



Department of Parks and Recreation

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Lorraine R. Inouye
Mayor

Charmaine L. Kamaka
Director

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OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY CONTROL

March 16, 1992

Ms. Margaret Wilson
Office of Environmental Quality Control
220 South King Street, Fourth Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Notice of Determination-Negative Declaration for Proposed Canoe Storage Facility at Old Kona Airport Recreation Area, North Kona, Hawaii, TMK:7-5-05:07

Dear Ms Wilson:

The following agencies were contacted in the preparation of the project's environmental assessment:

1. Department of Public Works, County of Hawaii
2. Planning Department, County of Hawaii
3. Fire Department, County of Hawaii
4. Hawaii Electric Light Company, Ltd.

If any additional information is needed, please contact this office.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charmaine Kamaka
Director

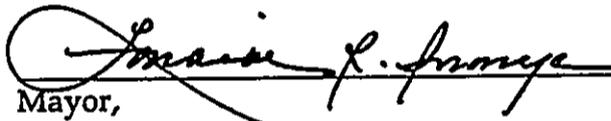
1992-03-23-141-PEA-Old Kona Airport Recreation Area Canoe Club Facility
MAR 23 1992

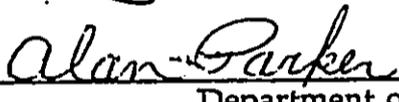
**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT OF A CANOE CLUB FACILITY AT
THE OLD KONA AIRPORT RECREATION AREA**

KAILUA-KONA, HAWAII

Prepared for: Department of Parks and Recreation
County of Hawaii

Approved by:


Mayor, County of Hawaii

for 
Director, Department of Parks and Recreation

Prepared by: Riehm Owensby, Planners and Architects
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

and

Department of Parks and Recreation
County of Hawaii

March, 1992

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SUMMARY

The proposed project is a Canoe Club facility located at the Old Kona Airport Recreation Area in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. Included will be canoe sheds, roadways, and landscaping.

Expected impacts include:

1. Providing of a means for the encouragement and the continuation of a Hawaiian cultural heritage, canoe racing.
2. Enhancement of an undeveloped weed covered area near the State events pavilion.
3. Temporary inconveniences of dust, noise, and increased traffic during the construction period.
4. Minor irritants of the following nature:
additional noise, traffic, glare from lights, the use of pesticides and herbicides in the maintenance of the landscaped areas .
5. Some irretrievable commitment of resources.

The positive impacts of providing a facility for the community canoe clubs outweigh the negative effects, many of which are either temporary in nature, negligible, or controllable by existing regulations and practices.

In view of the foregoing, we believe that the filing of a negative declaration is deemed appropriate.

**CANOE CLUB FACILITY,
OLD KONA AIRPORT RECREATION AREA
KAILUA-KONA, HAWAII**

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is a canoe storage facility located at the Old Kona Airport Recreation Area on approximately 5.7 acres (+/-) plot in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. It is covered by Tax Map Key 7 - 5 - 05: 07, 3rd Division.

The proposed development provides for the consolidation of numerous canoe clubs into one central area. These clubs presently exist in adjacent and nearby buildings within the Old Kona Airport Recreation Area. Some of these clubs are being forced to find new accommodations since new uses are proposed for the buildings they presently occupy.

socio-economic

The proposed development includes an initial phase of five (5) canoe sheds, each approximating 60 feet by 100 feet, with expansion capabilities of three (3) additional canoe sheds. The shed will be designed as a Halau, an open pole building with a roof. Screens will be installed to provide security for the canoes. The development is to include a 107 foot asphalt drive for servicing the front of each shed and 39 foot drives servicing the rear. Landscape planting areas will be provided between sheds.

Activities within the sheds will include the fabrication, maintenance and storage of canoes and canoe paddles belonging to the clubs. In the fabrication of the canoes both wood and fiberglass will be used. Maintenance will include wood work and fiberglass general repair, and painting. Materials

used in maintenance will include wood, fiberglass and related materials, and painting and related materials.

2.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The site is presently owned by the State and the County of Hawaii, Department of Parks and Recreation is attempting to secure a lease of the subject site.

The site is situated upon a coastal plane developed from prehistoric lava flows from Mauna Loa and more recently from Hualalai. Soils have developed from weathering of underlying volcanic rocks. Most of the site and surrounding areas are covered with pahoehoe lava, with some sections of aa lava. Pahoehoe lava has a smooth ropy surface and aa lava is made from hard and sharp lava fragments. The soil has a low capacity for grazing and wildlife, and is unsuitable for agriculture. It is not subject to significant erosion.

