

Dear Sandy,

enclosed is material for a presentation to the Department of Land and Natural resources.

Please call Joe Souza's office ( Joe is administrator of State Parks) at 548 7455

and find out how many members there are to the DLNR Board. Joe and I have to make a presentation to the Board Jan. 10 to get permission for the launching site.

Let's leave no stone unturned in our presentation.

It should consist of

- a. the four page letter, enclosed.
- b. a xerox of the Honolulu article
- c. a xerox of the Bud Smiser editorial
- d. ~~xxx~~ prints of the two photographs we used in our foundation presentations
- e. photographs of the beach and site we are applying for.  
( I will take these and get them to you in a few days)

Please , after you have everything together, and simply stapled at the upper left hand corner, submit these presentations, each in a 9x12 envelope (plain), to the office of Joe Souza before January 7th. I'll get the site photographs to you as soon as possible.

- / Make a copy for each board member ( no individual cover letter)
- / Make a copy for Joe Souza
- / Make a copy for me
- / Make a copy for your file

mahalo

King + Punchbowl  
2nd Sloon state  
Amy -

9  
9  
81  
10  
95  
9  
9

97

Oahu

~~number~~ + Chairman + member Christopher Cobb  
Shinichi Nakagawa  
Moses Keatshe

Hawaii

Muni

Kani

Larry Mehan

Manuel Moriz Jr.

Hisao Munechika

To Joe Savage

Hope you can look this  
over. Let's talk to you  
about it.

PH# 377-9621

(7 at)

King + Archbishop

Date 10/8/62

Am...

#### THE PROJECT:

1974, THE YEAR OF THE CANOE, saw the design and construction of a double-hulled voyaging canoe of the type used by the early Hawaiians to travel across the vast distance between Hawaii and the South Pacific.

1975, THE YEAR OF THE MEN, will be devoted to:

1. A public education program in which the canoe will be campaigned throughout the Hawaiian Islands, offering instruction to the public
2. Selection and training of candidates for the voyage to Tahiti and return
3. Planning and preparation of scientific experiments in canoe performance, non-instrument navigation, transport of plants and animals, food energy of sea rations used by the ancient Hawaiians, and psychological implications

1976, THE YEAR OF THE VOYAGE. A voyage will be made, leaving Hawaii in April, 1976, to the Society Islands, and returning in July, 1976.

1. The voyage will be a Hawaii Event of the U.S. Bicentennial
2. Experiments conducted on the voyage will provide new data on how ancient voyages were conducted, and how the exploration and settlement of Polynesia was achieved.
3. The voyage will celebrate the magnitude of the seafaring achievements of the world's first deep-water sailors, the ancestors of the Hawaiian People.
4. All findings will be made available for educational publication
5. The vessel will be donated to the community or to an educational institution for continued use as a living museum and mobile classroom.

#### THE POLYNESIAN VOYAGING SOCIETY

is a non-profit corporation recognized by I.R.S. as an educational society. Donations are tax exempt. Officers and directors serve without pay, and without any opportunity for financial reward.

**PURPOSE:** No culture can exist without its objects. The voyaging canoe was the central object in Polynesian culture. With the loss of an important object, the memory of it becomes vague and cultural disintegration occurs. By recreating the voyaging canoe, and recovering lost knowledge, the present resurgence of interest in our cultural ancestry will be vastly aided.

**FUNDING:** Financial help has come from the U.S. Bicentennial Commission, from the sale of memberships, "t" shirts, posters, and donations of cash, materials, and services, and discounts on purchases. The Society has 700 members. A publishing advance from Dodd, Meade & Co., and a magazine option from National Geographic Magazine has also helped. No "overhead" is paid to any other institution. 100% of funds raised are

expended in project development. The budget of  
 \$55,000 ( canoe construction)  
 \$40,000 ( 1976 voyage and research costs)  
 \$34,000 ( public education program costs)  
 \$129,000 (total)

has been termed "realistic" by Dr. Melvin Jackson, Curator of Transportation, the Smithsonian Institution. Fundraising activities have been sufficiently productive to support work on schedule.

