

GLOSSARY

This glossary primarily lists the classificatory terminology of feature form and function on which the data recovery site reports are based, particularly those terms with specific connotations in Hawaiian or Pacific Basin archaeology. A brief list of common Hawaiian terms used in this report is also provided.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS

activity area. Functional designation for a location that has artifacts, fire features, or other traces of behavior other than planting but lacks the amount or diversity of artifacts indicative of a habitation. Activity areas may be isolated or associated with habitation areas.

agriculture. Functional designation for features that are interpreted as planting areas. Morphology in the project area most often characterized by terraces, either rock- or soil-faced, with soil surfaces. Although charcoal may be present, this interpretation often reflects the absence of other cultural materials. The presence of soil characteristics related to flooded, irrigated conditions is also indicative.

alignment. Arrangement (e.g., circular, linear, oval) of rocks that is generally one rock high and one rock wide. The surfaces on the two sides of an alignment are at the same height. Alignments are observed on the surface and also in buried contexts.

batter. A receding upward slope in the outer face of a structure.

boundary. Functional designation for walls or alignments built primarily to divide the landscape.

clearing. Functional designation for a mound or other feature created by the removal of stones from nearby agricultural areas.

concentration. Group, cluster, or abundance of materials (ash, charcoal, lithics) in close proximity to one another; the density of materials used to distinguish a concentration from a scatter is site-dependent.

debitage. Lithic artifacts that are flakes and fragments; does not include cores or tools.

depression. Concavity, usually circular or oval, usually on the surface; can be either natural or cultural.

ditch. Long, narrow trench or furrow dug in the ground.

fire feature. Functional assignment for a pit with characteristics that do not fulfill the minimum required to be classified as an *imu* or a firepit. These are often unexcavated, perhaps seen only in profile after bulldozer activity.

firepit. Functional assignment for a pit with the following characteristics: diameter of under one meter, broader than it is deep, containing charcoal, and occasionally with small rocks and burned earth.

habitation, permanent. Functional assignment. Common archaeological criteria for designation as a permanent habitation include substantial architecture (well-constructed walls with vertical or near vertical facing with several courses of stone) and a relatively high density of diverse cultural materials. Other important characteristics in Hawai‘i are a constellation of structures (primary habitation features and ancillary features), presence of postmolds, pavement, and a single maintained *imu*, firepit, or slab hearth per residence structure.

habitation, temporary. Functional assignment. Common archaeological criteria for designation as a temporary habitation are few to no architectural structures (these tend to be either quickly built ephemeral shelters or small, rock structures such as C-shape partial enclosures) and relatively low density of associated cultural materials. Other important characteristics in Hawai‘i are use of small rockshelters for temporary shelter, isolated *imu* or firepits, and multiple *imu* or firepits. Multiple *imu* or firepits can also be interpreted as representative of multiple short-term visits to the same locale over time.

imu. Functional assignment for a pit with the following characteristics: diameter of at least a meter (in most cases, even when previously truncated by a bulldozer), substantial amount of charcoal, substantial amount of fire-affected rock (usually in the cobble to small boulder range), and burned earth lining. *Imu* can have a variety of profile shapes, the most common being bowl-shaped and funnel-shaped, and are relatively deep compared to other types of fire features. Artifacts may or may not be present in the fill.

interment. Functional designation for a feature (e.g., rockshelter, mound, or pit) used for human burial.

kiln. Functional designation for a feature used historically in the production of charcoal. Forms of these features vary from concrete and stone roofed enclosures to depressions cut into natural topography. Additional attributes used to differentiate these from other fire features include a diameter often exceeding 2 meters, presence of wood charcoal (both in and near the feature) usually identified as common guava (*Psidium guajava*), and often the proximity of other historical features or artifacts.

lens. Cultural feature such as a discrete locus of ash or charcoal which is distinct from the surrounding sediment matrix; usually appears as a concentrated, horizontal band of cultural material with clearly defined boundaries.

mound. Informal structure of stone, or stone and earth, that is usually wider than it is tall. The rocks are piled, creating a rounded profile. Mounds in Hawai‘i are often identified as clearing features (agriculture or pasturage), as planting features, or as burial markers.

- pit.** Cultural excavation varying in width, depth, and base morphology. Assignment of a feature to this descriptive category requires a clear indication of its overall dimensions and the capability to assign a definite feature function.
- postmold.** Functional designation for the impression left in the ground where a pole has been removed or disintegrated, filled with sediment not associated with the original function; usually deeper than wide.
- slope (or soil) retention.** Functional designation for a wall, alignment, or terrace built to keep sediments from moving downslope.
- scatter.** A diffuse distribution of cultural materials. The density of artifacts used to distinguish a scatter from a concentration is site-dependent.
- terrace.** Combination of architecture and retained sediments in which a level to gently sloping top surface has a downslope edge, or facing, that is defined by rock, soil, or a combination of both. The top surface is usually more horizontal than the plane of the surrounding ground surface and consists of soil, rock, or a combination of both.
- trail.** Functional designation for features (usually terraces, parallel alignments, cleared areas, or pavements) interpreted as paths for travel by foot, or historically by horse.
- wall.** Free-standing rock structure that is longer than it is wide. The ends do not meet to form another feature type, such as an enclosure. Walls in Hawai'i are usually bilaterally faced and include multiple stacked and core-filled types.

HAWAIIAN TERMS

- ahupua'a.** Traditional Hawaiian political division, usually encompassing a strip or wedge of land from the sea to the uplands.
- ali'i.** Chief, noble, or ruler.
- 'auwai.** Irrigation ditch or canal.
- heiau.** Traditional Hawaiian place of worship, or shrine.
- 'ili.** Section of land, most often a subdivision of an *ahupua'a*.
- 'ili 'āina.** Land area; an *'ili* division whose chief pays tribute to the chief of the *ahupua'a* of which it is a part, rather than directly to the king.
- imu.** Underground oven (see Archaeological Terms).
- kahuna.** Priest; expert in any profession.
- kapu.** Traditional Hawaiian prohibition or special privilege.
- kōele.** Small land unit farmed by a tenant for the chief.
- konohiki.** Headman of an *ahupua'a* land division under the chief.
- kula.** Open country, plain, or field; area of dryland agriculture.
- kuleana.** Land claim made at the time of the Great Mahele.

- lo‘i*. Irrigated pondfield used most often for *kalo* (taro, *Colocasia esculenta*) cultivation.
- mahele*. Portion, or division, as in the Great Mahele, a land division of 1848–1853 in which Hawaiian lands were divided among the king, chiefs, and commoners.
- maka‘āinana*. Commoner, people in general.
- māla*. Garden, plantation, patch, cultivated field.
- mo‘o ‘āina*. Land parcel.
- pahale*. Houselot.
- pali*. Cliff, precipice.
- pō‘alima*. The chief’s plantation where the people worked on Fridays.
- poi*. Traditional Hawaiian food staple made from steamed and pounded *kalo* (taro, *Colocasia esculenta*).
- pu‘uone*. Pond near the shore, as connected to the sea by a stream or ditch.