REPORT TO THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
2010 REGULAR SESSION  

ACCOMPLISHMENTS, RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGES IN STATE PLAN OR FUTURE PROGRAMS AND ACCOUNT OF ALL INCOME, EXPENDITURES AND FUND BALANCE OF THE HAWAII HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009  

PREPARED BY:
STATE OF HAWAI‘I  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
in response to  
SECTION 6E-3, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES  

HONOLULU, HAWAI‘I  
NOVEMBER 2009
Accomplishments

2008-2009 has been a building year for the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Despite setbacks and a very difficult financial climate, SHPD has taken steps forward. For the first time in three years, the Certified Local Governments were given their 10 percent allotment of the Division's federal grant. SHPD is currently working to complete its State Plan, as required by the federal grant.

SHPD has maintained qualified staff in its Archaeology Branch. In this branch, SHPD has met the need for a qualified architectural historian through a contract hire. This has worked effectively for the Division because the architectural historian position has been difficult to fill on a long term basis. The University of Hawaii does not have an architectural historian program, so as a result, most qualified candidates are not from Hawaii. In essence, SHPD has become a stopping point on a career ladder. SHPD has requested to continue contracting this position until and unless a qualified candidate can be found.

Despite a severe staff shortage and a hiring freeze, SHPD staff has been working valiantly and reviews are being done in a timely fashion. All islands are current with reviews with the exception of the Maui office, where backlog is steadily being reduced.

SHPD has participated in 106 consultations for Honolulu's Rapid Transit Program, the Ane Keohokalole Highway in Hawaii, the Advanced Technology Solar Telescope on Maui, and the Shipyards Modernization, to name a few of the bigger projects. SHPD has also consulted on many smaller projects around the Islands.

SHPD hired new staff for the Hawaii and National Register of Historic Places Program. This individual has increased register nominations and reconnected with the Keeper of the National Register. Thus, SHPD is again forwarding National Register nominations, something which had not been done in the recent past.

SHPD cultural staff has reduced the backlog of remains that were in its curation facilities. Focus was placed on O’ahu, and the backlog was reduced by 90 percent. SHPD has remains that will be returned to Wai‘awa, and fragmented pieces that Hui Malama will re-bury by the end of the year. Cultural staff has changed their practices from handling iwi reburials themselves to handing that responsibility to lineal and cultural descendants. This process has been very well received and has allowed SHPD to rapidly decrease its inventory and increase claimant involvement in reburials. In Fiscal Year 2010, focus will be on re-burying the Maui inventory. Most of the iwi in Maui’s curation facilities are from two sites. Discussions with landowners to find a suitable re-burial site are on-going.

SHPD continues to address backlogged files. Limited clerical staff affect files in all three Branches.
This year the National Park Service (NPS) did an audit of the SHPD Offices. SHPD expects that there will be findings related to its filing system and inventory. SHPD is working with NPS to see if it can find a collaborative approach to meeting the Division's needs as well as NPS requirements during these difficult economic times.

Recommendations For Changes In The State Plan

An outline of the proposed State Plan goals and objectives is available on the SHPD website. http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/hpd/

As mentioned above, this outline is subject to public review and in order to get a wide range of opinions, SHPD is proposing to contract with an outside firm to assist with the logistics, meetings, and completing the final report.

Future Programs

SHPD looks forward to bringing its filing system up-to-date, to putting a majority of its records on an electronic database and to linking its resource files to the GIS system. SHPD also looks forward to moving to Kalanimoku Building in Honolulu from the Kakuhihewa Building in Kapolei. In terms of goals and objectives for the Branches, SHPD would like to do more site visits, refocus archaeological concerns on asking relevant research questions, and do more windshield inventories of the built environment.

Status Of The Hawaii Historic Preservation Special Fund

The Hawaii Historic Preservation Special Fund (Fund) was established in Section 6E-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), by way of Act 388, Session Laws of Hawaii 1989, to enhance and preserve elements of our past that should be integrated into our daily living.

Allowable deposits into the Fund include:

1. Appropriations by the Legislature to the special fund;
2. Gifts, donations, and grants from public agencies and private persons;
3. All proceeds collected by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) derived from historic preserve user fees, historic preserve leases or concession fees, fees charged to carry out the purposes of Chapter 6E, HRS, or the sale of goods; and
4. Civil, criminal, and administrative penalties, fines, and other charges collected under Chapter 6E, HRS, or any rule adopted pursuant to Chapter 6E, HRS.

All interest earned or accrued on moneys deposited in the Fund shall become part of the Fund. The Fund shall be administered by the Department; provided that the Department may contract with a public or private agency to provide the day-to-day management of the Fund.

Subject to legislative authorization, the Department may expend moneys from the Fund:

1. For permanent and temporary staff positions;
2. To replenish goods;
3. To produce public information materials;
(4) To provide financial assistance to public agencies and private agencies in accordance with Chapter 42F, HRS, involved in historic preservation activities other than those covered by Section 6E-9, HRS; and

(5) To cover administrative and operational costs of the Department's Historic Preservation Program.

The revenues were derived from user fees, professional fees, donations, and interest income. Moneys were expended to pay the salaries and benefits of the Architectural Historian, and special fund assessments (central services fees and administrative expenses) under Chapter 36, HRS.

Appropriation Account Number: S-321-C

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