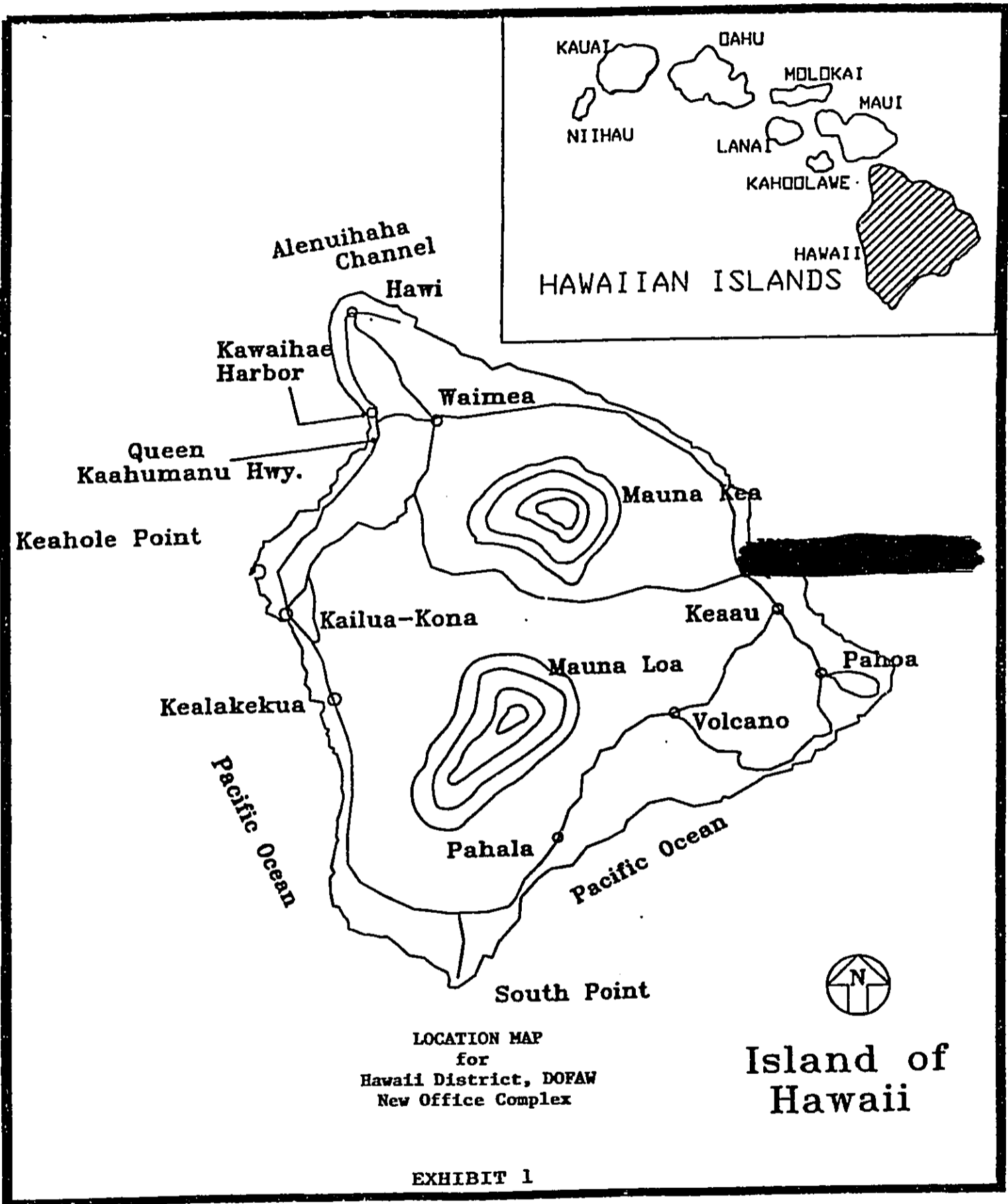
**OTHER CONDITIONS:**

- Use of Special Management Area (City & County of Honolulu)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\* If the project does not trigger HRS 343, please explain why document is being submitted to DEQC.

