

For over 80 years, the Uchida family, like others, worked the coffee and raised their children, through two World Wars, earthquakes, epidemics, the never-ending “busts,” and the all-too-infrequent “booms” of the coffee industry. Through it all, they maintained a work ethic, strong family ties, and a lifestyle that has become synonymous with Kona coffee farming, yet this lifestyle remains unique in modern Hawaiian history. It is hoped that this project will serve as an initial step toward the recognition of the unique and fragile resources and that the museum effort will help create a preservation consciousness among those still inhabiting the working farms of the Kona district.

References

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Editor's Note:

The Kona Historical Society has completed the restoration of the mill and hoshidana at the Uchida coffee farm and restoration of the house began in spring of 1998.

Meeting in the Freely Associated States of Micronesia

The Freely Associated States of Micronesia (FAS) is comprised of the Republic of Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia, including Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae and Yap. The U.S. Historic Preservation Fund has been extended to these sovereign governments until the year 2001, with the exception of the Republic of Palau who signed their Compact of Free Association in 1995 (the U.S. government agreed to provide funding for 15 years under the compacts). Palau may receive HPF grant funds until 2010. In 1986 when the Compacts of Free Association were signed, the United Nations trusteeship for these island groups ended. The National Park Service (NPS)



Group photograph at Bai-ra-irrai, the traditional Palauan bai or men's meeting house on Airai Island in 1996. Photo by David Look.

main objective in assisting the FAS is to provide financial and technical support to establish programs appropriate to Micronesian society and culture; programs that will accrue sufficient local support to continue after the termination of the Compacts of Free Association.

The NPS meets annually with the Historic Preservation Officers (HPOs) and other FAS staff members to discuss current program direction, review activities and plan for the future. The meeting also provides opportunities for training courses, lectures, field trips, and staff interaction and communication.

Key historic preservation program issues discussed were the 1996 and 1997 program reviews, FAS program status reports, FAS project status reports for 1997 projects, cultural resource training initiatives, and recruitment for archeologist and anthropologist positions. The Republic of Palau received the 1997 Outstanding Historic Preservation Program Award for the Cultural Affairs Office's performance in identifying, preserving, and protecting the cultural resources of Palau for its citizens and future generations.

This year's annual meeting was held in Yap, Federated States of Micronesia, February 2-3, 1998, with David Look, AIA, Cultural Resources Team Leader, Paula Falk-Creech, Micronesia Program Coordinator, and Mark Rudo, Archeologist. FAS representations included: Carmen Bigler, Secretary of Interior and HPO for the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Clary Makroro, Deputy Historic Preservation Officer; Vicky Kanai, HPO for the Republic of Palau, Rita Olseong, Palau HPO Archeologist, Florencio Gibbons, Palau Oral Historian, and David Orak, Deputy HPO; and Emensio Eperiam, Deputy HPO for Pohnpei State, Berlin Sigrah, HPO for Kosrae, Standon Andrew, Staff Surveyor for Kosrae, and John Tharngan, Yap Historic Preservation Officer.

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