The elevation of the site ranges from approximately six (6) feet above sea level on the north side to ten (10) feet on the south side of the property.

The proposed site is bordered on the north and west by open fields of the same geology and soils. On the east are former airport storage buildings (which presently house some of the canoe clubs), the State events pavilion, ballfields and the old Kona airport terminal building. To the south the site is bordered by the old Kona airport runway which is now used as vehicular parking for the State events pavilion and surrounding recreational uses.

3.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED PROJECT

Immediate impact upon the environment would result from construction activities of the project. Equipment noise and dust from the project area may affect neighboring areas. However, the effect will temporary and minimized through compliance with existing regulations governing dust and noise control on equipment use. Trucking from the job site to dumping areas, hauling of gravel and asphalt, hauling of dirt and equipment, building materials, etc., will result in increased traffic and will affect surrounding areas. However, the impact of trucking is minimal since the hours during which construction is done differs from the peak traffic hours and since existing roadways are adequate to handle the additional traffic during the construction period. Fortunately the impact upon nearby residents at Kona Bay Estates can be mitigated somewhat by the adherence to established time of construction activity during daytime hours.

The effect on wildlife is expected to be minimal. It is presumed that there is wild bird life as well as mongooses and rats. Removal of this natural habitat would not endanger any wildlife species, any wildlife would just move to adjacent open areas.

No endemic trees or plant life are located on the site. The site has already been cleared and utilized with the development of the Old Kona Airport. The site is presently overgrown with grassy weeds and plants.

The impact of the development of the proposed site would essentially involve the enhancement of an area where presently weeds and rodents make their homes. The development of the canoe club would also furnish an area for the recreational pursuits for those who are preserving a Hawaiian tradition.

4. **ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS THAT CANNOT BE AVOIDED**

The adverse effects on the environment will include dust and noise created during the construction phases of the project. These adverse effects are temporary and cannot be avoided. However, they can be minimized by existing regulations and efficient work practices.

No long-term adverse effects are foreseen as a result of the project. Since most of the activities of the proposed development are already present in adjacent or nearby buildings there will be few new adverse effects when the project is completed and the clubs are relocated. Most traffic, activity generated noise, etc. already exist within the adjacent area, and no significant increase is anticipated that would adversely impact the surrounding areas

5. **ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION**

The alternative to not developing a centralized canoe club facility is to leave the area vacant or to eventually develop it into some other use. This alternative is not the most feasible since some of the canoe clubs are being asked to leave their present facilities by the County and no other facility is being provided for the clubs.

6. **THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PROJECT'S OBJECTIVE AND LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

The objective of the project is to satisfy the need for a location to build, store and to provide proper maintenance for canoes. It provides a place for club

functions and for the perpetuation of local customs and traditions of canoe building and canoe racing. The proposed project is anticipated to be of long-term use, a use that will continue as long as canoe interest in the community continues.

7. **IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES THAT WOULD BE INVOLVED**

There will be some irretrievable commitments of resources when the Canoe Club is constructed. Materials such as transported gravel, soil, asphalt and concrete mix, and building materials, such as lumber, etc. will be utilized. The relatively small consumption of these resources will not deplete any existing resources.

Other resources to be utilized during the operation of the Canoe Club will include water for maintenance of the facilities and landscape vegetation, and electricity.

Most of the previously mentioned resources are readily available in and around the Kailua-Kona area. The actual amount of anticipated use is minimal when compared to the total amount available. Most of the resources are deemed recyclable and therefore cannot be termed irretrievable or irreversible.

8. **ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ANALYSIS IMPACTS AND BENEFITS**

Among the impacts expected to be generated by the project will be minor increased noise levels, slightly more vehicular traffic, and some additional

lighting spill over if and when the entire development of eight sheds is complete. However, these intrusions, when considered in context to the existing park, will be insignificant.

The development of the Canoe Club will increase the level of participation at both Kailua Park and the Old Kona Airport Recreation Area. This area is already extremely active to residents in the Kona district because of its accessibility, favorable weather conditions and diversity of activities.

The additional development of a Canoe Club at the Old Kona Airport Recreation Area represents an added diversity and attraction to visitors. The satisfaction to an individual is the ability to come to the Canoe Club and observe and learn about a Hawaiian traditional and cultural activity. Also intended are educational programs for children focusing on canoe fabrication and canoe racing.

