

Finding Aid to the
HANALEI BRIDGE RECORDS
HANALEI, KAUA'I, HAWAII
Records 1975 - 1989

KAUA'I HISTORICAL SOCIETY
'Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i

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HANALEI BRIDGE, HANALEI, KAUA'I, HAWAII. RECORDS, 1976 - 1986,
1 .O cubic feet (2 boxes, 20 folders)

Abstract

The Hanalei Bridge Records illustrate the work of the ad hoc North Shore Belt Road Citizen's Advisory Committee. The records were compiled by committee member Barnes Riznik over a ten-year period. The Committee worked with various national, state and local agencies, organizations, and individuals to preserve the one-lane Hanalei Bridge on Kaua'i's North Shore. The result of the Committee's work was that the State Department of Transportation did not replace the Bridge, but repaired it in 1988.

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History

In 1975, the State Department of Transportation (DOT) prepared a draft Environmental impact Statement (EIS) for the replacement of the historic Hanalei Bridge and other one-lane bridges on Kaua'i's North Shore. DOT's plans included a proposal for an elevated highway over part of the Hanalei Valley and a citation that the 1912 Hanalei Bridge was in "terminal condition." The public became concerned about the effects a new two-lane bridge would have over community ambiance and growth in the community.

In 1977, the Kaua'i Historical Society recommended to the State of Hawai'i that the Hanalei Bridge be preserved and subsequently nominated it to the National Register of Historic Places. That same year, the North Shore Belt Roads Citizens Advisory Committee was formed in Hanalei to coordinate information. Original members of the Committee included Pam Wilcox (Beck) Dohrman, Charie "Imua" Forward, Helen Hopkins, "Doc" Johnson, Barnes Riznik, Bob Schleck, Carol Wilcox and Susan Wilson.

In 1978 the Bridge was declared eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation held a public information meeting in Hanalei in 1979 where there was overwhelming opposition expressed to State DOT officials' plan to replace the Hanalei Bridge with a two-lane bridge.

The following year, at the suggestion of State Representative Peter Apo, the Neighborhood Justice Center of O'ahu brought State DOT people and the Committee into directed mediation on the issue. The seven-person Hanalei Bridge negotiating team included Cheryl Soon (Deputy DOT Director), Tets Hirano (DOT Engineer), and Clarence Yamamoto ((DOT Engineer); Carol Wilcox, Barnes Riznik and Jim Adams from the Committee; and David Matteson from the NJC. This was one of the first times that the State of Hawai'i used mediation to solve conflicts between state agencies and citizens.

As a result of the mediation, DOT agreed to hire an historic bridge consultant to inspect and load-test the Bridge. A.G. Lichtenstein, a bridge consultant from New Jersey concluded that rehabilitation was technically and economically feasible.

In 1986, the DOT held a public information meeting in Hanalei to consider the future of the bridge. At the meeting, there was nearly unanimous support to repair and conserve as much of the Bridge as possible. Two years later, DOT awarded a contract for bridge stabilization, and repairs were completed in 1989.

[Note: Since 1989, little or no maintenance was conducted on the Hanalei Bridge. The Hanalei Roads Committee was resurrected in 1997, to again work with DOT on the maintenance, repair and stabilization issues surrounding the Hanalei Bridge and other one-lane North Shore bridges.]

Scope and Content Note

The Hanalei Bridge Records were donated by Barnes Riznik, Ph.D. and were collected in his capacity as a member of the North Shore Belt Roads Citizens Committee. The records are contained in two archival boxes, and arranged in five series: History, Correspondence, Mediation, Preservation Proposals and Publications. There appear to be gaps in the records, but these gaps may be filled as other committee members donate their Bridge records to the Kaua'i Historical Society.

The records illustrate the efforts by the Committee to solicit support for the efforts to save the Hanalei Bridge and to educate themselves and the community about the value of historic preservation. The North Shore Roads Citizens Advisory Committee corresponded with a variety of government agencies, private groups and individuals for this effort. The records are mostly correspondence, and reflect the expansive national, state and local input received by the Committee.

Following the History series, the remainder of the series is arranged in alphabetical order by series title. Series titles are listed in BOLD CAPITAL LETTERS. Sub-series titles are listed in **Bold Lower Case** Letters, and the files are arranged alphabetically within each sub-series. Within each folder documents are arranged in chronological order. The records are in good to very good condition due in part to their recent age. Newspaper articles were photocopied on to acid free paper, and the originals destroyed.

HISTORY

The HISTORY series (1975 – 1989) includes a chronology of the Hanalei Bridge conflict, a list of Committee members, and a draft of a 1983 talk by Carol Wilcox on the history of maintaining rural roads and bridges. Of special note to researchers is the “Hanalei Bridge: A Catalyst for Rural Preservation” written by Dr. Riznik and published by the University of California Press in The Public Historian. This paper provides a comprehensive look at preservation issues facing rural communities. There is a pencil rubbing from the “upper chord” that spells out SARNEGIE or CARNEGIE by Stuart Sloan and dated April 8, 1986. This rubbing was apparently done at the time of the repairs to the Bridge.

