

Sites of Significance

He'eia - One of eleven ahupua'a within the district of Ko'olaupoko.

He'eia Kea - white He'eia

He'eia Uli - dark He'eia

Kealohi - An elevated peninsula in He'eia. He'eia State Park is located on this site. The literal translation is 'shining'.

Kalae'ula'ula - Said to be the name of the heiau formerly located at Kealohi Point, but destroyed by the plantation. Nothing now remains to indicate a heiau, but the location was ideal. The literal translation is 'the red point'.

Luamo'o - A area, perhaps a reef, outside of He'eia fishpond said to be where to guardian mo'o lives.

Ko'amana - A reef located between He'eia fishpond and Kealohi Point. Tales have been told of numerous shark feedings.

Ahu o Laka - Islet off of Kahalu'u in Kane'ohe Bay. It is a stretch of reef and sand that is 3.1 acres. This area is now known as the 'sand-bar'. The literal translation is 'the altar of Laka'.

Kapapa - Offshore island (14 feet in elevation) within the Waikane quadrant. A fishing shrine is here. The literal translation is 'the flat surface'.

Moku o Lo'e - The original name for what is now known as Coconut Island. It is located off Kane'ohe in the bay. It is the current site for the University of Hawai'i Marine Studies Program. The literal translation is 'island of Lo'e'.

Mokoli'i - Islet in Kane'ohe Bay, known also as Chinaman's Hat. In the mo'olelo of Pele and Hi'iaka, the lizard, Mokoli'i was destroyed by the goddess Hi'iaka; its tail became the islet, its body the flat area near the sugar mill. The literal translation is 'little lizard'.

Ma'eli'eli - A cliff above He'eia. The literal translation is 'digging'. This may refer to the mo'olelo of Kane and Kanaloa, two gods of Hawai'i, digging their fingers and toes in the dirt as they raced up the cliff.

Ko'olaupoko - A moku on O'ahu which contain eleven ahupua'a in the southern windward O'ahu. The literal translation is 'short ko'olau'. The areas within this district run between Waimanalo and Kualoa.

Moku - a district, islet or land division.

Ahupua'a - land division usually extending from the uplands to the sea.

Loko i'a - fishpond.

Mo'olelo - story.

Heiau - ancient place of worship.

Mo'o - lizard, reptile of any kind, dragon, serpent; water spirit.

Konohiki - headman of an ahupua'a land division under the chief.

Flora of the Park

As you make your way through the park you'll notice the lush vegetation that surrounds you. We've taken the time to briefly acquaint you with some of the plants you will be seeing. Some are indigenous, meaning they were brought to the islands by means of what we call the 3 W's - winds, waves or the wings of an animal. Other plants are introduced. They were brought here by canoe with the Polynesians who first inhabited these islands. Alien species are those brought here by human means after 1778, the first contact with the Western world.



Taro - Kalo
Polynesian introduced



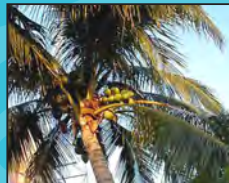
Beach Hibiscus - Hau
Polynesian introduced / Indigenous