The benefits of a canoe club center primarily around the objectives of satisfying social and cultural needs of a community. The club would serve as a place where members and guests can meet, socialize and maintain their investment in their canoes. It would also provide a means for the encouragement and the continuation of a Hawaiian cultural heritage.

APPENDIX I

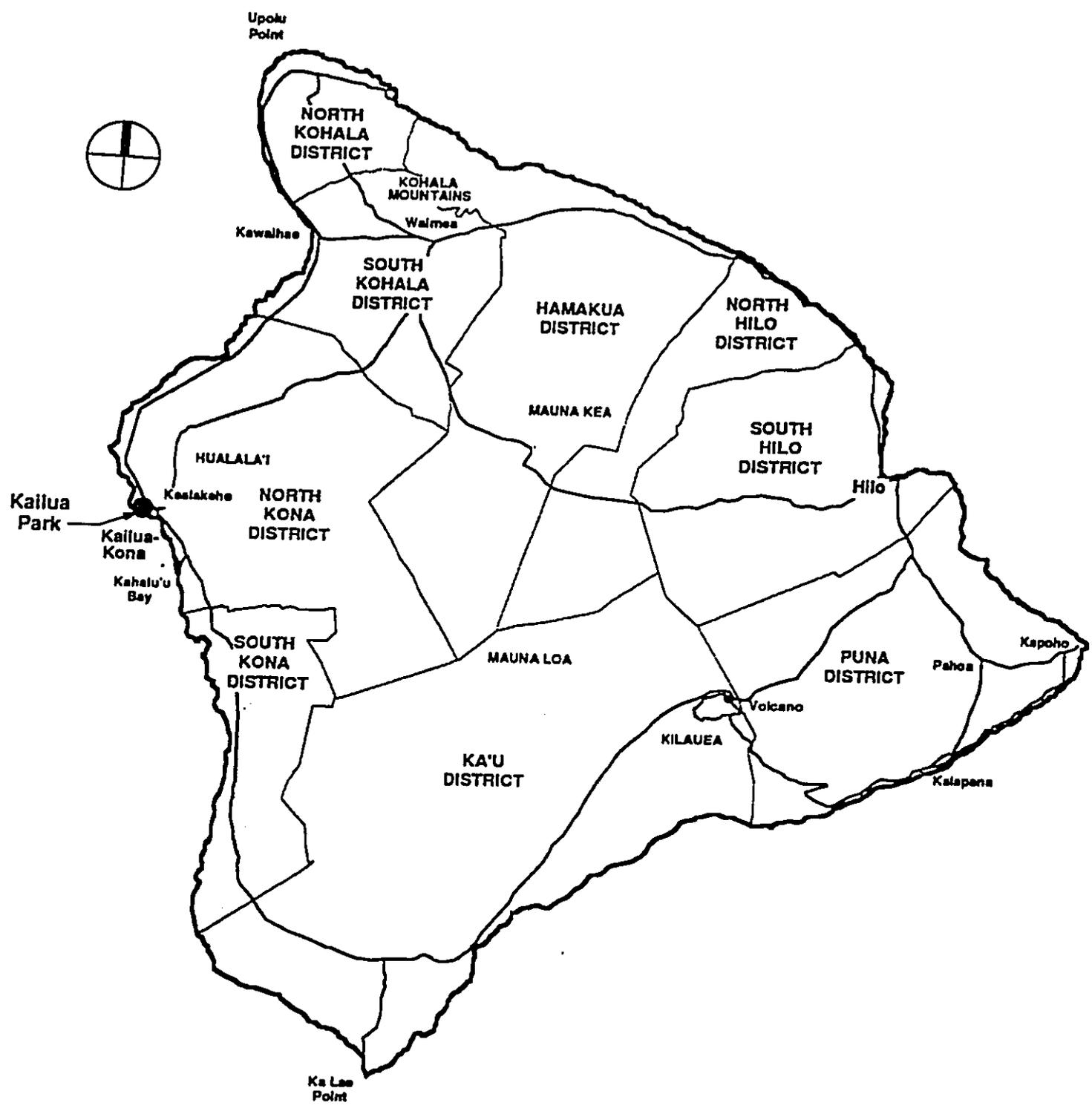
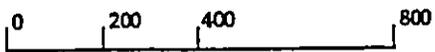
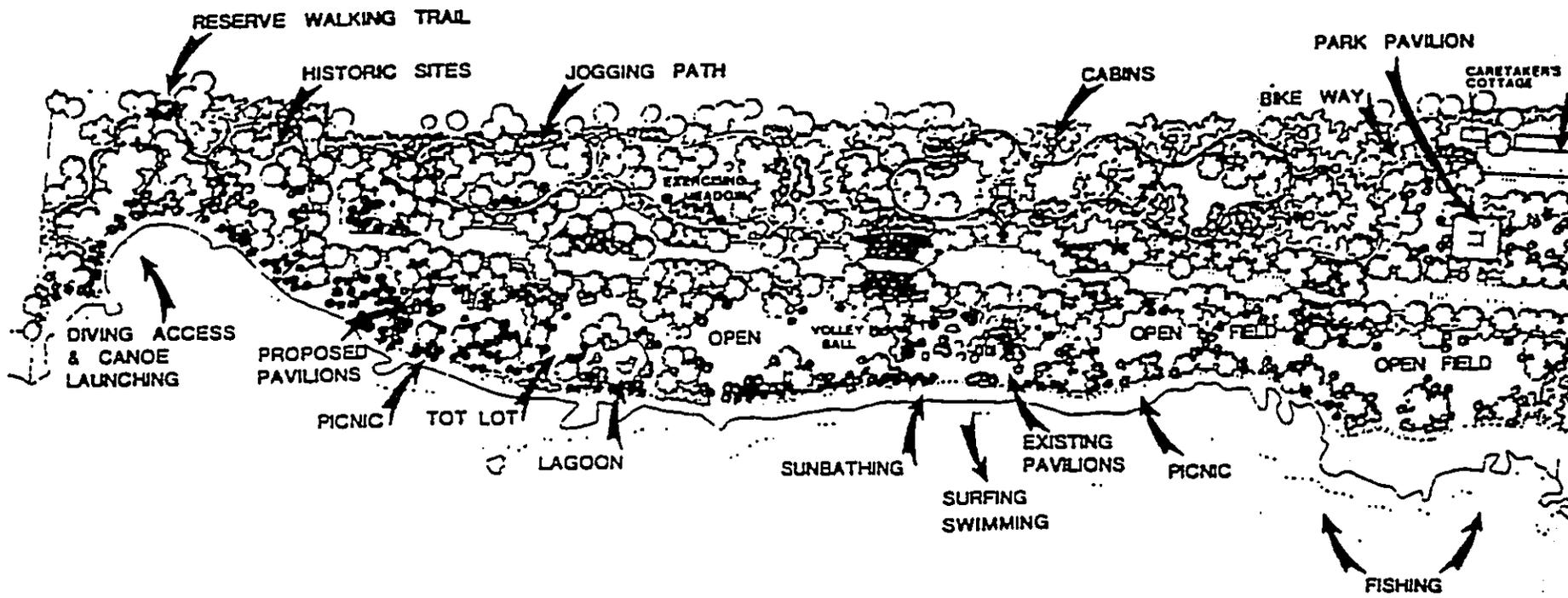