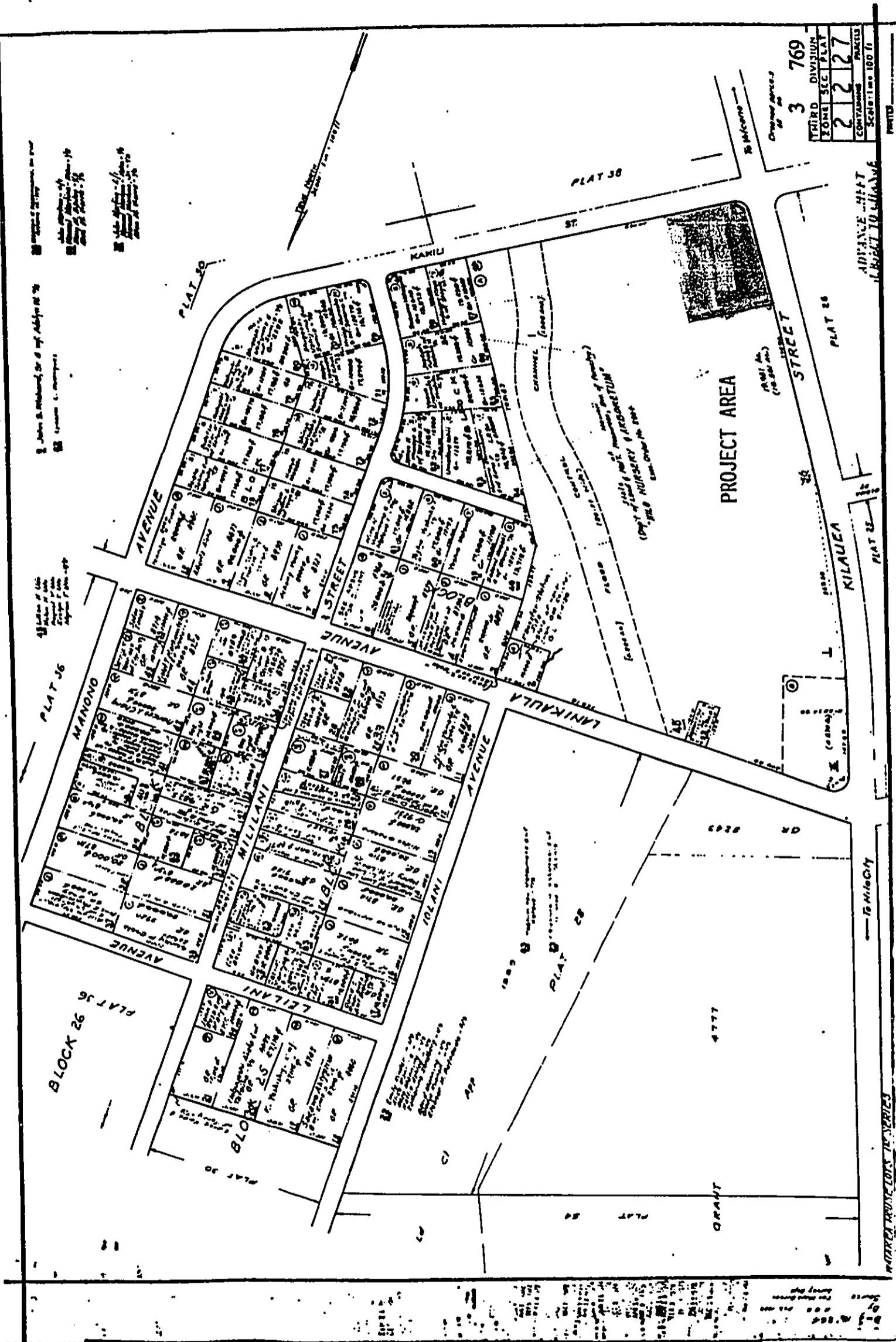
**SUMMARY** of the proposed action or project to be published in the DEQC Bulletin. Please submit it as a summary ready for publication. The description should be brief (300 words or less), yet provide sufficient detail to convey the full impact of the proposed action.

**NOTE:** Since the deadline for EIS submittal is so close to the publication date for the DEQC Bulletin, please assist us by bringing the Document for Publication Form and a computer disk with the project description (size 3 1/2" or 5 1/4" disk are acceptable; preferably WordPerfect 6.1 or ASCII text format) to the Office of Environmental Quality Control as early as possible. Thank you.



