Three OHA interpretive signs
Hawaiian Civic Club of Wahiawa Sign

TMK: 7 - 1 - 001:045

TMK: 7 - 1 - 001:048

TMK: 7 - 1 - 001:046

TMK: 7 - 1 - 001:049
NO TRESPASSING

PROPERTY OF OHA

OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

KŪKANILOKO
REGULATORY SIGN

EXHIBIT - 1B
KUKANILOKO
INTERPRETIVE SIGN

HE WAHI HĀNAU O NĀPUA ALI'I

BIRTHING PLACE OF HIGH RANKING ROYALTY

Kukaniʻoloko means a place of giving birth. The site was a traditional site for giving birth to the aliʻi and high ranking royalty. This site is located on the grounds of Kukaniʻoloko, a prehistoric settlement. A stone wall separates this area from other areas of the site. The location of the site is significant because it was used for ceremonial purposes and as a避难所 during times of conflict. This site is an important example of Hawaiian cultural heritage and is a popular site for educational and cultural tourism.
Kūkaniloko, the physical and spiritual piko (center) of the island of O'ahu, is bounded geographically by two parallel mountain ranges. To the east are the younger Ko'olau mountains. To the west are the older Wa'anae mountains, which includes Ka'ala, O'ahu's highest peak. These cool uplands were once covered with a forest of 'ōhi'a (Metrosideros polymorpha), 'ilahai (Acacia koa), hapu'u (tree fern), and fragrant kupukupu ferns. Lower elevations consisted of kukui (candlemat tree), 'iliahi (sandalwood), hau (sea hibiscus), 'ahu'a (java sedge), 'e kauwi (Alphitonia ponderosa), willow (Hawaiian willow tree), and uhiuhi (Casuarina kawalani). In the narrow gulches, Native Hawaiians cultivated kalo (taro), 'uala (sweet potato), and other crops.

Through continual interaction between people and environment, Native Hawaiians developed an intimate understanding of their surroundings. One way this is displayed is in the naming of the various winds that affect the territory, resources, and cultural practices of the Central Plateau, which include: Waikūloa, a cold north wind; Kiu, which blows inland along the ocean-side of Ka'ala; Kilhau, a gentle land breeze at Waipuu and Kapo; and Miilualua, a wind that blows from the north at Pu'u 'Ka'ala.

The grounds upon which you currently stand are part of the Central Plateau of O'ahu, which spans more than 32,000 acres. The plentiful freshwater and forest resources provided a unique environment that supported a large population and the development of Kūkaniloko as a socio-economic center.
KUKANILOKO INTERPRETIVE SIGN

ENGLISH:
Approximately 180 pohaku (stones) make up the sacred Kukaniloko Birthing Stones site. The pohaku themselves have both natural and man-made depressions, which during childbirth, could have been used to hold birthing material. Most of the pohaku were formed by natural processes (such as wind and rain erosion, over millions of years) while some pohaku were modified by Hawaiians. In addition to the birthing of chiefs, it is hypothesized that the pohaku may have also been used to track the passage of the sun, moon, planets, and stars with features on the landscape to mark time as a calendar. From the center of Kukaniloko, for example, the sun sets directly behind Mount Ka'ala at the equinox.

OTHERS sugget the pohaku may have been used for navigation. Previously, petroglyphs that were once visible on the pohaku's arc were used to point to the horizon or specific celestial objects.
Kūkaniloko

*e kūkaʻawe i nā kapu o Kūkaniloko no ka mea aloha nō hoʻi kākou iā lākou i nā kau a kau

to guard the kapu of Kūkaniloko because we love the for all time...

Hawaiian Civic Club of Wahiawā
Established November 10, 1960