FIGURE A-1

**REGIONAL LOCATION MAP
 OLD KONA AIRPORT RECREATION ARE
 AND KAILUA PARK**



LEGEND:

- STATE BOUNDARY
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- NEW TRAIL
- EXISTING PARKWAY TRAIL

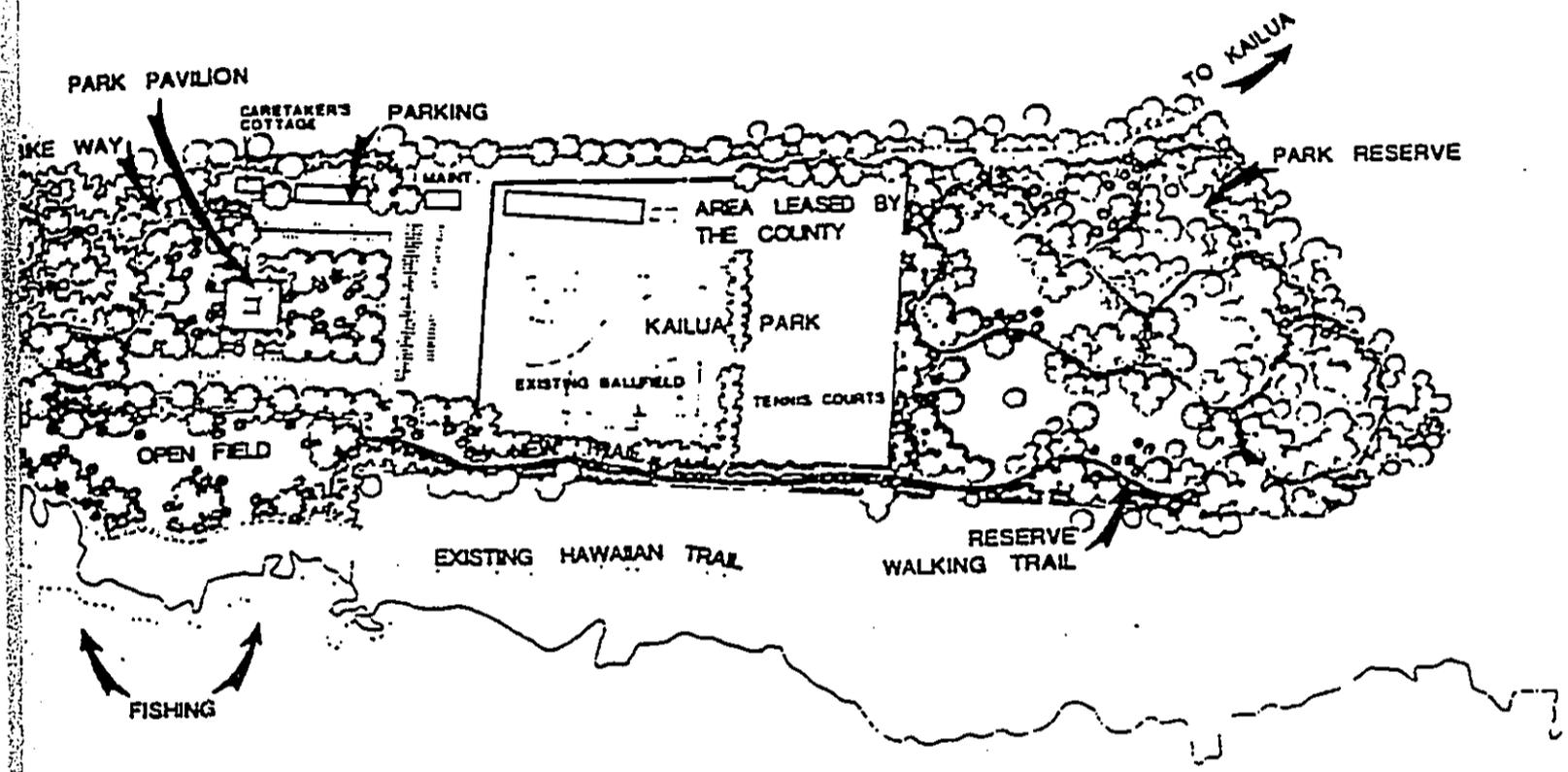
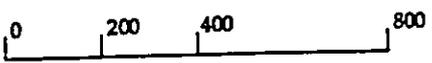
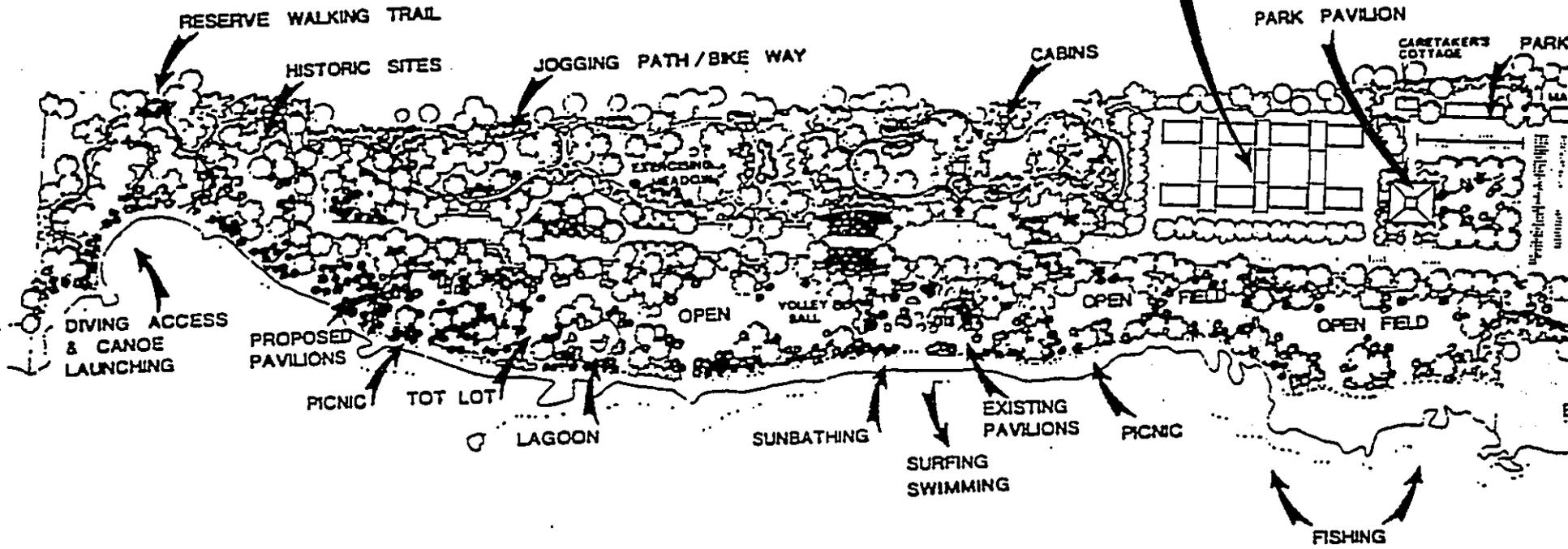