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Original Record No.	3
THIRD DIVISION	769
ZONE	SEC PLAT
2	2 2 27
CONTAINING	PARCELS
SCALE: 1" = 100 FT.	

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WITH PLATS 36, 37, 38

18 Mile City

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PLAT 38

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799

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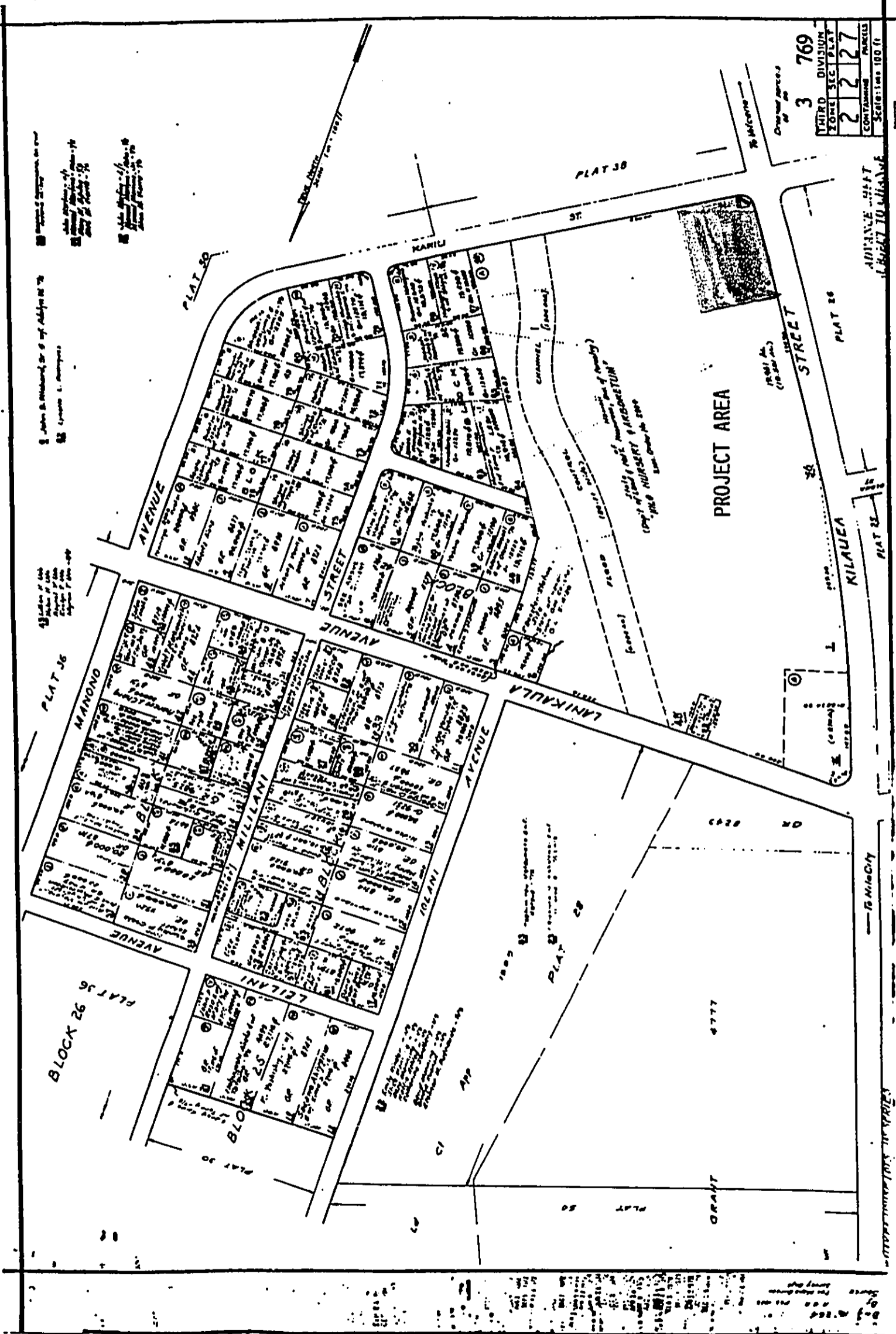