Breadfruit - Ulu
Polynesian introduced



Screwpine - Hala
Polynesian introduced / Indigenous



Coconut - Niu
Polynesian introduced



Banana - Mai'a
Polynesian introduced



Candlenut - Kukui
Polynesian introduced



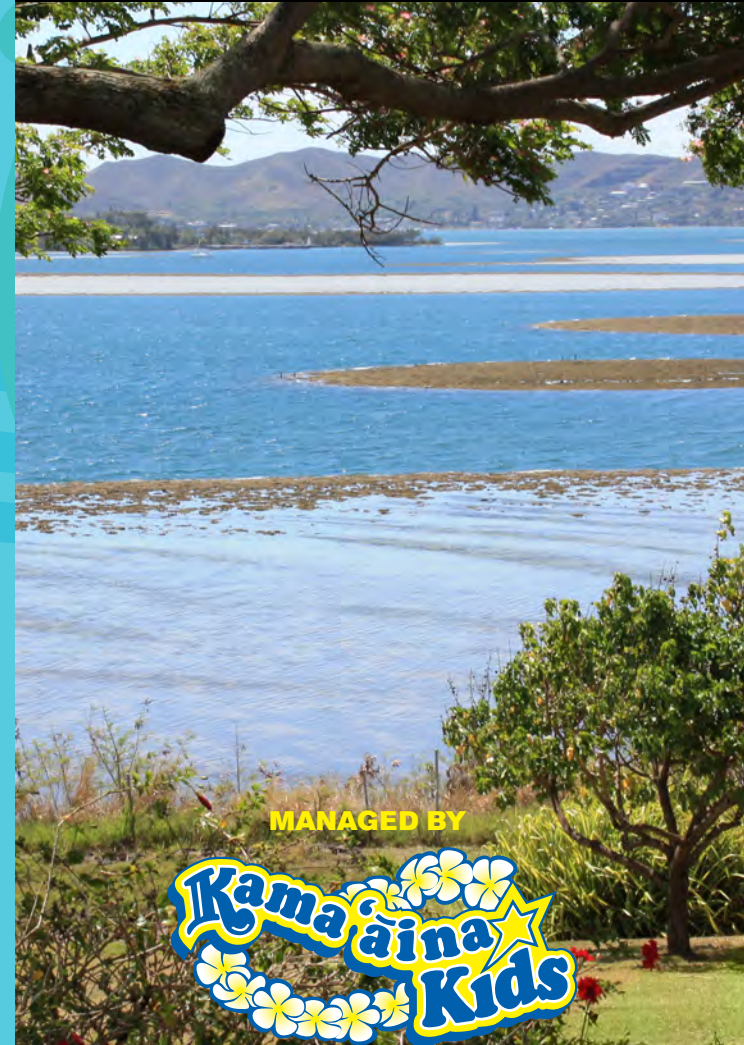
Naupaka Kahakai
Indigenous



Ti Leaf - Ki
Polynesian introduced



Bamboo - 'Ohe
Polynesian introduced

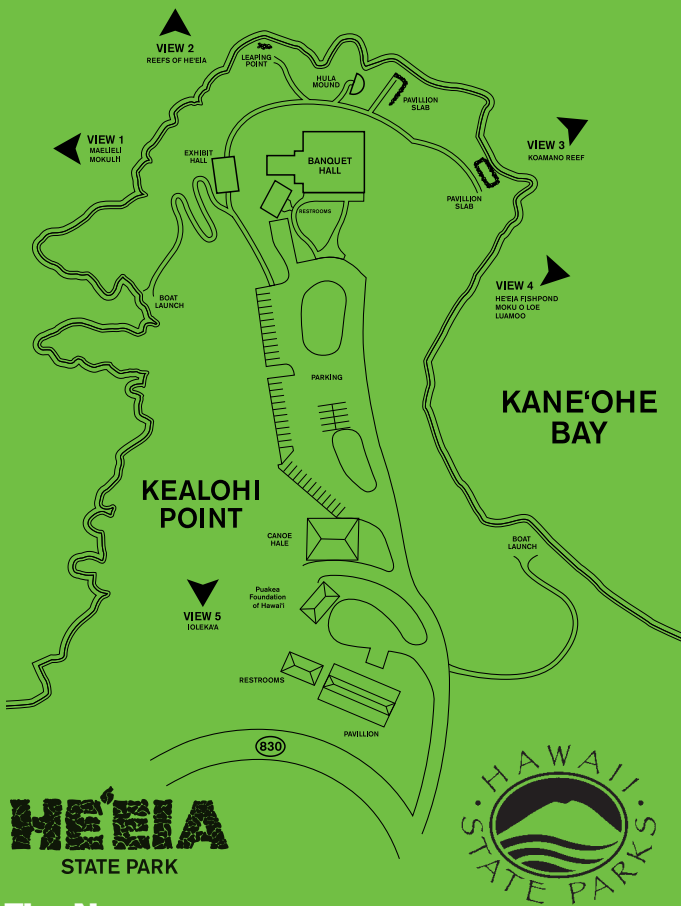


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The Name

The literal meaning of He'eia is "washed out to sea". The origin of this name comes from the story of Haumea and her hanai son, He'eia. The story goes as so. The goddess Haumea moved to Palika, now known as Kualoa. She went to the demigod, Olopana, to request to raise his grandson. When granted permission to do so, she named him He'eia, to commemorate the event when they had been washed out to sea. The place adjoining Kane'ohe was named from him.