FIGURE A-3

CONCEPTUAL PLAN

FOR OLD KONA AIRPORT RECREATION AREA
 AND KAILUA PARK

CANOE CLUB



LEGEND:

- STATE BOUNDARY
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- NEW TRAIL
- EXISTING PARKWAY TRAIL

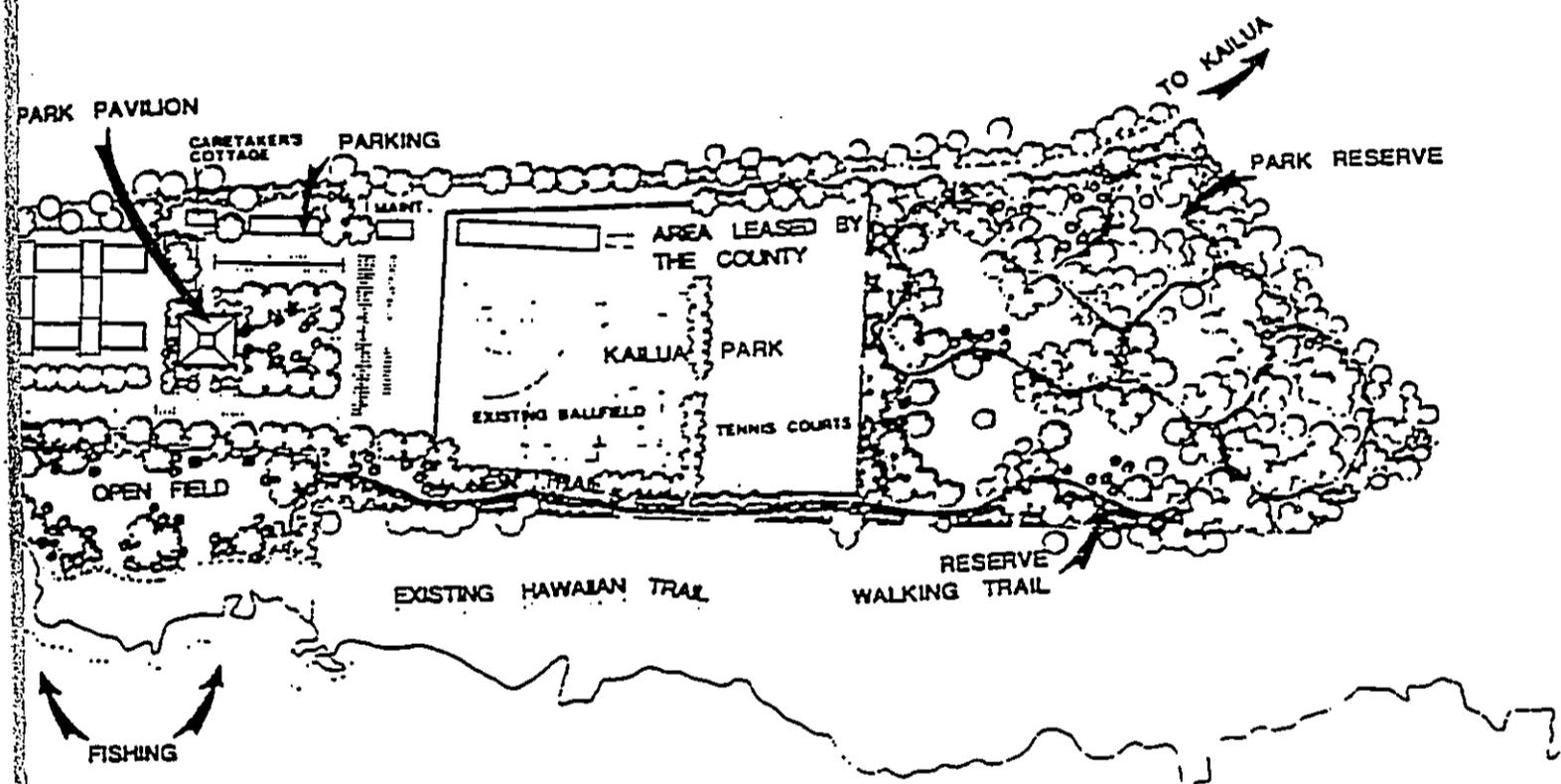
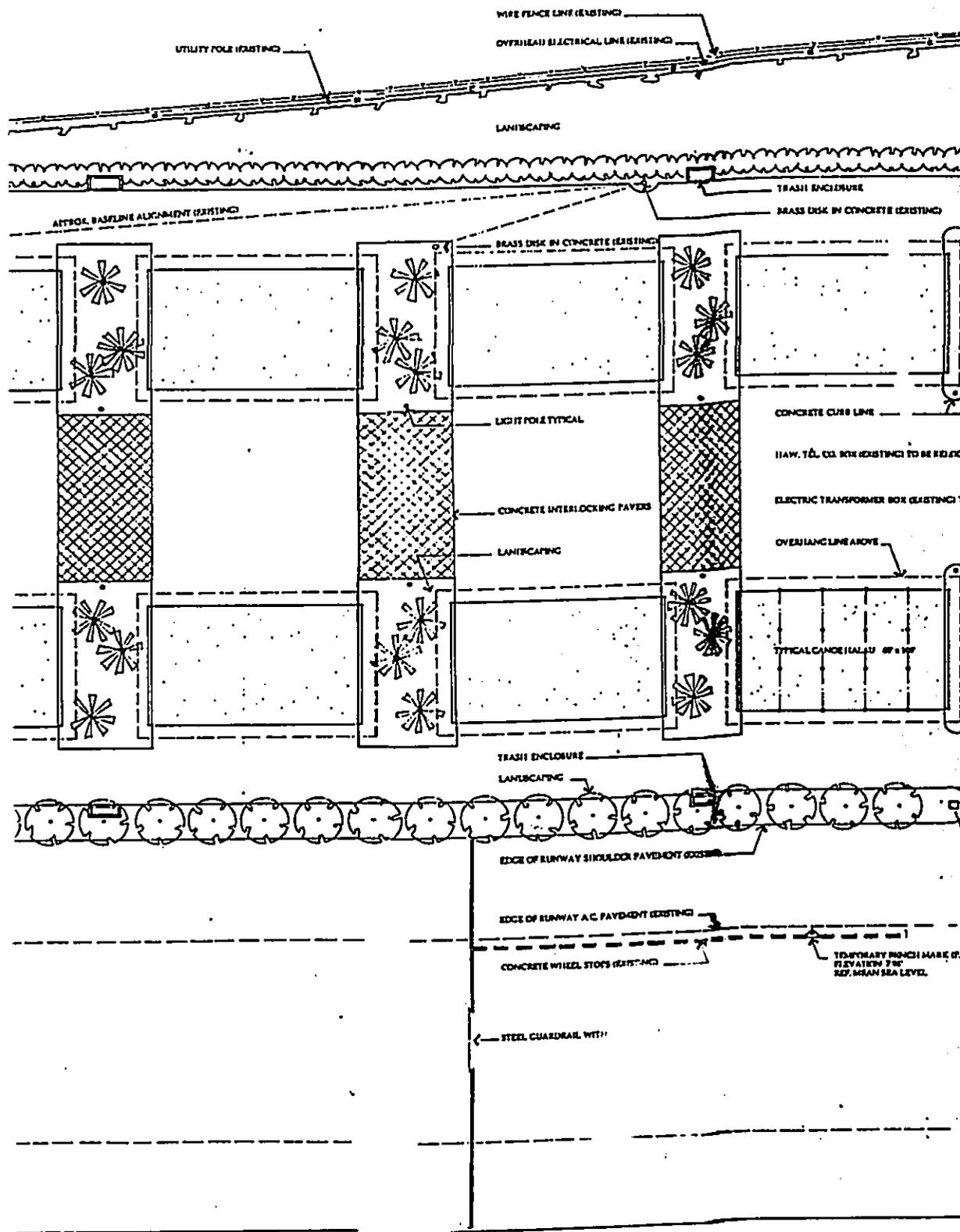