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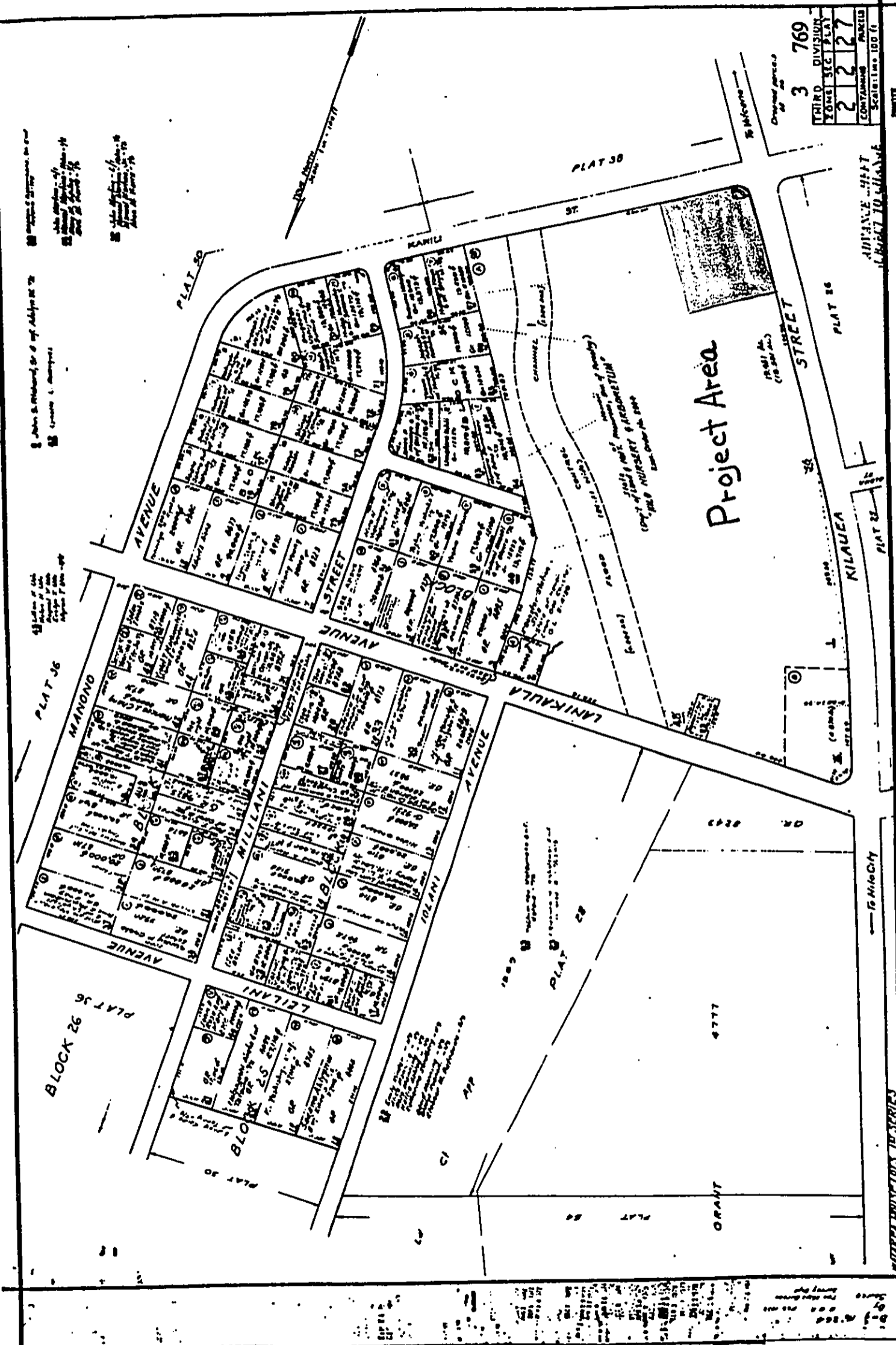
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SECTION 100.0	

John S. Robinson & Co. of Adolphus St.  
 Concrete & masonry  
 Location of lot  
 Plat of the area  
 Adjoining lot  
 Plat of the area

Project Area

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STREET

PLAT 26

KILAUEA

PLAT 28

TO HONOLULU

WATER PROJECTION SERIES

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