The handsome He'eia fell in love with Ka'ohelo, a younger sister of Pele and Hi'iaka. They met in Ko'olau on O'ahu. When Ka'ohelo died, parts of her body were distributed among the volcano areas of the islands and became the 'ahelo plant, the fruit of which is sacred to Pele.

Ka'ahelo's spirit formed a marriage with the spirit of the handsome He'eia on O'ahu. The little hills about the ahupua'a of He'eia were formed by Ka'ahelo from the body of Malulani, the third sister, who hanged herself out of grief for her dead sister, Ka'ahelo.

The Site

The elevated peninsula where the park is situated was once known as Kealohi. The ahupua'a of He'eia and its sources of foods such as the sea pond of He'eia, the large multitudes of Kalimulua and Kealohi, the reef of Malauka'a where octopus are found, the travelling uhu and ohua fishes, and the wooden bowls of Mokapu, belonged to Mauiki'iki'i. Mauiki'iki'i was the son of Maui and Hina. He was involved with his brothers in getting fire from the mudhen.

He'eia Timeline

2010 – Present day Kama'aina Kids, a non-profit educational organization, is granted a 25 year lease to manage the He'eia State Park.

1982- 2010 Friends of He'eia, a non-profit educational organization, is granted a 25 year lease, and an additional 3 year extension, to manage the He'eia State Park.

1980 Friends of He'eia, acquires the two main buildings at Kealohi Point.

1976 The state of Hawai'i acquires the 14 acre land at Kealohi Point to be used as a state park after an outcry from the community to stop development.

1963 Ulumau Village, a Hawaiian cultural center, moves from Ala Moana Park to Kealohi Point in He'eia.

1960 Bishop Trustee signs an agreement in principle to developer Thomas F. McCormack. Plans were underway to develop a marina type development on the makai side of He'eia, current location of the He'eia State Park.

to lease 1,000 acres of land for pineapple growing to Libby, McNeill & Libby.

1905 Cattle Ranch in He'eia run by George W. Rowan.

1903 He'eia Sugar Company closes. Sugar, taro, rice main crops grown .

1878-1903 He'eia Sugar Company (also called He'eia Agricultural Co. Ltd.) Ancient heiau, Kalae'ula'ula, at Kealohi point was destroyed. Sugar mill constructed in its place.

1878 Sugar mill completed on the estate of Mr. J. McKeague at He'eia.

1883 - A railroad was installed for the sugar company.

1848 Under the Mahele of 1848, the Ahupua'a of He'eia, which includes an eighty-eight (88) acre walled fishpond, went to Abner Paki, the father of Bernice Pauahi Bishop. Taro cultivation was predominant crop.



1949 A plan was presented to the City and County of Honolulu to change the zoning area of He'eia from agriculture to urban for marina and residential use. In 1960, Bishop Estate signed an agreement with Thomas McCormack to develop lands in He'eia.

1942 United States Military establishes the He'eia Combat Training Area.

1939 and 1945 Dredging of the Bay was done to accommodate small boat landings, piers, and wharfs. The dredged material was used for landfill at the Kane'ohe Naval Air Station (now Kane'ohe Marine Corps Air Station). Between 1946 and 1948, nine fishponds on the south side of Kane'ohe Bay (total area of almost 80 acres) were filled with dredged materials for urban development (Kelly, 1993).

1917 He'eia Sugar Company leases an additional 600 acres to Libby, McNeill & Libby.

1912 He'eia Sugar Company and Kane'ohe Ranch Company agree

1832 Abner Paki was acting in the capacity of konohiki of the Ahupua'a of He'eia, and perhaps before that.

The Story of the Akua Mo'o

The caretaker of Kealohi and He'eia pond was Meheanu. She was the mo'o of the pond and had supernatural powers and could change herself into other forms, such as a lizard, but she was particularly fond of being an eel. Meheanu lived at Luamo'o a small land adjacent to the pond. Growing around Luamo'o there were formerly many sheltering hau trees beneath which this mo'o lived. When the hau leaves were yellow*, then the people were certain of the presence of Meheanu, but when green, then she was more likely to be somewhere else in the form of an eel.

*The leaves of the hau turned yellow, it is said, because of the urine of the mo'o in the water.