CORRESPONDENCE

The CORRESPONDENCE series contains 12 folders of both print and near print material. The contents are comprised primarily of material to or from Barnes Riznik and Carol Wilcox, principal members of the Committee and cover the time period of 1977 through 1984. Each of the folders represents one sub-series and is filed alphabetically by topic or with whom the correspondence took place.

First of the correspondence sub-series is a folder containing correspondence with Jim Adams, Structural Engineer (1977, 1980, 1984) who was asked to document seven Hanalei area bridges and to provide structural engineering data on repairs, carrying capacity and maintenance for each of the seven. These records contain several pieces of correspondence between Adams and the Committee.

Correspondence with Congress (1978 – 1980, 1984) includes letters from Senator Daniel Inouye (HI), Representative Cecil Heftel (HI), Senator Spark Matsunaga (HI), and Senator Robert Stafford (VT) to secure support and funding for repairs of the Hanalei Bridge, and clarifying the Federal Highway Administration’s rules regarding rehabilitation and historic preservation.

The correspondence in the **County of Kaua’i** sub-series (1977, 1979) is from Kaua’i County Council members Louis Gonsalves, Jr., and JoAnn Yukimura.

The Committee corresponded with three Federal agencies. The records of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (1977, 1979, 1980) to and from the Committee and copies of letters to the Advisory Council requesting the Council to complete a cultural and historical resources inventory of the Hanalei area. There are letters from the Advisory Council to Senator Inouye, Representative Heftel, the Federal Highways Administration, and the United States Secretary of Transportation.

Correspondence records relating to the United **States Department of the Interior (1977 – 1979, 1984)** include a letter and poster from T. Allen Comp, Senior Historian with the Historic American Engineering Record and from Jane Silverman, State of Hawaii Historic Preservation Officer. There is also correspondence from the U.S. Department of the Interior to Representative Heftel regarding eligibility of eleven bridges on the Kauai Belt Road to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Correspondence with the **Federal Highways Administration, Department of Transportation (1979 - 1980)** includes public notices for highway design standards regulations, correspondence with FHA regarding monies available for repair work. There is a letter from the Committee to Karl Bowers, FHA Department of Transportation, Washington, detailing meetings and correspondence with Senator Inouye and Representative Daniel Akaka.

The **Al Lichtenstein, Consulting Engineers** (1986) records contain correspondence with Lichtenstein and the bridge consultant VTN Pacific to outline alternatives for bridge repair; with Cheryl Soon, Deputy Director of the State Department of Transportation discussing Lichtenstein's recommendations; and a brochure from '2.G. Lichtenstein & Associates, Inc, Consulting Engineers."

Correspondence with the **National Trust for Historic Preservation** (1976 - 1980, 1984) provides information on historic preservation, copies of letters to DOT to encourage preservation of the Hanalei Bridge, a Determination of Eligibility Notification for the National Register of Historic Places, and Committee comments to DOT on their bridge replacement program.

Correspondence of the **North Shore Belt Roads Citizens Advisory Committee** (1977 - 1980, 1983, 1986) includes press releases, meeting agendas, summaries of meetings, copies of letters to Jane Silverman, the State Historic Preservation Officer, letters to others interested in historic preservation throughout the United States. There are both typed and handwritten materials in this folder.

Correspondence with **State of Hawai'i, Department of Transportation** (1977 - 1978, 1980, 1982 - 1984, 1986) illustrates the attitude of DOT towards historic preservation. The records include a letter from the Committee to E. Alvey Wright, Director of DOT in Honolulu, expressing concern that he would not meet with the Committee, a request that the road system be designated as a rural scenic road, a detailed list of recommendations for safety improvements on the road in general and specific recommendations to eight Hanalei to Haena bridges. Also included is a report of the August 24, 1977 meeting with Dr. Ryokichi Higashionna, the State DOT Deputy Director of Design, detailing an engineering evaluation, proposing a scenic and historic ordinance, and conducting an historic and cultural resources inventory.

There is also a "Scope of Work" from Al Lichtenstein to VTN Consultants describing preservation alternatives, and itemizing work that Lichtenstein would do to determine a preservation alternative. Also included is an Informational Packet from the Commission on Transportation that includes a report on the Hanalei Bridge improvements, maintenance costs, accident data and traffic counts, and DOT's plans to replace the Bridge with a 2-lane bridge; there are itemized costs (9-81) for Hanalei Bridge repairs (\$602,800.94) This folder contains both typed and handwritten notes.