FIGURE A-4
PROPOSED CANOE CLUB
AT OLD KONA AIRPORT RECREATION AREA
AND KAILUA PARK



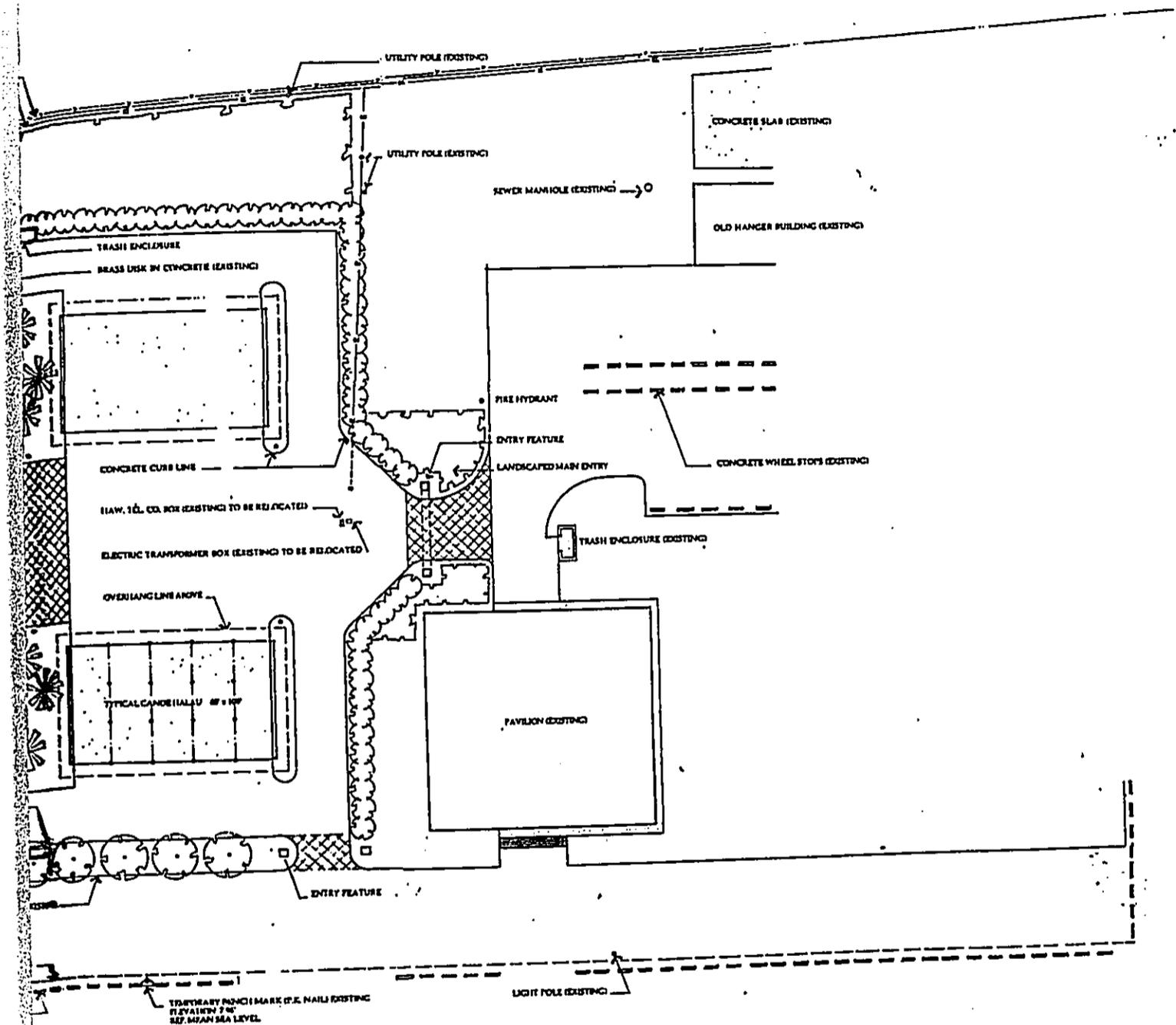


FIGURE A-5
 PROPOSED CANOE CLUB PLAN
 AT OLD KONA AIRPORT RECREATION AREA
 AND KAILUA PARK