#### THE PROPOSED ASSEMBLY AND LAUNCHING SITE:

Launching Committee members Kimo Hugho and Tommy Holmes have described as most ideal the State Park and beach which lies between the Natatorium, the Kaimana Hotel, the waterfront, and Kalakaua Avenue.

A low stone-concrete wall separates the lawn area from the sand beach. The beach is flat and above high water for 70 feet from the wall towards the sea. Thereupon it slopes gently to the water.

A space 60' x 20' would be needed for three weeks from mid February for assembling the completed parts of the canoe, which is now being built at space donated in the Hawaiian Dredging area at Pier 41, Dillingham Shipyards. Work will consist of lashing up the parts with several miles of rope. Three men will work full time, assisted by volunteers. Schools will be notified so that Hawaiiana students can witness this activity. No need for power tools is anticipated, however some lighting would be desirable for security and so that the public can see the work at night. The assembly will be made with the two hulls of the vessel supported by pallets which will be removed prior to launching.

Once launched, the canoe will be moved to another location yet to be determined. Assistance in locating a permanent mooring for use during the training period is being sought from the Harbors Division of the State Department of Transportation. Recommendations and ideas are very welcome.

#### LAUNCHING CEREMONY AND LUAU, March 8, 1976

The area from the low wall to Kalakaua Avenue would be needed on March 8 for the ceremony and luau.

- Power: Electric power would be needed for microphones. If this cannot be provided by the State, we need permission to bring a mobile generator, or to run a cable from the Kaimana Hotel.
- IMU: It is traditional to imu the pig and other food next to the canoe for the launching celebration. We request permission to dig the imu, bring our own stones, and we will restore the site to its

original appearance after the ceremony.

- Beer: We would like to have beer on the site during the luau which will take place after the launching ceremony.
- Luau: We will be asking for donations from our members to pay for the cost of their participation in the luau. Paige Kawelo Barber is chairing the luau committee, assisted by Sandra Maile, Executive Director, and Moku Froiseth.
- Tent: Because of the possibility of rain during March, we would like to have permission to erect a tent shelter for the food service area.

Ceremony: The launching ceremony will precede the luau. In brief, it will proceed as follows:  
  
Introductory remarks, and statements by honored guests. Acknowledgement of those who have helped in the construction and launching.

A Christian blessing, in English and Hawaiian.

- The chant consecrating the 'awa.
- The chant consecrating the food sacrifice.
- The launching of the canoe.
- Trial paddling and sailing.
- The chant on the return of the canoe to the beach.
- The mele by the paddlers.
- The chant consecrating the canoe.

Sources for this ceremony are the writings of David Malo and Emerson. Work on this ceremony will be done with the help of Kawena Pukui and Dr. Kenneth Emory. Kaupena Wong has been asked to deliver the chants.

Eddie Kamae, Moe Keale, David Rogers, Dennis Kamakahi, and Joe Marshall will entertain, after the ceremony.

A launching ceremony authentically reproduced for a double canoe has not been held within living memory. As such, it should be an event of interest and educational value. Film will be made.

Historical Note: The Waikiki area was once a favorite residence for the Alii of Oahu, and many canoes graced its beach. When Kamehameha invaded Oahu his fleet, according to Kamakau, was composed of 800 canoes. Most of these were double canoes, and of these the large peleleu canoes were about 70' long with hulls up to six feet deep -- considerably larger than the vessel we are building for the Tahiti trip. Kamakau states that Kamehameha's fleet of canoes, parked side by side, stretched from Waialae through Waikiki.

We are asking for permission and for any help you can give to honor an ancient tradition upon an appropriate site. Mahalo.

# POLYNESIAN VOYAGING SOCIETY

P.O. Box 6037, BISHOP MUSEUM, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818 (808) 841-3966

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## A Request

to the State Parks Division,  
Department of Land and Natural Resources

Respectfully submitted by  
the Polynesian Voyaging Society

for the use of a space on San Souci Beach  
(between the Natatorium and the Kaimana Hotel)  
from February 15, 1975 to March 8, 1975  
for the purpose of assembling by rope lashings  
the completed parts of a 60'x15' sailing canoe

and, for the use of the park area on March 8  
for a traditional launching ceremony and luau

HAWAII



TAHITI

BICENTENNIAL VOYAGE OF REDISCOVERY  
HOE AKU I KA WA'A

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