The sub-series **State of Hawai'i: Governor George Ariyoshi** contains two letters (November 2, 1977 and May 7, 1971) in which the Committee criticizes DOT Director E. Alvey Wright and his arbitrary statements regarding the condition of the Hanalei Bridge, the misrepresentation of the physical condition, inability of the Committee to obtain engineering plans and studies, and Wright's basic lack of cooperation with the community. This folder also contains a draft letter to the Governor clarifying the use of Federal Funds under the new Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978; and some handwritten notes by Wilcox.

The sub-series **Legislature** (1978, 1983) contains copies of letters to gain support from State legislators. Representative Peter Apo writes to initiate mediation between the DOT, the Committee and informing them that Dave Matteson of the Oahu Neighborhood Justice Center will contact the Committee members.

MEDIATION

The **MEDIATION** series (1984 - 1986) includes correspondence with Dave Matteson of the Neighborhood Justice Center to and from the Committee. There are reports on meetings with the DOT, outlines of issues to be resolved, lists of concerns, agenda of meetings, group memory of meetings, confirmation of understanding on DOT and Committee agreement, and a poem by Barnes Riznik entitled "Hanalei." This sub-series comprises one folder.

PRESERVATION PROPOSALS

PRESERVATION PROPOSALS (1976 - 1977, 1984, 1986) are contained in one folder and consist of records from the State Department of Transportation, and Committee reports on the Kaua'i Belt Road and the Hanalei Bridge. Of interest is an April, 1977 DOT report listing data on various Hanalei to Haena bridges including construction dates, tidal wave damage reports, road alignment alternatives, bridge design construction alternatives, a chronology of public meetings between 1968 and 1975, a chronology of EIS documents between 1972 and 1977, a list of DOT's preferences for roads and bridges, and an implementation plan. Also contained in the file is a copy of the presentation packet by DOT of the [1976?] DOT plan. The folder also includes the handwritten notes of Barnes Riznik (1984) on Bridge Rehabilitation Standards; a report prepared for the DOT by Al Lichtenstein & Associates entitled, "Hanalei Bridge and Approaches Restoration Alternatives" July 1986, and the handout for the September 1986 DOT Public Hearing.

PUBLICATIONS

The PUBLICATIONS series is comprised of five sub-series folders: **Federal Laws and Bills;** **Miscellaneous Bridge Information;** **Ordinances;** **Press, Newspaper and Magazine Articles;** and **State of Hawai'i, Final Environmental Impact Statement.**

The **Federal Laws and Bills** sub-series (1982 - 1984) are copies of the 1982 Surface Transportation Act, Congressional hearing reports on Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program, Bill Amending Federal Aid Highways Act, and a Bill on Surface Transportation Amendments of 1984. There is one folder of Miscellaneous Bridge **Information** (1983, 1984).

In the **Ordinance** folder is an undated model preservation ordinance. In the **Press, Newspaper, Magazine** records (1977 - 1979, 1981 - 1983, 1986 - 1987) there are articles from *The Garden /s/and* and the *Honolulu Advertiser* newspapers. During the ten-year period of 1977 - 1987, *Honolulu Advertiser* journalist Jan TenBruggencate provided extensive coverage of the Hanalei Bridge issue and copies of his articles comprise a large portion of these records.

The final publication in the series is the **State of Hawai'i, Final Environmental Impact Statement** (June 30, 1980) for the Kauai Belt Road, Kalihiwai to Haena, FAP Route 56, Kauai, Hawaii, by the U.S. Federal Highways Administration and the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation, Highways Division.

Container List

Box Folder

- HISTORY -
- 1 1 History (1975 - 1989)
- CORRESPONDENCE
- 2 Jim Adams, Structural Engineer (1977, 1960, 1964)
- 3 Congress (1978 - 1980, 1984)
- 4 County of Kaua'i (1977, 1979)
- 5 Federal Agencies: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (1977, 1979 - 1980)
- 6 Federal Agencies: U.S. Department of the Interior (1977 - 1979, 1984)
- 7 Federal Agencies: Federal Highways Administration, Department of Transportation (1979 - 1960)
- a Al Lichtenstein Consulting Engineers (1966)
- 9 National Trust for Historic Preservation (1976 - 1980, 1964)
- 10 North Shore Belt Roads Citizen's Advisory Committee (1977 - 1980, 1983, 1986)
- 11 State of Hawai'i: Department of Transportation (1977 - 1978, 1980, 1982 - 1984, 1986)
- 12 State of Hawai'i: Governor George Ariyoshi (I 977)
- 13 State of Hawai'i: Legislature (1978, 1963)
- 2 1 MEDIATION (1964 - 1966)
- 2 PRESERVATION PROPOSALS (1976 - 1977, 1984, 1986)
- PUBLICATIONS
- 3 Federal Laws and Bills (1962 - 1984)
- 4 Miscellaneous Bridge Information (1963, 1964)
- 5 Ordinances (N.D.)
- 6 Press, Newspapers, Magazines (1977 - 1979, 1981- 1983, 1986 - 1987)
- 7 State of Hawai'i, Final Environmental Impact Statement, June 30, 1980